

## What is stormwater runoff?

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

Be part of the solution.



Stop stormwater pollution.

Brought to you by the Northwest Indiana  
MS4 Community Partnership

For More Information Contact:  
Northwestern Indiana Regional  
Planning Commission  
(219) 763-6060 [www.nirpc.org](http://www.nirpc.org)

## Who should I contact if I have hazardous waste?

### Why is stormwater runoff a problem?

Stormwater picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants from surfaces. It carries them into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland, or coastal water. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water. The excess runoff from impervious areas can also contribute to flooding problems.

With over 750,000 people living in Northwest Indiana, we all need to be aware of what goes in our storm drains. Remember, only rain in the drain!

Household hazardous wastes, like insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil, and other auto fluids can poison aquatic life. The Lake Michigan District holds regular waste collections throughout Northwestern Indiana. To find out their schedule simply call your local district.

In Lake County call: 1-800-946-4449  
In Porter County call: 1-219-465-3694  
In LaPorte County call: 1-219-326-1425

Go to learn more at:  
[www.nirpc.org/environment/water](http://www.nirpc.org/environment/water)

Let's make it

# Clean

NWI Partnership for Clean Water

## 4 Simple Steps to Clean Water

1. Use Chemicals  
With Care

2. Use Water Where  
it Lands

3. Use the Can,  
Not the Land

4. Use Water  
Wisely

