

All water and contaminants that enter our streets and storm drains go directly into our environment.

Storm drain contamination is one of the major causes of pollution in our rivers, lakes, and streams. Pollution of stormwater runoff can negatively impact our environment and introduce unnecessary risk to public health and safety, ultimately effecting the livability of Odessa (Permian Basin) and surrounding communities. To control stormwater, local cities and counties design streets, drainage channels and maintain a system of underground pipes and catch basins to transport rain and snow melt into the ground, stream beds, draws and playa lakes. This water does not get treated so we need to keep contaminants out of our storm drains. Recycle or dispose of trash in a trash receptacle.

Little Known Facts about our Stormwater System:



Storm drains do NOT treat the water that flows into the drains. Sewer overflows and pet waste could flow directly into our environment causing foul odors and pollution. No one, including your pets want to see parks filled with your waste.



Storm drains do NOT protect our playa lakes. Motor oil, paints and other pollutants flow directly to our waterways. There is no difference between pouring pollutants down a storm drain or on the street, and dumping them directly into the playa lake.



Storm drains do NOT prevent flooding when clogged. Storm drains are designed to reduce flooding. When weeds, dirt, grass clippings and leaves are left on the road, they eventually find their way to the drain or drainage channel and can cause your personal property and your neighbor's property to flood.



Public storm drains are NOT designed to treat wastewater runoff from private property. When you hose off sidewalks, over-water your yard and wash your vehicle in your driveway, all the water, soap and debris end up in the storm drains or drainage channels. Not only are you wasting precious water resources, all contaminants will affect the quality of our water.

WE ALL LIVE DOWNSTREAM...

Keep Odessa (Permian Basin) Clean. Keep Contaminates Out of Our Streets.

Stormwater systems can be found throughout Odessa and include streets, alleys, ditches, retention basins, drainage channels and underground pipes. These structures carry stormwater to outfalls on local playa lakes, parks and stream beds which allow the storm water to slowly drain into the ground. Contaminants discharged into our stormwater system can pollute surface waters as well as ground water.

A clean stormwater system helps our community by:

- Reducing the risk of flooding of personal property and/or damage to public infrastructure, including roads.
- Minimizing foul odors and maintaining aesthetically pleasing neighborhoods.
- Keeping our parks, streams and playa lakes clean.
- Strengthening our economy by offering healthy recreational opportunities.



For more information visit
www.odessa-tx.gov
www.keepodessabeautiful.com
www.epa.gov
www.tceq.state.tx.us

The Time Machine Program
816 W. 42nd St.
(432) 368-5730

© 2011 Goldstreet Design Agency, Inc. All Rights Reserved

DRAFT

STORM DRAINS:

Do you know where the water (and any debris) goes?

(We bet you'll be surprised...)



Tips to prevent debris and pollutants from entering our storm drainage.



Odessa and the Permian Basin has always been a great place to view the sun rise or even a spectacular sunset and no better place than from one of our many parks. However, our actions affect the waters and land around us each and every day because all of the water from our property that enters the street and a storm drain ends up in our stream beds, playa lakes and parks.

When it rains or snows, the water must go somewhere. Without controlling the flow of rain and snow melt, our community could be damaged. Uncontrolled stormwater causes flooding, unclean waterways, and unhealthy communities.



1 Recycle motor oil, antifreeze and other fluids

at the City of Odessa Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Center. 814 W. 42nd St. (432) 368-3546

2 Keep litter out of the storm drain system. If you see it, pick it up.



3 Pick up and dispose of pet waste properly.



4 Wash vehicles at the carwash

or if at home use a nozzle on the hose to prevent excess water from running down the street.

5 Do your part!

Ask about our annual Earth Day Celebration, Texas Recycles Day and Make a Difference Day.



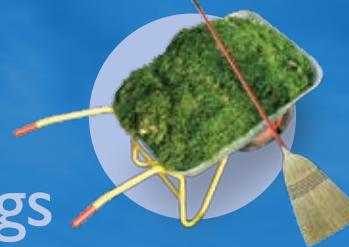
6 Evaporate rinsewater

from painting supplies and dispose of waste. Properly dispose of household hazardous waste at the HHW drop off center.



Direct downspouts and rain gutters away from paved surfaces.

8 Sweep grass clippings



and yard debris into piles for collection. Do not blow or hose them down the drain or into the street.

9 Use fertilizers sparingly.

and never before it rains.

10 Disposing of old belongings at a proper trash collection site if too large to place in the dumpster. Not on vacant land or beside the dumpster. That is illegal dumping.

11 Set sprinklers to water the lawn and garden only not pavement.



12 Keep the area between the back of your property to the middle of the alley free of litter.

**PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY.
Report illegal dumping:**
City of Odessa
Code Enforcement:
(432) 335-4680
<http://www.odessa-tx.gov>