5. If You Must Use Pesticides…

Use a pesticide that is specifically designed to control your pest. The insect should be listed on the label. Approximately 90% of the insects on your lawn and garden are not harmful.

Read labels! ***Use only as directed.*** In their zeal to control the problem, many gardeners use pesticides at over 20 times the rate farmers do.

6. Pesticide Disposal

Household toxics—such as pesticides, cleansers, and motor-oil can pollute our streams and river and poison groundwater if disposed of in storm drains or gutters.

Rinse empty pesticide containers and use rinse water as you would the product. Dispose of empty rinsed containers in the trash.

Montgomery residents can dispose of unused household toxics at periodically announced Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events or bring to the Recycling Center.

For more information call:
Susan Carmichael, Clean City Commission
(334) 241– 2175

This pamphlet is produced by Chattanooga Stormwater Management Division. Special thanks to the Los Angeles River Watershed Cities and the City of Los Angeles for their assistance in providing the original Stormwater Management Practices Brochures.

Spill Response

Montgomery Fire Department
911
Alabama Department of
Environmental Management (ADEM)
(334) 271– 7700
City of Montgomery
Engineering Department
(334) 241– 2696
Stormwater Management
(334) 354– 6149

Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

Montgomery Recycling Center
(334) 241– 2175

To Report Illegal Dumping

Housing Codes
(334) 241– 2161

Stormwater Management
(334) 354– 6149

To Report a Drainage Problem

Stormwater Management
(334) 354– 6149

This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures. Other pamphlets include:

Automotive Maintenance & Car Care
Detention Pond Maintenance
Food Service Industry
Heavy Equipment & Earth-Moving Activities
Home Repair and Remodeling
Erosion Control

CITY OF MONTGOMERY

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

DUMP NO WASTE!!!
Drains to Our Rivers And Streams

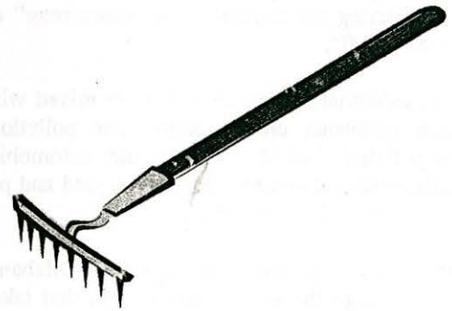
Volunteer your time!!! Help protect our streams and the Alabama River.

Join our neighborhood Clean Water Partnerships. Volunteer to monitor the water quality or pick up litter.
For more information contact any of the Following:

Susan Carmichael,
Clean City Commission
(334) 241– 2175

Remember:
"Clean Water is Your Choice"

Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



Landscaping, Gardening & Pest Control

Homeowners
Gardeners
Landscapers

Bobby N. Bright, Mayor

Stormwater Pollution Prevention
Clean Water: Your Choice

Montgomery has two drainage systems—the sewers and the storm drains. The storm drain system was designed to prevent flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from streets, homes, and businesses. Because the system contains no filters, it also serves the unintended function of carrying urban pollution straight into our streams and the Alabama River.

This pamphlet tells you how to prevent pollution from entering our streams from "stormwater" or "urban runoff".

Rain, industrial and household water mixed with urban pollutants creates stormwater pollution. The pollutants include: oil, and other automobile fluids, paint and construction debris, yard and pet wastes, pesticides and litter.

Urban runoff pollution flows to the Alabama River through the storm drain system that takes water and debris straight from the streets to our streams. Each day tremendous amounts of polluted urban runoff enters our streams untreated, leaving toxic chemicals in our creeks and rivers and tons of trash along their banks.

Urban runoff contaminates our streams and rivers, harms aquatic life and increases the risk of flooding by clogging storm drains and catch basins. Overall, stormwater pollution cost us millions of dollars per year.

These Best Management Practices (BMPs) will ensure cleaner streams and rivers, and a cleaner Montgomery.

PROBLEMS

Landscaping and garden maintenance activities can be major contributors to stormwater pollution. Soils, yard wastes, over-watering, and garden chemicals become part of the urban runoff mix that winds its way through streets, gutters and storm drains before entering our river tributaries.

For example, over-watering or poorly functioning sprinklers waste water, and increase the amount of pollutants, such as fertilizer, that flow into storm drains.

Fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides are washed off lawns and landscaped areas such as golf courses, cemeteries, and public parks.. These chemicals not only kill garden pests, they also harm useful insects, poison fish and contaminate ground and surface water.

Leaves, grass clippings and tree trimmings that are swept or blown into the street and gutter also cause stormwater pollution. These wastes clog catch basins, increasing the risk of flooding on your street, and carry lawn chemicals into the river. As they decompose, they also absorb oxygen fish need to survive.

SOLUTIONS

1. General Landscaping Tips

- Protect stockpiles and materials from wind and rain by storing them under tarps or secured plastic sheeting.
- Schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather.
- Use temporary check dams or ditches to divert runoff away from storm drains.
- Prevent erosion by planting fast-growing annual and perennial grasses. These will shield and bind the soil.

2. Garden and Lawn Maintenance

Do not over water. Conserve water by using irrigation practices such as drip irrigation, soaker hoses, or micro-spray systems.

Montgomery has curbside yard waste pick-up. Leave clippings and pruned wastes beside the street for pickup. Or, compost the clippings and use the compost around your plants.

Do not blow or rake leaves into the street, gutter or storm drains. Clean out the storm drains when needed.

Use organic or non-toxic fertilizers.

Do not over fertilize and do not fertilize near ditches, streams, or other water bodies.

Store pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals in a covered area to prevent runoff.

Mix the chemical according to the label's directions.

3. Pesticide Alternatives

The "chemicals-only" approach to pest control is only a temporary fix.

A more common sense approach is needed for a long-term solution. It is called:

Integrated Pest Management

Plan you "IPM" strategy in this order:

A) Physical Controls

- Caulking holes
- Hand Picking
- Barriers
- Traps

B) Biological Controls

- Predatory insects

  e.g. Green lacewings eat aphids

- Bacterial insecticides

  e.g. *Bacillus thuringiensis* kills caterpillars.

C) Chemical Controls—Your Last resort

Use these least toxic products:

- Dehydrating dusts (e.g. silica gel)
- Insecticidial soaps
- Boric acid powder
- Horticultural oils
- Pyrethrin-basin insecticides

4. Safe Substitutes for Pest Control

Garden Aphids and Mites—Mix 1 table spoon of liquid soap and 1 cup of vegetabl oil. Add 1 teaspoon of the mixture to a cup o water and spray. (oil may harm vegetabl plants in the cabbage family).

Caterpillars—When caterpillars are eating apply products containing *Bacillus thuringien sis* to the leaves.

Ants—Place boric acid dust or hydramethyl non baits in problem areas, cracks and insec walkways. Be sure it is inaccessible to chil dren and pets (it is a mild poison).

Roaches—Apply boric acid dust to cracks an entry points (see ants above). Place ba leaves on pantry shelves.