

WHAT'S CAUSING OUR POLLUTION

Construction

- ➔ Contractors disposing of concrete washout in the streets, storm drains or drainage ditches.
- ➔ Sediment washing into gutters and streets from job sites.

Home Improvements

- ➔ People cleaning brushes or rinsing paint containers into the gutter.
- ➔ Homeowners over-fertilizing or using pesticides and herbicides improperly.



Motor Vehicles

- ➔ Vehicles in bad repair leaking oil and gas onto the streets.



- ➔ Spills of oil and fuel during maintenance and refueling.
- ➔ Cracked batteries.
- ➔ Improper disposal of antifreeze and old tires.
- ➔ Off-road vehicles tracking mud onto paved streets.



Remember,

Only Rain and Snow Should Enter the Storm Drain System.

Working Together,
We Can All Make A Difference.

To Report a Spill
Call 911



What's Polluting Our Streams?



Fort Carson Stormwater
Program 719-526-1697

At Fort Carson and the surrounding communities, the sanitary sewer system (wastewater) and the storm drain system (stormwater) are separate systems. Inlets to the storm drain system are typically located outside along the gutters and streets. Rainwater and snowmelt that enter storm drain inlets flow directly into our creeks and ditches, which eventually discharge into Fountain Creek. Materials such as mud, liquids and trash that are tracked, poured, spilled or dumped onto our streets and parking lots can enter into the storm drain system. This pollution then discharges to ditches and creeks without being treated, causing adverse impacts to water quality and to the aquatic life in our streams.

To keep our streams clean, it is very important that only rain and snowmelt (stormwater) go down the storm drains. Discharges of sediment, fuels and other liquids, and trash to the storm drains should be prevented. We need to keep our parking lots and other outdoor areas clean to help prevent discharge of pollutants to our storm drains.

Did you know that just one quart of oil can pollute over 250,000 gallons of water?



- ➡ Avoid off-road vehicle use when the soil is muddy.
- ➡ Take your vehicle to a commercial car wash whenever possible. If you wash your car at home, choose soaps labeled non-toxic, phosphate-free or biodegradable. Don't wash your car in the street, wash it over a grassy area so the water will soak into the ground, not go into the storm drains.
- ➡ Don't rinse spills in with water. Use dry cleanup methods such as applying cat litter or another absorbent material, then sweep up all material and dispose of it in the trash.
- ➡ Follow directions on pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers. Do not apply if rain is predicted within 48 hours.
- ➡ Do not rake or blow leaves or grass clippings into the street or gutter. Instead, dispose of them in your trash.
- ➡ Use water-based/biodegradable cleaning products.
- ➡ Use the local recycling centers for recyclable wastes.
- ➡ Don't litter streets and parking lots -

Use a
Trash Can!



Contact El Paso County
Household Hazardous Waste
Facility to locate the appropriate
recycle center near you
520-7878

