

RIVER CLEAN UP

We Need Your Support

The Tippecanoe County Partnership for Water Quality has worked with the Indiana Department of Natural Resource's Adopt-A-River program to adopt a portion of the [Wabash River](#) from the Pedestrian Bridge between Lafayette and West Lafayette south one mile in late 2008.

Join the hundreds of Tippecanoe County residents who have participated in [River Clean Ups](#)! Your family, church, school or civic group can assist or simply come alone to join with other involved citizens. Events such as Detrash the Wabash and Clean Sweep take place during the spring, summer and fall months.

Call the Tippecanoe County Partnership for Water Quality or the Soil and Water Conservation District for more information on how you can keep litter out of the rivers! We need your support to keep Tippecanoe County beautiful.

Who To Contact

The Tippecanoe County Partnership

for Water Quality

c/o Surveyor's Office

20 North 3rd St.

Lafayette, IN 47901

(765) 423-9228

<http://www.tippecanoesw.org>

Battle Ground (765) 567-4020

Dayton (765) 296-2533

Ivy Tech (765) 269-5128

Lafayette (765) 807-1036

Purdue University (765) 494-3417

Tippecanoe County (765) 423-9228

West Lafayette (765) 775-5130

Tippecanoe Soil and Water

Conservation District

1812 Troxel Dr. Ste C3

Lafayette, IN 47909

(765) 474-9992, ext 3

Wildcat Creek Solid

Waste Authority

2780 N. 9th St.

Lafayette, IN 47904

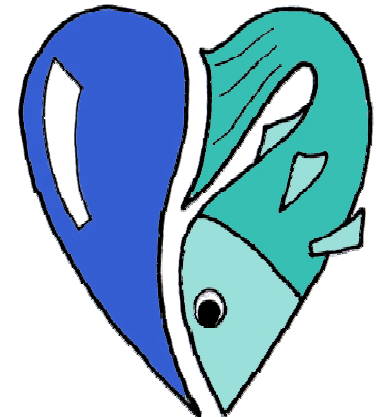
(765) 423-2858

Tippecanoe County Partnership for Water Quality

STORMWATER

POLLUTION

A Reference Guide for Homeowners



www.tippecanoesw.org

WHY SHOULD I CARE ABOUT STORMWATER?

Every time it rains, water that is not absorbed by the ground runs off rooftops, lawns, driveways, and streets, picking up hazardous materials such as oil and antifreeze, fertilizers and pesticides, litter, pet waste and other pollutants. This stormwater is not treated by the wastewater treatment utilities but is deposited directly into the rivers and streams.

Untreated stormwater can affect your quality of life by negatively effecting the quality of water in the rivers and streams in your community. It can impact wildlife in the area and create an unhealthy habitat. Erosion of sediment (soil) into the water can block light from aquatic plants, fill the niches where fish lay eggs, clog fish gills and cause the water to appear brown and "dirty". An overabundance of stormwater may cause combined sewers to overflow, thus allowing thousands of gallons of untreated sewer water to be released into our rivers. It's hard to believe, but it is true. Remember to do your part. It is up to us to prevent our rivers and streams from becoming polluted.



WHAT CAN I DO?

There are several ways you can affect the quality & quantity of water that flows into the stormwater and sewer system

Responsible Lawn Care When applying chemicals to your lawn, follow the manufacturer's directions to avoid over applying; these chemicals can runoff into the sewer system and degrade our rivers and streams.

Don't be a Litter Bug Put trash in its place, or it could end up in our rivers and streams.

Pick Up Pet Waste Pick up your pet's waste and dispose of it in your toilet or trash so that it doesn't wash into the stormdrains.

Teach Others Talk to your friends and family about new facts you learn about stormwater.

Support Local Efforts Support the efforts of your local government to improve stormwater quality and quantity, and understand that there are many ways you can be involved in protecting your water quality.

Conserve Water Using less water on your lawn and garden means less chemical runoff into the stormdrains.

Use Common Sense If you think twice about an act that might hurt the environment, then don't do it.

Reduce Impervious Surfaces Surfaces such as roofs, driveways and concrete patios do not allow rainwater to filter back into the soil, forcing the water into stormdrains. Reduce impervious surfaces by using pervious pavement and/or asphalt.

Don't Misuse Stormdrains Remember that stormdrains are not trash cans. Household hazardous waste (HHW) such as motor oil, antifreeze and many cleaning agents should be disposed of properly at a HHW collection facility such as the Wildcat Creek Solid Waste Authority located on 2780 North 9th. Street, Lafayette.

STORM DRAIN MARKING

Does your neighborhood association, school or civic group want to be involved in cleaning up your community's stormwater? Become a part of the Tippecanoe County Partnership for Water Quality's Storm



Drain Marking Program. By affixing a special "No Dumping, Drains to River" emblem next to storm drains, residents and passersby become aware that what flows down those drains is not treated before reaching the river. The TCPWQ will provide all materials necessary to mark these drains including instructions, maps, markers, glue, and gloves. Call today to become part of a program that will serve for many years as an important reminder to keep garbage, chemicals and hazardous waste out of the sewer system and keep our rivers clean.

Tippecanoe County Partnership for Water Quality Storm Drain Marking Program
(765) 474-9992, ext 3