



## Things you can do to help

1. Never pour anything down storm drains
2. Check car for leaks and recycle motor oil.
3. Pick up litter and debris; keep work areas clean.
4. Keep oils, solvents, chemicals, pesticides, fertilizers, and other hazardous materials under cover and away from the street and storm drains.
5. Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider a rain garden to capture runoff.

## ***Our Planet, Our Responsibility***

**Questions about UNA's  
Stormwater Management  
Plan or to report a concern:**

7 AM - 4 PM, M-F: (256-765-4804)  
After hours: (256-765-4357)  
Email: [azwissler@una.edu](mailto:azwissler@una.edu)



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**CLEAN  
STREETS  
CLEAN  
WATER**

**Stormwater Pollution  
Prevention**



University of  
NORTH ALABAMA



## What is Stormwater Runoff?

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

## Why is it a problem?

Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a creek, river or lake. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the waterbodies we use for drinking water, swimming, boating, and fishing.



## Effects of Pollution

- Hazardous household products like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, and used motor oil can poison aquatic life.
- Polluted stormwater can affect drinking water sources.
- Sediment clouds the water and makes it difficult for aquatic plants to grow; it can destroy aquatic habitats.
- Litter, including plastic bags, cans, bottles, and cigarette butts, washed into waterbodies can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life like ducks, fish, turtles, and birds.
- Nutrients applied in excess cause algae blooms. When algae die, they sink and decompose in a process that removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic organisms can't exist in water with low levels of dissolved oxygen.
- Bacteria and pathogens washed into swimming areas can create health hazards.

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***IF IT GETS ON THE GROUND, IT CAN GET INTO THE WATER. NO ONE WANTS TO DRINK FROM OR SWIM IN POLLUTED WATER.***

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