

You Are The **Solution** To **Water Pollution**

Storm drain pipes carry stormwater runoff and pollutants directly to our local creeks and the San Francisco Bay. Here are seven tips that you can use to create a big impact and protect our waterways:



Remember to sweep up dirt and leaves instead of blowing them into the street. Dispose of debris properly in your compost. Don't overwater your landscaping as this will cause runoff!



Use a commercial car wash, or wash your car with non-toxic soap on a lawn or dirt surface. Empty your bucket of soapy water onto grass, dirt, or landscaping where it can soak into the soil.



Buy less toxic chemicals, and store household products appropriately. Avoid spraying pesticides in or around your house. Check out the less toxic pest management techniques found on ourwaterourworld.org. Dispose of any household hazardous waste properly at the City's takeback events. More info on cityofpaloalto.org/hazwaste



Pick up litter when you see it. Keep garbage and recycling cans tightly covered to prevent litter from being blown away or scattered by foraging animals.



Pick up pet waste, and dispose of it properly in the garbage. Pet waste carries harmful bacteria and pathogens into creeks.



Move beyond single-use disposables to reduce waste and litter. Bring your own reusable utensils, use reusable snack packs, or buy food items with less packaging. Everyday actions add up! More info on cityofpaloalto.org/zwliving



Make sure hired mobile businesses (e.g., car detailers, carpet cleaners, and dog groomers) dispose of liquid and solid waste appropriately and not into the street. Non-toxic wastewater can be disposed down a utility sink or toilet.

Want to learn more
pollution prevention tips
and information? Visit
cityofpaloalto.org/watershed
or call 650.329.2122.

