Residents of New Braunfels are fortunate to have aquatic resources such as the Comal and Guadalupe Rivers. Our rivers are utilized for recreational activities such as fishing, tubing, & swimming. In addition, our rivers provide a valuable water supply for New Braunfels and provide habitat for federally-listed endangered aquatic species such as the Fountain Darter, Comal Springs Riffle Beetle, and the Comal Springs Dryopid Beetle.

Stormwater runoff flows into our rivers and creeks with little or no treatment. Therefore, it is important to minimize the amount of pollutants that are washed into our rivers and creeks during rain events. Managing stormwater pollution will help to ensure that our rivers and creeks remain clean for ourselves and for generations to come.

Why is it Important to Manage Stormwater Pollution in New Braunfels?

Stormwater runoff flows over the ground surface. In natural areas, a large portion of rain soaks into the ground surface. Impervious surfaces such as parking lots, streets and driveways increase the amount of runoff by reducing the amount of rain that is able to soak into the ground surface.

Common pollutants found in stormwater runoff include sediment (dirt), nutrients from fertilizers, oil and grease, chemicals, and yard debris.

For additional information, or to report a spill or other water quality concern, please contact the City of New Braunfels' Watershed Team at (830) 221-4020.
# Minimizing Stormwater Pollution:
What can you do to help improve water quality?

## Minimizing Stormwater Pollution in Residential Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lawn Care:</th>
<th>Septic Systems:</th>
<th>Pet Waste:</th>
<th>Auto Care:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Excess fertilizers, pesticides &amp; herbicides can be carried by stormwater runoff into our creeks and rivers.</td>
<td>• Leaking and poorly maintained septic systems can release pathogens, such as bacteria &amp; viruses, and nutrients that can be washed into waterways during storm events.</td>
<td>• Can be a significant source of bacteria to our rivers and creeks.</td>
<td>• Washing your car at home can result in soaps and detergents being washed into the storm drain system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Use fertilizers, pesticides &amp; herbicides sparingly!</td>
<td>• It is recommended that your septic system be inspected &amp; pumped every 3-5 years.</td>
<td>• Always pick up after your pet!</td>
<td>• Dumping automotive fluids such as oil and anti-freeze into the storm drain is the same as dumping it directly into a river or creek.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Compost yard waste such as leaves and lawn clippings. Never rake into the streets or into storm drains.</td>
<td>• Don’t dispose of household hazardous waste in sinks or toilets.</td>
<td>• Dispose of pet waste in the toilet or in the garbage.</td>
<td>• Wash your car at a commercial car wash.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 10 Things You Can Do to Reduce Stormwater Pollution:

1. Pick up after your pet. Dispose of waste properly.
2. Use fertilizers & herbicides sparingly.
3. Do not dump anything into a storm drain!
4. Avoid feeding wildlife such as deer, geese, & ducks.
5. Vegetate bare spots in your yard.
6. Check your vehicle for oil and fuel leaks. Repair leaks ASAP!
7. Wash your car at the car wash instead of at home.
8. Inspect and pump your septic system regularly.
9. Don’t litter! Pick-up litter and trash.
10. Dispose of household hazardous waste at designated collection locations.

## Minimizing Stormwater Pollution in Commercial Areas

- Dirt, oil, and debris that collect in parking lots, sidewalks, and roads can easily be washed into storm drains and waterways.
- Report fuel or chemical spills to the City of New Braunfels.
- Cover trash dumpsters and used oil bins!
- Clean-up debris, oils, & litter from roads, sidewalks, and parking areas to prevent them from reaching our waterways.

## Minimizing Stormwater Pollution at Construction Sites

- Construction sites have the potential to contribute large volumes of sediment and other pollutants to our creeks and rivers.
- Utilize erosion control devices to minimize sediment discharges.
- Maintain installed erosion control devices to ensure optimal performance.
- Keep existing vegetation in place to the maximum extent practicable.
- Avoid disturbing more area than necessary when clearing a construction site.

---

For additional information, or to report a spill or other water quality concern, please contact the City of New Braunfels’ Watershed Team at (830) 221-4020.
Managing Stormwater Pollution:
What is the City of New Braunfels Doing to Manage Stormwater Pollution?

City of New Braunfels’ Stormwater Management Plan

In order to manage stormwater pollution and protect water quality in the Comal River, Guadalupe River, Dry Comal Creek, and Bleders Creek watersheds, the City of New Braunfels has developed a Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP). The SWMP includes stormwater pollution management measures such as Public Education & Outreach, Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination, Construction Site Stormwater Management, Stormwater Management Measures in Areas of New Development, and Pollution Prevention for Municipal Operations. A description of each stormwater management measure is included below.

1) Public Education & Outreach: The City of New Braunfels will implement a public education program to inform the community about the impact of stormwater discharges on water quality, hazards related to illegal discharges & dumping, improper disposal of waste, & steps that the public can take to reduce pollutants in stormwater. The City will also hold events to involve the community in stormwater planning and education efforts.

2) Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination: The City of New Braunfels will develop, implement, and enforce a program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges. The program includes mapping of the storm sewer system, screening stormwater outfalls to detect pollutant discharges, tracking and elimination of illicit discharges, and establishment of a city ordinance prohibiting illicit discharges.

3) Construction Site Stormwater Management: The City of New Braunfels will develop, implement, and enforce a program to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff associated with construction activity. The program will include review of site plans to assess for adequate stormwater controls routine inspections of active construction sites, and establishment of a city ordinance to require erosion and sediment controls.

4) Stormwater Management in Areas of New Development: The City of New Braunfels will address stormwater pollution in areas of new development by developing & implementing permanent stormwater BMPs, inspecting existing stormwater controls, such as retention basins, to ensure adequate operation, maintaining City-owned stormwater BMPs, and establishing a ordinance to address post-construction stormwater runoff.

5) Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations: The City of New Braunfels will develop and implement an operation and maintenance program to prevent and reduce pollutant runoff from municipal operations. The City will adopt and implement stormwater management policies and procedures designed to protect water quality. This program will include employee stormwater management training and routine inspections of City-owned facilities to identify and address stormwater concerns.

For additional information, or to report a spill or other water quality concern, please contact the City of New Braunfels’ Watershed Team at (830) 221-4020.