



Only YOU can Protect Your Storm Drain!

Why should people be concerned about what enters a storm drain?

Because anything that is flushed down a storm drain is not “treated” before it reaches a stream or river. This means that oil, antifreeze, paint, grass clippings, household waste, pet wastes, or any other waste on streets and sidewalks goes directly into a nearby stream, river, or lake. The next time you wash your car on your driveway, consider where the water goes.

What is stormwater pollution?

Many people think most of the pollution in our waterways comes from large industries, corporations, and sewage treatment plants. But if all the sources of this pollution were eliminated tomorrow, over half the pollution would still remain.

So where does this pollution come from?

All of us - in our everyday activities - are in some way polluters. It's our detergents, pesticides, fertilizers, paints, litter, used motor oil, pet wastes, and other household hazardous products. Over time, these materials accumulate on our driveways, roadways, and parking lots. When it rains, these materials are collected by the rainwater and carried directly into one of many storm drains located throughout Nashville/Davidson County. Anything going into these storm drains eventually flows into the Cumberland River.

Nashville's Water Source

Nashville is fortunate to have a plentiful supply of water from the Cumberland River, but ensuring clean water from the river not only requires hard work and constant vigilance but calls for proper handling and treatment of wastewater from homes and industries. Metro Water Services (MWS) is pleased to be able to serve its customers with an abundant supply of pure and safe water while providing dependable wastewater and stormwater services.

Water that makes its journey from the Cumberland River to your tap is first screened to remove large objects. Chemicals, known as coagulants, are added to the water and mixed in well. These coagulants do not stay in the water but cause contaminants like mud and algae to cling to them. Next the water slowly flows through settling tanks where the larger particles are allowed to sink to the bottom. The water from the settling tanks passes through filters. At this point the water is crystal clear. Before water enters the distribution system, a small amount of chlorine, which prevents bacteria from developing, and fluoride, which has been found to be beneficial in preventing tooth decay, are added.



www.nashville.gov/water



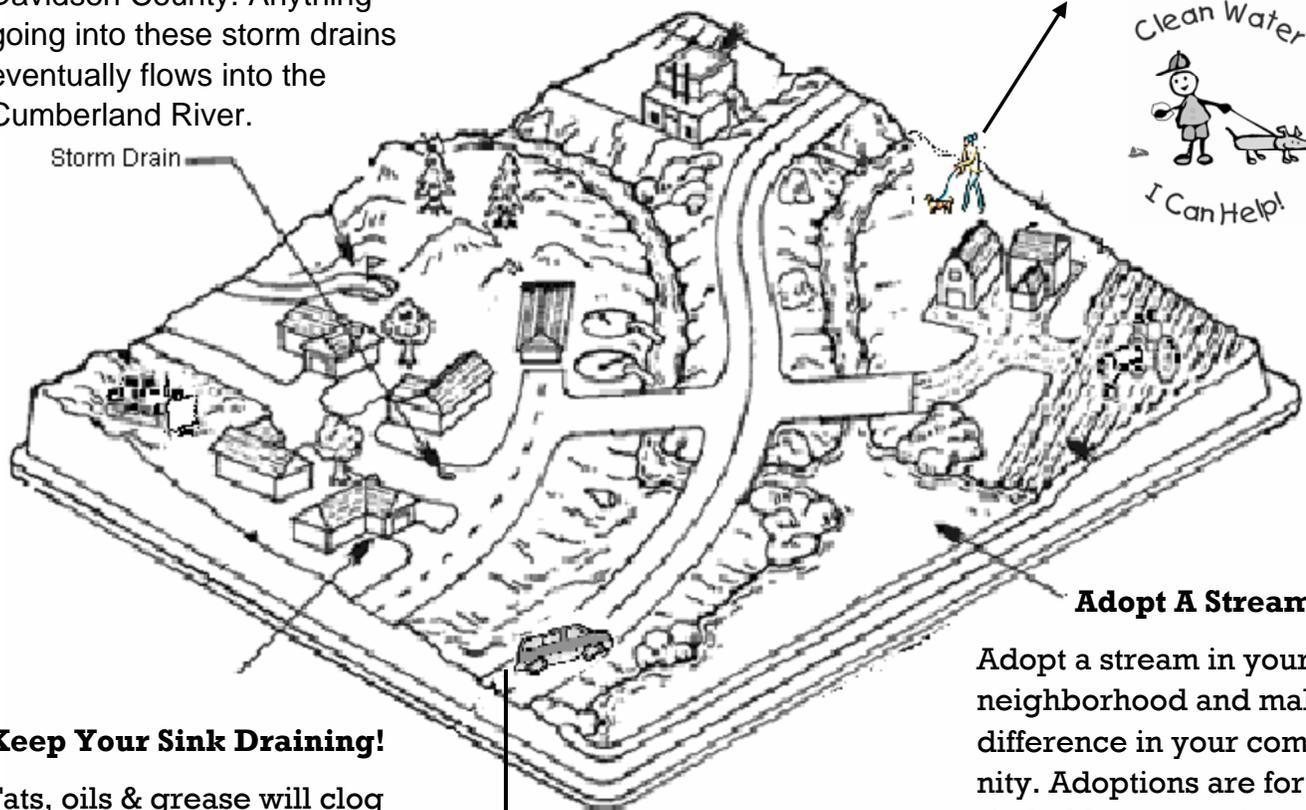
Here's what YOU can do to keep our water clean & safe!

Keep the Storm Drain Clean!

Remember—if you put it in the storm drain it ends up in the nearest river or stream!

When it rains, anything on the road is collected by the rainwater and carried directly into one of many storm drains located throughout Nashville/ Davidson County. Anything going into these storm drains eventually flows into the Cumberland River.

Storm Drain



Keep Your Sink Draining!

Fats, oils & grease will clog up your plumbing and cause your pipes to back up and over flow!

Pour out and wipe off your pans into a container before

you rinse, wash, or place the pan into a dish washer.



Put the trash in the trash!

These things belong in the trash, not down the drain!

- Dog & Cat Waste
- Unused Medications
- Baby wipes

Scoop the Poop!

Dog waste left on the ground can find its way to nearby creeks and streams and ultimately to the Cumberland River. These contaminants can increase harmful bacteria levels in our water ways... negatively impacting water quality.



Don't Let Your Car Pollute!

- Fix oil & fluid leaks immediately.
- Recycle used motor oil.

Adopt A Stream

Adopt a stream in your neighborhood and make a difference in your community. Adoptions are for a period of 2 years and require at least one stream clean up per year and the stenciling of storm drains leading to the adopted stream segment. A sign acknowledging the adopting group and stream as well as supplies and trash removal are provided by Metro.



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