Good House keeping practices to reduce water pollution.

City of Brownsville Public Works

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 Rain water run-off is one of the major contributors to water pollution.





# How does the pollutants get to our drinking water sources?

### Storm Drains:

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#### **Untreated Runoff**

Stormwater and inigation runoff carry pollution through the storm drain system to our waterways untreated,

#### Sewer System:

#### **Treated Wastewater**

The sanitary sewer system treats wastewater from sinks, showers, and toilets but does 'hot clean stormwater or runoff.

Sewage

## Rain water takes trash and pollutants to our drains which end in our water sources.



Storm drain

Resacas and ditches

Laguna Madre

## Rain water takes trash and pollutants to our drains which end in our water sources.



Storm drain

Resacas

Laguna Madre

## How can I help?



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# Talk with your parents:

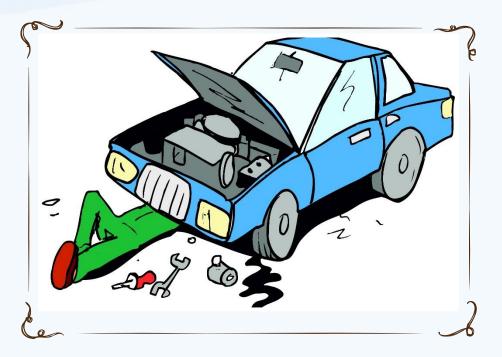
First, explain them the housekeeping activities that can help reduce runoff pollution.

Second, see how you can help your Mom and Dad with these activities.



## Sweeping.

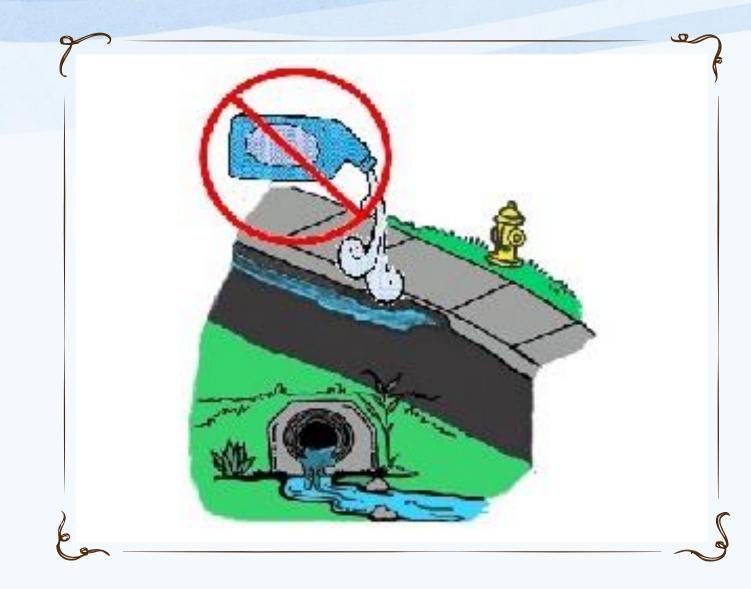
Sweep your curb and gutter regularly. This will stop dirt and debris from building up. Take care when maintaining or washing vehicles on the street or driveway.



Oil and other contaminating fluids like anti-freeze can make their way to the storm drains.



Soap and contaminated dirt can flow with the wash water all the way to the storm drain.



Never dispose of cleaning products in the storm drain!

For disposal, look for household hazardous waste drop-off locations in your area. Try non-toxic, non-hazardous cleaning products or alternative cleaning supplies.

### Control erosion and landscaped areas.



Use native shrubs, plants and natural groundcovers to beautify your home, control areas where use has damaged plants, and consider alternative materials, such as river rock or mulch, in those areas of heavy use.



Lawn clippings should always be mulched back into the lawn. Landscape trash is in the top 5 of storm drain clogging materials.



### Paint brush wash.

Do not clean paint brushes in an area where paint can flow into the street or storm drain. For unused paint, try donating it to a home reuse center. Dry any empty paint cans before disposal in the trash.



### Pet waste contributes to water pollution.

In order to prevent pet waste from entering waterways scoop the poop, bag it, and place it in the trash

## By everyone doing our part, we can have a cleaner drinking water.













