

How you can help keep our water clean

There are seven simple steps to clean water. How many of these seven simple steps did you do this week?

1. Practice good car care.

Have you ever noticed a rainbow colored puddle on a parking lot or the street? The rainbow colors that you see are caused by



petroleum products like oil and gas. Car oil does not mix with water; it sits on top of water. Cars leak

oil when they are broken. A single drop of oil can pollute many gallons of water! To keep our water clean, keep cars fixed.

2. Fertilize sparingly & carefully.

Storm drains found in streets and yards go into our lakes and streams. So, when we fertilize our lawn we could also be fertilizing our lakes and streams. Fertilizer is good for our lawn, but it is bad for our water.

3. Clean up after your pet.

Did you know that pet waste has bad bacteria in it that can make animals and humans sick? To keep our water clean, pick up the waste from your pets and put it in the trash.



4. Save water.

When we put too much water on our yards, the extra water carries pollution into storm drains that lead to our rivers and lakes.

5. Choose earth-friendly landscaping.



The chemicals we put on our lawns and gardens to kill weeds can pollute our lakes and rivers if washed into storm drains.

6. Carefully store & dispose of household cleaners, chemicals, & oil.

Did you know that many household cleaners and chemicals can be dangerous to us, our pets, and the environment if they are not thrown away properly? These materials pollute our waterways if washed or dumped into storm drains.



7. Keep pollution out of storm drains.

Storm drains and roadside ditches lead to our lakes and streams. So, any oil, pet waste, leaves or dirty water from washing your car that enters a storm drain will get into our lakes and streams.



The car oil I spill on the parking lot and the napkin I drop in the street are not a lot. When added to everyone else's spills and litter, it adds up to create a big problem!

Remember, storm drains lead to our lakes and rivers!

Let's make one thing
Perfectly Clear.
our water
Genesee County Community Water Quality Consortium

www.cleargenesewater.org

