

# Clean Stormwater

## Everyone's Business

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet cares about Kentucky residents. That's why we're always working to find new ways to help protect Kentucky's environment.

### **Our Mission is to:**

Provide a safe, efficient, and environmentally sound transportation system for the movement of people and goods, thereby enhancing the quality of life and economic development in Kentucky.

The Cabinet's latest program focuses on protecting our streams and rivers from pollution and litter washed off roadways and highways by storm water runoff.

### **What is "Storm water Runoff"?**

When it rains, the storm water runs off roofs, driveways, yards and roads. Pipes and ditches carry this water away. These pipes and ditches lead into local streams, rivers and lakes. Unlike sewage, storm runoff is not treated. As it flows, pollution such as oil, dirt, deicing chemicals, excess lawn fertilizers and trash are carried into our waterways.



### **What is The Transportation Cabinet Doing?**

The Cabinet is serious about storm water protection. It has established policies and procedures in an effort to minimize its impacts to the environment. The Cabinet has programs and policies that:



Address environmental impacts from construction



Optimize the amount of deicing chemicals used on roadways.



Require environmental protection plans be implemented at highway maintenance facilities for storm water runoff management, groundwater protection, waste management and oil spill prevention and control.



Consider environmental factors during the highway design.



Partner with local communities for the benefit of the Commonwealth's storm water resources.

Since Clean Storm water is Everyone's Business it is important that we ALL take personal responsibility to do our part. This can be a small thing that we do with our vehicles, in the yard, and around the home. We all need to continually look for new and innovative ways to do things just a little bit differently so that we can benefit the Commonwealth's storm water resources. See below for ways you can help.

### **1. Put Litter in its place.**

Storm water drainage carries litter from the roadsides into our streams, lakes and rivers. Help keep Kentucky beautiful by stopping litter.

### **2. Recycle used motor oil.**

Remember to always recycle used motor oil and never dump anything into storm drains or ditches - they drain into our streams.

### **3. Check your car for leaks and fix them.**

Drips from cars can pollute our streams and drinking water. Routinely maintaining your vehicle can extend its usefulness and benefit our environment.

### **4. Use your car less.**

Consider ways to use your car less, such as ridesharing, running your errands all at once, or taking the bus. Fewer cars on the roads mean less air and water pollution.

### **5. Wash you car on the lawn.**

Rather than washing your car on pavement, your lawn helps absorb the water and keeps the dirty water from entering our streams. Or even better, use a commercial car wash.

Want to get involved?

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