

WHEN IT RAINS, YOUR YARD DRAINS

Prevent Stormwater Pollution Where It Starts

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

- T or F Runoff is rain that is not absorbed and ends up in the storm drain or nearest waterway.
- T or F Stormwater runoff is not treated to remove pollutants.
- T or F Residential properties are potential sources of many pollutants.

Funding provided by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Galveston Bay Estuary Program.

LOW IMPACT DESIGN DISPLAY AND MATERIALS (FOCUS ON STORMWATER)

Designing for Impact: A Regional Guide to Low Impact Development
www.h-gac.com/go/LID

A variety of other brochures created by partner organizations may be available. Availability of reports and other documents should be discussed with project managers.

I PLEDGE...

To keep the storm drain clear, Protecting it from pollutants far and near.

Whether yard chemicals in abundance or litter uncollected, The presence of pollutants will leave our water affected.

So here and now I pledge to use LID to prevent Stormwater pollution to a major extent.

To ensure safe and clean water for our nation, Protecting our water for future generations.

Funded in part by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Galveston Bay Estuary Program.

Protect Stormwater, Prevent Pollution, Practice Low Impact Design

Designing for Impact: A Regional Guide to Low Impact Development

THE TROUBLE WITH DOG POOP

and how we can protect our waterways, one bag at a time.

We love our pups, but not the germie little "gifts" they leave behind. Turns out our rivers, streams, and lakes don't like them much, either.

There are: **900,000** Dogs in the Houston-Galveston Region. Collectively depositing **312 Tons** of poop per day.

Which is the equivalent of **52 dump truck loads per day!**

RAIN WATER washes poop left on the ground into our storm drains which connect to creeks and bays where it decomposes. During decomposition, the poop uses up precious oxygen needed by fish and other creatures to stay alive and healthy.

Not to mention the risk of illness for swimmers and fishermen using the waterway...yuck!

THIS MEANS THAT... You could be exposed to bacteria, viruses, and parasites that live in dog poop. This can be quite dangerous to the old, young, and folks with compromised immune systems. Pathogens are dangerous to kids playing in the yard, and they can contaminate anything edible growing in your garden.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? Always pick up after your pet, no matter where it is. Carry spare bags on your daily dog walk, and use them to encourage others to pick up after their pooch! If bags aren't your thing, bury waste at a minimum of 6 inches in the ground and far away from your garden or well.

LEARN MORE about the effects of pet waste and what you can do to make a difference by visiting our website, www.petwastepollutes.org

Funded in part by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Galveston Bay Estuary Program.

PITCH THE POOP INTERACTIVE GAME AND MATERIALS (FOCUS ON BACTERIA)

PITCH THE POOP

PLEDGE SHEETS FOR ALL THREE DISPLAYS

I Pledge...

To Throw Pup's Poop Away, Not Leave It For Another Day.

I Will Not Leave It in the Rain, And Will Not Flush It Down the Drain.

Each and Every Time My Pup Poops, I Hereby Pledge to Stoop and Scoop.

Then Straight to the Can I Will Dash, And Put My Pup's Poop in the Trash.

www.petwastepollutes.org

Funded in part by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Galveston Bay Estuary Program.

PITCH THE POOP

FREDDIE THE FISH PRESENTATION IS AVAILABLE FOR MORE FORMAL EDUCATION/OUTREACH SETTINGS.

DON'T FEED THE GREASE MONSTER

Bacteria is a common source of pollution in Texas waters. Improper disposal of fats, oils and grease (FOG) contributes to the problem.

Where does FOG come from?
Meat, Cooking oils, lard, shortening, Butter & margarine, Dairy products, Mayo, salad dressings, sour cream

Why does FOG matter?
Sticks to pipes from the sink to the sewer, Causes sewage backups into homes, streets, and storm drains, Pollutes local waters with raw sewage, Costly repairs for homeowners and taxpayers

What can YOU do?
No FOG or food scraps down the sink or garbage disposal, Wipe grease off dishes before rinsing, Flushing FOG with hot or cold water will NOT prevent grease build-up in pipes, Call a professional rather than use chemicals to clear a grease clog

GREASE: A MONSTER OF A PROBLEM

Funded in part by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Galveston Bay Estuary Program.

DEFEAT THE GREASE MONSTER DISPLAY AND MATERIALS (FOCUS ON FATS, OILS, GREASE DISPOSAL)

I PLEDGE...

To fight the GREASE MONSTER in all his forms, And never let pouring grease down the drain become my norm.

Whether salad dressing or bacon grease, I hereby pledge to scrape and squeeze.

After each meal, quick as a flash, I will put the remnants in the trash.

To always make sure my drain stays clear, With each and every meal I cook this year.

Funded in part by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Galveston Bay Estuary Program.

DEFEAT THE GREASE MONSTER

H-GAC OUTREACH MATERIALS

How's the Water?

Basin Highlights Report 2017

THE DETAILS

Each year the H-GAC Clean Rivers Program publishes a report for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality summarizing the state of water quality in the region.

THE CONTENT

The 2017 Basin Highlights Report includes water quality status and trends for watersheds in four basins monitored by the H-GAC program, an overview of the program's outreach activities, and a summary of special projects using Clean Rivers Program data.

WWW.H-GAC.COM/GO/BHR2017

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATIONAL POSTERS AVAILABLE LAMINATED AND/OR COROPLAST and PDF FILES for PRINTING, EXCEPT TIMELINE)

What Can You Do?

AT HOME: Maintain and repair your on-site sewage facility (septic system), Keep fats, oils, and grease out of sink drains, Use the car to local car washes that have car wash water management practices, Safely store leftover paint and chemicals for recycling, Empty cleaning water into sinks, not outside.

IN THE YARD: Use agricultural settings, keep riparian areas along waterways protected from pollutants, Mulch and use mulch, Avoid lawn pesticides and herbicides, Use pet waste disposal bags, Pick up pet waste and put it in the trash, Use permeable pavement, Use gardens, grass lawns, and rain barrels to slow the flow and filter stormwater.

COMMON POLLUTANTS: These pollutants can be harmful to plants, fish, animals, and people: Detergents & Antiseptics, Lawn Care, Paints & Chemicals, Pesticides, Fertilizers, Oil, Grease, and Solvents.

Protecting Our Water

WHAT IS STORMWATER? All rain that occurs during rain events that falls on the ground and runs down the street into a storm drain. Stormwater is not treated before it reaches our waterways.

PROTECTING STORMWATER: Stormwater runoff can be filtered, treated, and recycled in local waterways. Stormwater runoff can be filtered, treated, and recycled in local waterways. Stormwater runoff can be filtered, treated, and recycled in local waterways.

LEARN MORE: www.h-gac.com/go/water

WATER QUALITY BROCHURE (LEFT) TRASH BASH EVERGREEN BROCHURE (BELOW)

RIVER, LAKES BAYS 'N BAYOUS TRASH BASH.

THE LARGEST SINGLE-DAY WATERWAY CLEANUP IN TEXAS Held every Spring since 1994

Trash Bash® uses hands-on education and partners to promote environmental stewardship for the Galveston Bay Watershed.

VOLUNTEER: Scouts, clubs, schools, groups, and families can find a location close to work, school, or home.

SPONSOR: Tax-deductible donation options are available for businesses, organizations, and individuals.

LEARN: Games, exhibits, and displays explain the importance of protecting water quality.

Learn more at www.TrashBash.org Like us at Facebook.com/TrashBash

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MARINE DEBRIS BIODEGRADATION TIME LINE

Paper Products: 2-6 weeks	Photo-degradable beverage holder: 6 months	Agricultural Products: 2-6 weeks
Waxed Milk Carton: 3 months	Plastic Bag: 10-20 years	Cotton Rope: 3-14 months
Wool Socks: 1-5 years	Plastic Film Canister: 20-30 years	Rubber: 1-3 years
Rubber Boot Soles: 50-80 years	Foam Plastic Buoys: 80 years	Cigarette Butts: 1-5 years
Leather: 50 years	Nylon Fabric: 30-40 years	Aluminum Cans: 80-200 years
Disposable Diapers: 450 years	Aluminum Cans: 80-200 years	Plastic Beverage Bottles: 450 years
Foam Plastic Cups: 50 years	Glass Bottles and Jars: Undetermined	Mono-filament Fishing Line: 600 years

Source: U.S. National Park Service "Garbage is a huge evil." Source: magazine, April, 1988, and More Marine Life, Sarasota, FL.

What Watershed Do You Live In?

Learn more at www.h-gac.com/go/wrim

The Journey of Trash

Plastic bags, cups, straws and cigarette butts wash into storm drains and end up in our rivers, lakes and baysoues. They eventually find their way into the food chain.

What Can You Do?

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS TO HELP YOU BECOME A CLEAN WATER STEWARD

- Only Rain Down the Storm Drain**
Prevent pollution and flooding, never put anything down the storm drain.
- Properly Dispose of Fats, Oils & Grease**
Protect the sewer pipes in your home and community from overflows, no fats, oils, and grease down the drain.
- Pick Up Pet Waste**
Put it in the trash to prevent bacteria from washing into our waterbodies.
- Put Trash in Its Place**
Never litter, instead reduce, reuse and recycle whenever possible.
- Don't Over-Fertilize Your Lawn**
Less is more. Follow label directions exactly and consider using organic fertilizer.
- Get Involved**
Volunteer for events like Trash Bash (www.TrashBash.org). Educate your friends and family on how they can help. Join a watershed association to restore local waterbodies.

Learn more at www.h-gac.com/water