



City of Valdosta Utilities Department *Water | Sewer | Stormwater*

RESIDENTIAL STORMWATER TIPS

WHAT IS STORMWATER RUNOFF?

Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, roofs, sidewalks, and streets prevent stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground.

WHY IS STORMWATER RUNOFF A PROBLEM?

If stormwater picks up debris such as dirt, grass clippings, and other yard waste, it can block catch basins, pipes, and other stormwater conveyance systems and result in the flooding of streets, homes, and cause other damage. It is also important to know that everything that enters the stormwater system is discharged directly into our local waterways untreated.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

To help minimize flooding and pollutants from reaching our streams, rivers, wetlands, and/or ponds, here are a few tips:

Lawn Care

- To prevent flooding, do not leave yard waste in the street or sweep into a storm drain.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly and well in advance of a storm event to minimize algae growth.
- Do not over water your lawn and abide by the Outdoor Water Use Schedules and Restrictions.
- Collect rainwater from your roof in a rain barrel and use during dry months.

Auto Care

- Repair leaks and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations. Care Environmental at 714 Gil Harbin Industrial Boulevard allows city residents to discard of such waste free of charge each Friday from 10:00 AM—2 PM.
- Use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles its wastewater, or wash your car on your yard so the water infiltrates into the ground.

Pet Waste

- When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly.
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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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