



PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION

POLLUTION PREVENTION THROUGH BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs)

THE PROBLEM

PET WASTE

Pet waste left on lawns, landscaped areas and in parks sends harmful bacteria into storm drains whenever you water or when it rains.

TRASH

Trash dumped on the ground or in a wash pollutes the water, clogs storm drains and may cause flooding.

FERTILIZERS

Over-fertilizing your lawn will increase the growth of algae in washes and Lake Mead, and reduce the amount of oxygen in the water which is needed by aquatic life.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Household hazardous wastes include cleaners, solvents, paints and pesticides. These products are toxic to pets, wildlife and the environment. They can also enter waterways through stormwater runoff, over-watering, and wash water from cleaning equipment and construction areas.

AUTOMOTIVE FLUIDS

Automotive fluids from leaks and maintenance changes contain heavy metals. Dumping these fluids into a storm drain can harm or kill aquatic life and water-related vegetation. One quart of oil can pollute 250,000 gallons of water.

THE SOLUTION

THINGS YOU CAN DO

AVOID WATER RUNOFF & SOIL EROSION

Conserve water and reduce runoff by fixing faulty sprinkler systems and not over-watering. Planting drought resistant plants and ground covers will help reduce soil erosion and runoff. Always use a broom instead of a hose to sweep up debris.

CHECK YOUR CAR FOR LEAKS

Keep up car maintenance to avoid leaks. Use a drip pan when changing car fluids and clean up spills with absorbent materials like kitty litter and dispose of it in the trash.

POOL MAINTENANCE

Never discharge chlorinated pool water into a storm drain. The same chemicals that prevent algae from growing in your pool can poison plants and fish in Lake Mead. Per COH Municipal Code 14.14.100, drain your pool to your sanitary sewer cleanout. If your home is on a septic tank, dechlorinate the water before draining your pool to the street. Speak to someone knowledgeable like your pool maintenance person or someone at a pool store on how to dechlorinate your pool.

RECYCLE

Take paints, cleaners, motor oil and other household hazardous waste to a hazardous waste collection site for proper disposal. Consider purchasing batteries, antifreeze, and motor oil from stores that will recycle used products.

PICK IT UP

Pick up litter and pet waste promptly, and minimize exposure of trash storage areas to rainfall.

VEHICLE CLEANING

Take your vehicle to a commercial car wash that filters and recycles wash and rinse water. If you choose to wash your vehicle at home, use biodegradable soap, and use a low-flow hose nozzle that has an automatic shut off and direct runoff to landscaped areas.

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

Businesses like carpet cleaners, pool services, mobile dog grooming, and auto detail services can avoid harmful runoff of soapy or chlorinated water by properly disposing of wash water. This can be discharged by using the sanitary sewer cleanout that is located in front (or in some cases in the garage) of most houses (ask permission from the home owner) or proper disposal at your shop.

HENDERSON™

Only stormwater should enter storm drains. Any other discharge should be reported. If you see something, say something.

In southern Nevada, we can go several months without a storm. During this time pollutants accumulate on the ground. When it does rain in the valley, storms are often brief but intense. In addition, our desert soils don't readily absorb water. These factors allow stormwater runoff to collect pollutants from the ground and transport them to Lake Mead, our primary source of drinking water.



Storm drains help remove stormwater runoff from streets during rainy weather. They also remove runoff from activities such as vehicle washing and landscape over-watering. Unlike the wastewater from inside homes and businesses that flows through sanitary sewers and wastewater treatment plants, outside water runoff flows through our washes and into Lake Mead untreated.

As it flows, runoff collects and transports pollutants such as soil, pet waste, pesticides, oil and grease, plastic bags, cigarette butts and other pollutants that are left on the ground outside to Las Vegas Wash and Lake Mead. This contaminated flow pollutes our waterways and is harmful to wildlife, aquatic life, plants and humans. If we can remove these types of pollutants before they enter Lake Mead, we can help maintain a healthier water quality from where we draw our drinking water, for wildlife, aquatic life and plants.



Kip the Fish plaques and stamped curbs remind residents to Keep It Pristine (KIP). What goes down the drain, goes untreated to Lake Mead.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

TO REPORT A DISCHARGE TO A STORM DRAIN

City of Henderson
Environmental Services
702-267-2208

TO REPORT CLOGGED STORM DRAINS

City of Henderson
Flood Control - Street Sweeping
702-267-3259

TO REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING

Southern Nevada Health District
southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/permits-and-regulations/solid-waste-compliance/illegal-dumping/
702-759-0600

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

Republic Services
702-735-5151
republicservicesvegas.com

RECYCLING INFORMATION

NDEP
ndep.nv.gov/nevada-recycles
Republic Services
recyclingsimplified.com

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

For more examples of best management practices, pollution prevention tips and techniques that can help protect our water quality, check out lvstormwater.com and stormwatervegas.com.

Thank you for doing your part to help protect Lake Mead and Southern Nevada's water quality!

