

## In Summary

Storm water runoff can contain bacteria, litter, oils, pesticides, fertilizers, and chemicals. When left on the ground, rain or melting snow can wash these pollutants into the storm drainage systems. These materials can degrade local waters when allowed to flow into the storm drain system. Unlike sanitary sewers, storm drains are not connected to a treatment plant. This This water ultimately flows into our local waterways.

Anyone caught discharging anything but rain into the storm drain is subject to penalties and/or fines, plus the cost of clean up.

Please help stop storm water pollution at the source.



Remember

Only rain in the drain

## Contact Information

To report a spill during regular business hours (M-Fri 8:00AM-4:30PM) contact: Alpine City Public Works at 801-763-9862.

To report a spill after hours contact: Jed Muhlestein at 801-473-0076

For waste disposal questions contact: Utah County Health Division at 801-851-7525 or visit the following website:  
<http://www.utahcountyonline.org/dep/Health/hhw/>

For general storm water program information contact the Storm Water Quality Program Manager at 801-763-9862 or check out our website:  
<http://alpinecity.org/engineer-public-works>

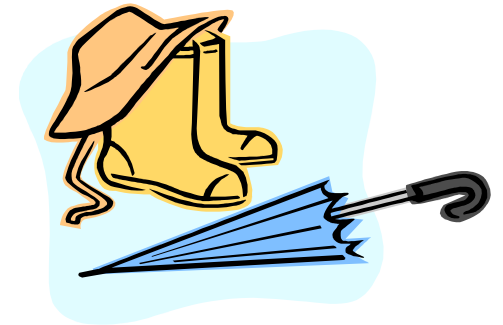
Alpine City  
Storm Water Division  
181 E 200 N  
Alpine, Utah 84004



## Storm Water Quality



## Alpine City Storm Water Division



This brochure has been prepared to educate the general public about ways it improve the quality of storm water runoff that ultimately discharges to Utah Lake and/or local groundwater aquifers.

## What is Storm Water?

In open fields, forests, and wetlands, most rain is absorbed by the soil or taken up by plants and trees. In developed areas, rain or snow that falls on impermeable roofs, parking lots, and streets is not absorbed into the ground. This precipitation (called storm water or storm water runoff) enters local water bodies through drainage systems.



## Why Should I care about storm water?

According to U.S. EPA National Water Quality Inventory, polluted storm water runoff is a leading cause of impairment to U.S. water bodies that do not meet water quality standards. This discharge can destroy fish, wildlife, and aquatic life habitats; lessen aesthetic value; and threaten public health with contaminated food, drinking water supplies, and recreational waterways. Unlike pollution from sewage treatment plants, storm water pollution comes from many different sources. Storm water runoff can dissolve, pick up and transport many types of household products that cause this pollution.

## Ways you can help



Pick up pet wastes and dispose of them in the toilet, trash, or bury them. When allowed to reach water bodies, pet wastes decompose and use up much of the oxygen needed for animals and plants to survive.



Allow pool or backwash water to sit so chlorine levels can drop to acceptable levels. Test the discharge to ensure the pH is between 6.5 and 8.5. Allow water to slowly drain across a vegetated area making sure it does not impact neighbors, creeks, or flow into the street (unless approved by the Alpine City Storm Water Division).



Use fertilizers and pesticides sparingly. Do not apply products in the wind or rain. Turn spreader off while crossing sidewalks or drives so the product does not wash into the storm drain.



Perform regular vehicle maintenance to minimize leaks. If you change your own oil, recycle the used oil and filter at the nearest location.

## Ways you can help



Wash your car in a grassy area to allow the water to infiltrate through the soil. The top layer in the soil traps pollutants, preventing them from migrating to the storm drain.



Divert spouts down away from paved areas and onto grassy, vegetated areas to reduce water runoff and spread.



Sweep sidewalks, patios, and drives when cleaning up, rather than hosing them down with water. Use rags and dry absorbents to clean up spills, then dispose of according to packaging directions.



If you live near a creek or a tributary, allow a vegetated buffer to grow along the stream bank. Do not mow to the edge, so the buffer can act to filter out pollutants and also prevent stream bank erosion.

