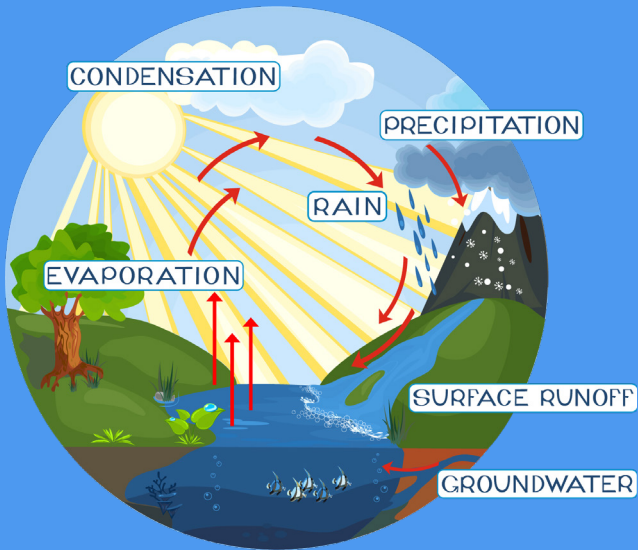


WATERCYCLE

The Natural Water Cycle (Hydrological Cycle) plays a critical role in stormwater management. Stormwater begins with precipitation (rain) carrying all the way through the cycle, eventually evaporating into the atmosphere and then condensing back into the clouds. The land that this water flows across and drains to local rivers, lakes, and oceans is referred to as a watershed. The City of Pooler has a plan tailored to addressing water quality and ensuring we protect the future of our watershed for our citizens.



Did you know that simple household changes can help to protect our watershed?

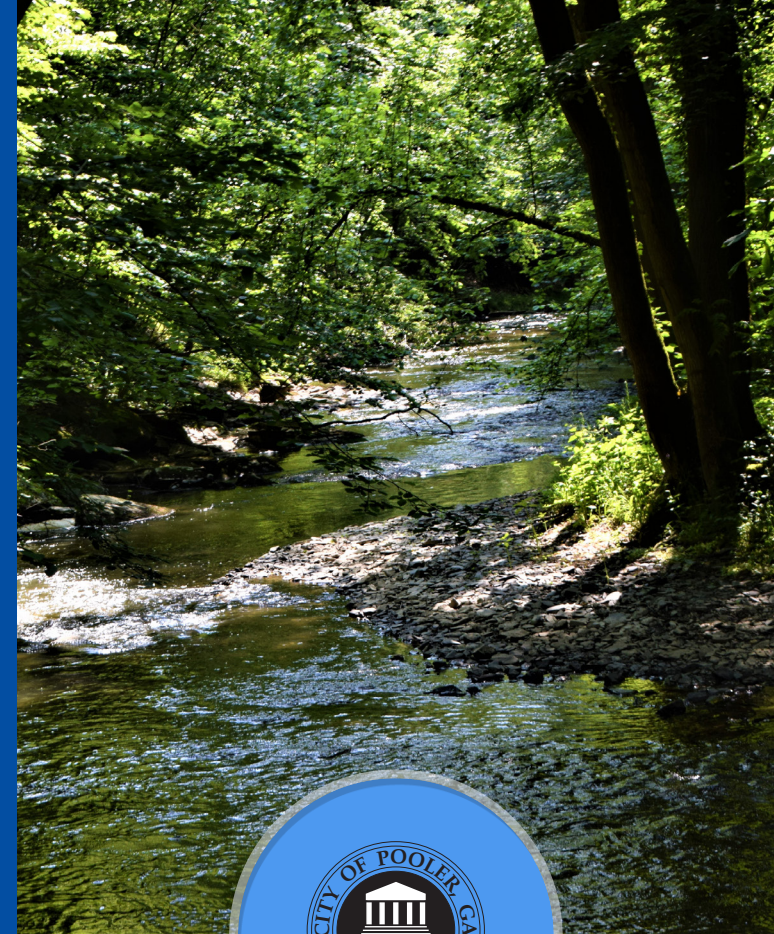
ONLY RAIN INTO THE STORM DRAIN

Call 912.421.2032
to report illegal dumping into the
storm drains

For More Information

City of Pooler
(912) 421-2032
pooler@eomworx.com

Information courtesy of EOM Operations
To learn more go to www.eomworx.com



STORMWATER & YOU

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE FOR
COMMUNITY AND CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT



STORMWATER 101

Stormwater is exactly what it sounds like: water that results from a storm. Any rain that falls on roofs or collects on paved areas is considered stormwater. So why is it so complicated? Widely because of the difficulty to control where the water enters the downstream flow and how best to eliminate the pollutants that enter causing negative environmental effects.

When stormwater travels through the natural water cycle, it is absorbed into the ground or falls into bodies of water. In the natural cycle, plants act as filters to clean any pollution from the water as it percolates into the ground. However in urban areas, stormwater falls on

impervious surfaces (roofs and pavements) and is not completely soaked up by the ground. Any stormwater that does not soak into the ground during the water cycle enters as surface runoff. Runoff then flows directly into our municipal stormwater system picking up various pollutants along the way that are not naturally found in our waterways (lakes, rivers, groundwater's, and the ocean).

Unlike our drinking water or our wastewater, stormwater is not treated before it enters back into the natural environment therefore the protection of stormwater (and what goes into it) is very important and why we need your help to protect it!



REDUCE POLLUTION

At home tips for every season

1

SPRING

- Store pesticides and fertilizers in a covered area in a sealed, waterproof container. Check the weather & never apply before a rain.
- Prevent soil erosion by applying mulch to exposed areas. Cover any exposed piles of soil, sand, or gravel.

2

SUMMER

- Wash your car in a grassy area. Hose off supplies in the grass and dispose of left over soapy water in a sink.
- Collect and bag grass clippings and leaves. Never blow them into the street.
- Do not discharge chlorinated water into a storm drain. Direct water to a grassed area.

3

FALL

- Keep sidewalks, curbs, and gutters around your home clean by bagging and disposing of leaves & debris in the trash.
- Dispose of paints, oils, & hazardous waste properly in sealed cans. Never allow these items to reach a storm drain.

4

WINTER

- Dispose of your pet's waste in the trash. Don't rinse waste off of surfaces or dispose of it in storm drains.
- In the event of snow, do not pile snow on top of storm drains or use de-icing products that could reach the drain.

MAJOR POLLUTANTS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that contaminants in stormwater runoff causes over half of the pollution in our nation's waterways.

Stormwater pollution is the toxic mix of bacteria, chemicals, metals,

- Motor oil, Fuel, and Grease
- Heavy Metals
- Yard Waste (Leaves and Grass)
- Pet Waste
- Paints and Solvents
- Litter

If stormwater pollution enters the

watershed, it can have lasting and sometimes irreversible effects like:

- Algal Blooms
- Fish Kills
- Beach and River Closures
- Flooding
- Loss of Wetlands
- Harm to Humans & Aquatic Life



and other contaminants that washes over pavement and other impervious surfaces and flows down storm drains to the waterways we rely on for drinking and recreation. You can help reduce these major pollutants:

- Sediment (Dirt)
- Fertilizers
- Pesticides and Herbicides

Protection begins with YOU!

ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN