



WAYS YOU CAN STOP WATER POLLUTION IN THE CITY OF PERRY

The hard truth is that stormwater runoff is a leading source of water pollution throughout Perry. The good news is that there's a lot we can do to minimize the negative impacts. Here's a brief look at stormwater runoff and how we can prevent polluted runoff from reaching our lakes, rivers and streams.

What Is Stormwater Runoff?

When it rains, the water that flows over the land is called stormwater runoff.

If the rain falls on undeveloped land, much of the water can soak into the ground. But if the rainfall lands on impervious surfaces, such as streets, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots and roof tops, it doesn't have a chance to infiltrate.

Stormwater runoff in urban areas is unable to soak into the ground. As it flows, the runoff picks up pollutants — stuff like bacteria, chemicals, pesticides, animal waste, oils, sediment or even garbage.



The runoff eventually makes its way to our creeks, rivers and streams.

Where Does Stormwater Runoff Go?

What happens to that stormwater runoff before it finds its way to a body of water?

- Sometimes, the stormwater is collected and transported in storm sewers before making its way to a body of water.
- In many rural communities, the stormwater may be conveyed through an open channel system, such as roadside ditches.
- In older urban communities, the stormwater might be collected in what is called a Combined Sewer System. Combined sewer systems collect sewage and stormwater runoff into one sewer, which transport both the sewage and stormwater to a Wastewater Treatment facility for treatment prior to discharge. However, with these combined sewers, when the volume of the sewer waters exceeds the capacity of the system, such as in a heavy rainfall event, the combined wastewater might be discharged with little or no treatment into a community's lakes, rivers or streams.
- Stormwater controls, designed by engineers, are now used in construction and development to filter out many of the pollutants on-site before entering the sewer system and our lakes, rivers and streams.

Stormwater is the only growing source of water pollution in city's watersheds.

With the City of Perry's urban populations increase in expected growth, and more frequent and intense storms occurring across the country, there is ever-increasing pressure on stormwater systems and water infrastructure.

