

## The Goals of Urban Stormwater Programs are to:

- Slow down water, decreasing its ability to cause erosion and carry pollutants.
- Reduce the amount of runoff by encouraging water to soak into ground.
- Prevent pollution by reducing the use of toxic chemicals, controlling erosion and by covering outdoor storage piles.
- Remove pollutants by routing runoff through settling ponds, grass filter strips or other treatment devices.

## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IS NOW THE LAW

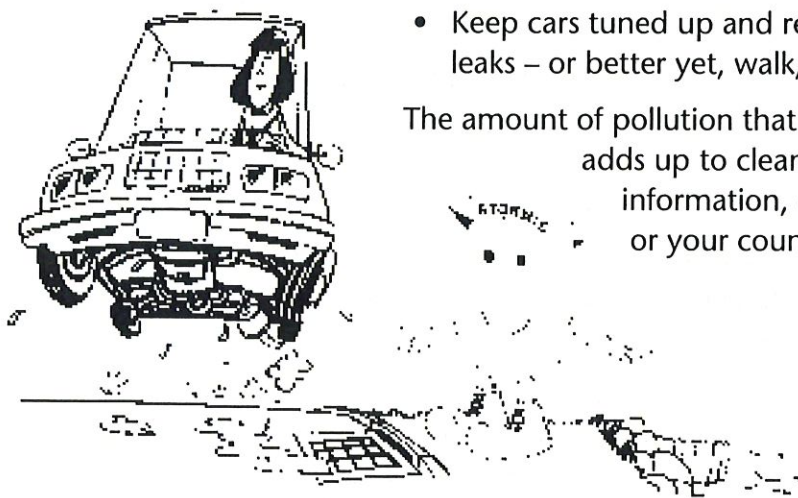
Federally mandated stormwater permits require many industries and cities to control stormwater runoff. Even communities without stormwater permits require erosion controls on construction sites and better stormwater management in new development.

Federal laws also require all farmers who participate in federal programs to develop farm conservation plans that help control cropland erosion, barnyard runoff and other sources of water pollution.

### *We Can All Help!*

Each of us contributes to stormwater pollution and each of us can help stop it. Here are some ways you can help:

- Keep pesticides, oil, leaves and other pollutants off streets and out of storm drains.
- Divert roof water to lawns or gardens where it can safely soak in.
- Clean up pet waste – bury it or flush in down the toilet.
- Keep cars tuned up and repair leaks – or better yet, walk, bike or take the bus.



The amount of pollution that you stop may seem small, but together it all adds up to cleaner water for everyone to enjoy. For more information, contact the Department of Natural Resources or your county Extension or Land Conservation office.

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