

Pet Care

- When walking your pet, remember to **pick up** the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local waterbodies.

Swimming Pool and Spa

- **Drain** your swimming pool only when a test kit does not detect chlorine levels.
- Whenever possible, drain your pool or spa into the **sanitary sewer system**.
- Properly store pool and spa chemicals to **prevent leaks and spills**, preferably in a covered area to avoid exposure to stormwater.

Septic System Use and Maintenance

- Have your septic system **inspected** by a professional at least every 3 years, and have the septic tank **pumped** as necessary (usually every 3 to 5 years).
- Care for the septic system drainfield by **not driving or parking vehicles on it**. Plant only grass over and near the drainfield to avoid damage from roots.
- Flush responsibly. Flushing household chemicals like paint, pesticides, oil, and antifreeze can **destroy** the biological treatment taking place in the system. Other items, such as diapers, paper towels, and cat litter, can **clog** the septic system and potentially damage components.

Storm drains connect to waterbodies!

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Remember: Only rain down the drain!



Make your home
The
**SOLUTION
TO STORMWATER
POLLUTION!**

*A homeowner's guide to healthy
habits for clean water*

