

- Clean water is everyone's responsibility. Help us prevent non-point source pollution of our Resaca's and surface water. Please do your part:
- Do not litter
- Don't dump chemicals into storm drains.
- Keep trash out of our Resaca's, canals and ditches
- Report illegal dumping to 956-546-HELP





# Engineering & Pubic Works **STORMWATER**

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### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT STORMWATER



City of Brownsville Engineering and Public Works

## What is Stormwater Runoff and why is it a problem?

- Stormwater runoff occurs when precipitation from rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent Stormwater from naturally soaking into the ground.
- As seen on the image, Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow 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 our city Resaca's, the Rio Grande river, the Laguna Madre and other waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water, having may adverse effects on plants, fish, animals and people.

#### • IF ITS ON THE STREETS, ITS ON THE



#### What can you do to help?

- Lawn care- When taking care of your lawn, do not overwater it, always follow the instructions on fertilizers and herbicides and compost or mulch yard waste. To avoid pollution and prevent excess nutrients in our Resaca's and streams.
- Car-care. Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system. Dumping automotive fluids into storm drains has the same result as dumping the materials directly into a waterbody, please use commercial carwashes that treats the water or wash your car in the yard so the water infiltrates into the ground.
- At home-Sweep up litter and debris from sidewalks, driveways and parking lots, especially around storm drains. Dirt, oil and debris that is on the streets, driveways and parking lots eventually end up in our Resaca's and finally on the Laguna Madre.



#### Pets and pet waste

• Pet waste left on streets, pavement, yards, driveways, or along the sides of the road does not magically disappear or fertilize the ground. Improperly disposed animals' feces can be picked up by Stormwater runoff and carried into storm drains or nearby water sources and be the cause of significant Stormwater pollution and present health risks to adults, children and other pets.



If you have any questions, or you would like a presentation about Stormwater.

Please contact:

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