



TURNING THE TIDE

Look for this sign along
Roads in the County!

...of polluted runoff from reaching our waterways

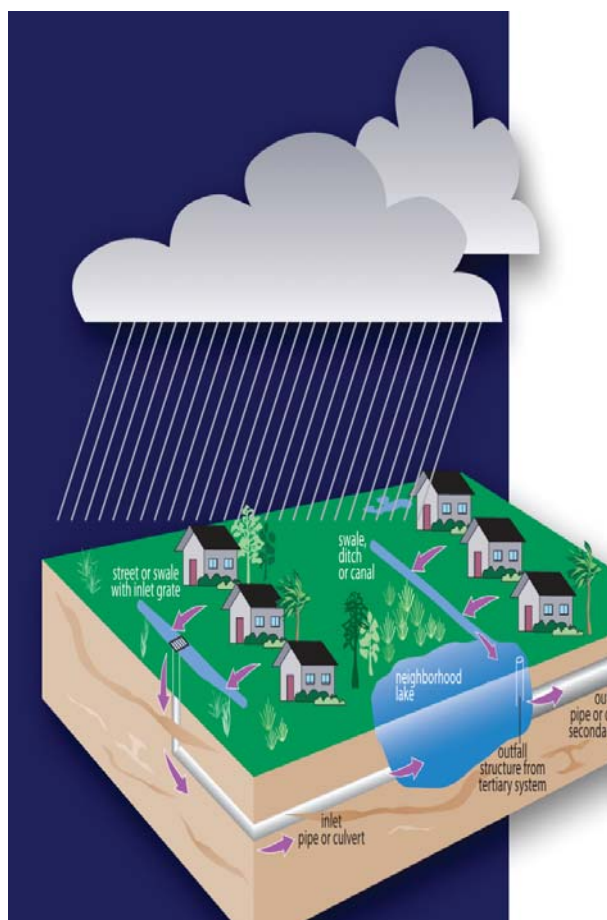
Indian River County's Clean Water Goal: To reduce the amount of visible and invisible pollutants washed off land and carried by rainwater into waterways and our Indian River Lagoon. Citizens help achieve this goal by voluntarily making simple behavioral changes that reduce the amount and improve the quality of water that runs off their properties.

Volume 4 Number 10

December 2011

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View past issues at www.ircStormwater.com



Indian River County Stormwater Division,
the City of Vero Beach and the City of Sebastian
Present

“Know the Flow”

A seminar explaining how neighborhood drainage systems work and how to properly maintain them.

Thursday, December 8, 2011

8:00 am – 1:00 pm

At Indian River County Fairgrounds,
7955 58th Avenue, Vero Beach, FL 32967

8 - 9 am Tour exhibits featuring
“Property Owner Pollution Prevention Practices”
(See exhibit list on page 10)

9 - 12 noon Workshop Presentations

The workshop is free of charge but seating is limited.

Register at:

<http://knowtheflowindianrivercounty.eventbrite.com>

Join your IRC neighbors in treating water *as a resource*, not as a waste product or garbage receptacle,
Diane Wilson, IRC Stormwater Education Coordinator, dwilson@ircgov.com

Prevent Pollution In the Path of Any Water!



Contents

- News
 - HOAs & Everyone
 - Students & Teachers
 - Business Sector & Construction Industry
- Events, Trainings & More
- BMPs & Proper Practices
- Identifying & Reporting Illicit Discharges (visit stormwater website)



**A Healthy Lagoon
Is a Measure of its Watershed!**

Did you know.....

97% of the earth's water is salty or polluted, 2% is too far underground to reach. That leaves only 1% for clean drinking waterand 50 -70 % of residential water is consumed outside in landscaping.

Source: http://www.gotwater.net/protect_water.htm

How do our waterways become polluted?

The first inch of runoff from a rainstorm may carry 90% of the pollution in its path. Stormwater picks up street litter, yard waste, lawn fertilizers, pesticides, pet waste, oils and fluids from driveways and streets. You can help by preventing substances that you wouldn't want to swim in or drink from entering storm drains:

- Keep roadside curbs and gutters clean
- Use less fertilizer on lawns
- Avoid pesticides
- Compost garden trimmings ~ blow grass back onto your yard
- Recycle used oil ~ Check for car leaks
- Wash your car on the lawn, not on driveway or street
- Pick up pet wastes or bury a minimum of 5" deep
- Don't litter
- Take leftover paints, automotive fluids, pesticides, etc. to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center at the IRC Landfill (770-5113)
- Have your septic tank professionally checked and maintained at least once every two years
- Get educated! Visit the County's website at: www.ircgov.com/stormwater
- Be observant and report pollution at 226-1888 - Sprint/Nextel phones dial #IRC

Stormdrains are not garbage cans.

Throw your debris in a trash can

NEWS

FOR EVERYONE and Homeowners & Private Associations:

Homeowner Yard Maintenance Resources

Property owners and private associations that hire professional services:

Select a “green certified” professional who you know in advance has successfully completed the Florida-Friendly Green Industry – Best Management Practice (GI-BMP) certification training class* from the list at http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/professionals/certification_lists/cert_county_name.shtml . The GI-BMPs are a science-based educational program for Green Industry workers (lawn-care and landscape maintenance professionals), brought to you by University of Florida/IFAS Florida-Friendly Landscaping program. The GI-BMPs teach environmentally safe landscaping practices that help conserve and protect Florida’s ground and surface waters. They can also save the Florida homeowner money, time, and effort, increase the beauty of the home landscape; and protect the health of your family, pets, and the environment.

Do-it-yourselfers: The soil in Indian River County is basically sand so it is recommended to first do a soil test to determine the types and quantities of nutrients each lawn needs. Homeowners are encouraged to call the IRC Extension office (770-5030 ext. 1) to learn how to obtain a free pH soil test and more in-depth soil analysis for \$7 per sample. Practical landscaping guidelines are available at <http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/homeowners/publications.htm> . An additional practical reference is www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/yards/fertilizing .

A training program for retailers is being created – As of November 2011 the *Florida Friendly-Landscaping™ – Green Industries Best Management Practices* program Statewide Coordinator, Donald Rainey, is preparing to work with big box stores to train store associates. He is working with local agents in Sarasota to set up a beta program. The goal is to prepare store associates with FFL/GI-BMP program and local/state ordinance/compliance information.

Thought for the day.... “Dispose of waste in the proper place”

(If you have a quote you’d like submit for publication consideration, email it to dwilson@ircgov.com)

DO YOU KNOW the consequences of hazardous materials being improperly disposed?

See page 10

Landscape Irrigation Restrictions

St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) has established these restrictions throughout its boundaries. They are 1 Day/week now through March 11th. SJRWMD Mandatory lawn watering restrictions specify the days when you may water. For details visit <http://www.sjrwmd.com/wateringrestrictions/index.html> or call their 24-hour “Irrigation Line” at 1-800-232-0904

News from **Keep Indian River Beautiful (KIRB)**



KIRB EARNED NATIONAL AWARD

Our local environmental volunteer organization, Keep Indian River Beautiful, follows a practical approach that unites citizens, businesses and government to find solutions that advance our core issues of preventing litter, reducing waste, and beautifying our community. Realizing that cigarette butts are the most littered item in America, KIRB successfully implemented the Cigarette Litter Prevention Program (CLPP) across Indian River County. Under the guidance of KIRB's executive director, Vicki Wild (in photo above left), the organization won 3rd Place in the national *Keep America Beautiful* 2011 Awards. It earned this esteemed acknowledgement for its outstanding efforts in reducing cigarette butt litter and improving the community environment.

The KIRB Reuse Exchange Center* was recently remodeled (*inside the Indian River Mall by the entrance to Macy's). Come see how beautiful and well organized it is!

See what "odds and ends" you may be able to bring with you to contribute. Before you come, visit http://www.kirb.org/Reuse_Center_List_Revised_030210.pdf.

Get a free T-shirt through December 31 when you buy \$10 or more worth of recyclable items in the Reuse Exchange Center

See our TV show on Vero's television channel WCCI Channel 10/11 (on Comcast Cable) Tues and Thursday at 6:30 pm.

You can become an active environmental steward and learn more about the above news items by visiting www.kirb.org/index.html or call 226-7738

Hours of Operation are: Tuesday - Friday: 1pm-5pm and Saturday: 10am-3pm

AquaScaping Stormwater Ponds

Though retention ponds are a necessary part of Florida's landscape, they often look unnaturally bleak. What's more, these man-made ponds are easily invaded by non-native plants, and are further uglified by algae blooms. But there are ways to make these ponds more visually appealing while maintaining their utilitarian functionality. Instead of settling for generic, uninspiring retention ponds surrounded by chain-link fencing, aquascaping with Florida's native aquatic plants offers a glimmer of beauty that stands out against the gray and black of roads, parking lots and urban development.



Aquascaping opportunity wasted



Retention ponds don't have to be ugly

While the main goal of aquascaping retention ponds is to beautify the constructed pond and its shoreline and to hide the runoff areas, aquascaping also aids in pollutant filtration, controls erosion of the pond banks, attracts wildlife and increases much-needed wildlife habitat in urban settings, and helps control invasive non-native plants.

Even though most retention ponds cannot be used for recreational purposes, aquascaping allows these wet places to contribute to the aesthetic value of their surrounding areas. A lush pondscape breaks up the seemingly endless view of concrete and asphalt in highly developed areas. Source: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/guide/aquascape.html>

News for Teachers & Students



December 14, 2011 is the deadline for... “Soil to Spoon” POSTER CONTEST

Designing a poster and researching the theme can give students a voice in their community on important conservation issues. Indian River County students in **grades K through 5** may use any media to create a flat or two-dimensional effect poster titled “Soil to Spoon” for the Indian River Soil and Water Conservation District’s annual poster contest.

Entry forms and additional contest rules are available by calling the Conservation District Office at 772-770-5005 or visit <http://www.irccdd.com/SWCD/Activities.htm> or

December 23 – Registration deadline for Disney’s Planet Challenge (DPC) for grades 3 – 8, this project-based learning environmental competition is for classrooms across the United States. DPC teaches kids about science and conservation while empowering them to make a positive impact on their communities and planet. Successful DPC projects engage students in learning about and developing solutions to address a local environmental issue. Grand prize winning classes from the elementary and middle school categories will receive all expense-paid trips to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla. in April 2012. Register at <http://dpcproject.com/RegTrack.aspx>



Businesses

- **Contractors** – YEAR-ROUND FDEP Stormwater & Erosion Inspector Certification Classes - look under Training & Events Column below.
- **Landscapers and Irrigation Professionals:**
 - **Green Industry- Best Management Practices (GI-BMP) Certification Classes**
http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/professionals/bmp_training_schedule.htm .
 - The National Green Values™ Calculator <http://logan.cnt.org/calculator/calculator.php>
 - Landscape Exchange Project
http://www.watersheded.com/sites/default/files/registered/docs/FSE_v12n02.pdf .
- **Pesticide BMPs** - To purchase or use pesticides classified as restricted-use by the US EPA, pesticide applicators must pass a written examination to obtain the required license. Applicators must re-certify either by re-examination or by attending pesticide education programs to acquire continuing education credits. To learn about exam prep classes and test dates call (772) 462-1660 or email Ken Gioeli, SLC Extension Agent/ Natural Resources at kgioeli@ufl.edu

EVENTS, TRAININGS & MORE

- **PLACE YOUR TREE ORDER NOW (deadline is Jan. 5th) Arbor Day Tree Sale**
Take advantage of this great opportunity to buy trees at cost! This sale is part of the Indian River Soil and Water Conservation District's (IRSWCD) 4th annual Arbor Day Celebration. This year, two species of trees are being offered: the Bald Cypress (*Taxodium Distichum*) liners (\$0.50 each) and the Red Maple (*Acer Rubrum*) liners (\$0.88 each). Tree liners are approximately 15" to 18" tall. There is a 10-tree minimum order. Order forms can be downloaded from www.irccdd.com/swcd/ or call IRSWCD at 770-5005. **All orders must be pre-paid by cash or check and received by IRSWCD by January 5, 2012.** Customers will be notified by phone or email in mid January of 2012 when the trees are ready for pick up. The IRSWCD thanks you in advance for your interest in conservation! As part of this celebration, the District will be doing a "free planting" of 100 Bald Cypress trees around community storm water ponds in an effort to naturally clean and conserve storm water.
- **Seasonal Hikes are starting. These hikes, offering opportunities to learn about the Indian River Lagoon Watershed,** are held on St. Lucie County's environmentally sensitive lands. A full-season brochure is near completion. Programs are **free** and open to the public, but reservations are required at least one day in advance by calling the person indicated. Proper footwear and water are also required. Unless otherwise noted, hikes target ages 13 and older. While pets are typically welcome on SLC lands, we ask that as a courtesy to fellow participants, please leave pets at home.

December 3, 2011; 9:00am-11:00am Ocean Bay: *Hammock Walk & Beachcombing* Join local master naturalists and discover the secrets of the rare coastal hammock community. Then, emerge from the forest to search for beach treasures along Ocean Bay's pristine natural shore. Call Wren: 772 971-5611

December 10, 2011; 9:00am-11:00am Paleo Hammock: *Florida's Early Peoples* Walk in the footsteps of Paleo Indians on this guided tour through lush Florida habitat. Experience a historic Indian mound and learn about how these early people may have lived. Call Wren: 772 971-5611

December 17, 2011; 8:00am-10:00am D.J. Wilcox: *Birding* No experience required. Bring binoculars/camera and join us for a leisurely hike through one of the County's premier birding sites. Call Patricia: 772-453-4066

December 28, 2011; 10:00am-11:30am George LeStrange: *Wee Ones in the Woods* Bring the kiddies for a fun and educational program about wildlife defenses, to be followed by a short hike along Ten Mile Creek. Appropriate for ages 6 & up. Call Wren: 772 971-5611

- **Register now for the January 23 thru March 10, 2012 Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) Uplands Habitats Module** presented by the University of Florida / IFAS – St Lucie County Extension, Wrensong Science & Environment Education and partnering agencies. This FMNP Module is a 40-hour educational program designed to teach students about Florida's natural systems. Through classroom, field trip, and practical experience, this uplands habitats module provides instruction on the general ecology, habitats, vegetation types, wildlife, and conservation issues of upland areas in Florida. The program also addresses society's role in natural areas, develops naturalist interpretation skills, and discusses environmental ethics. Upon completion of the course, participants receive a certification as a "Florida Master Naturalist", complete with certificate, patch and pin. **Classes meet** Monday evenings (6-9pm) & Saturdays (9-3:30) at Savannas Preserve State Park. **Cost:** \$225.00 . **To register**, or to learn more about the Florida Master Naturalist Program, please go to masternaturalist.org. Questions? Call Wren Underwood 772-971-5611 or Ken Gioeli 772-216-1000
- **Register Now to participate in the "Art on a Rain Barrel Contest"**
<http://artonarainbarrelcontest.eventbrite.com/>
- **YEAR-ROUND FDEP Stormwater & Erosion Inspector Certification Classes** address proper installation, inspection, and maintenance of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for use during and after construction to minimize erosion and sedimentation and to properly manage runoff for both stormwater quantity and quality. A list of classes held year-round is available at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/nonpoint/erosion.htm> .
NEXT LOCAL CLASS: December 7 & 8 in Palm Bay, FL
Register at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/nonpoint/docs/erosion/dec-palmbay.pdf>



WOMEN OVER 18 WHO LOVE NATURE.... If you'd like to gain a greater understanding and appreciation of the "great outdoors" consider attending one of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's "**Becoming an Outdoors-Woman**" weekend educational programs. Visit <http://myfwc.com/education/outdoor-skills/outdoors-woman/>.

SAVE THESE 2012 EVENT DATES:

- **Sat. March 17 (10 am – 5 pm) 20th annual Pelican Island Wildlife Festival** to be held in Riverview Park, Sebastian. Exhibitors that have an environmental theme and/or exhibit animals or products that are native to Florida are welcome to participate. The "green" theme is in recognition of environmental awareness and in celebration of St. Patty's Day. For details contact Pelican Island Preservation Society www.firstrefuge.org Phone - 772-202-0697

- **Saturday, April 21, 2012 - Nation-wide Hook Kids on Fishing program.** Anglers for Conservation - Creating New Generations of Marine Stewards <http://www.anglersforconservation.org/> is in the process of coordinating these programs in each community in celebration of Earth Day. **The goals are to multiply marine stewards while setting a one-day Guinness World Record for the number of kids and families fishing together at one time.** These 3-hour workshops teach children ages 6 – 16 and their parents the fundamentals of fishing, including casting, fishing techniques, habitat restoration, conservation, fishing safety, knot tying, and catch and release tactics. For more information contact Rodney Smith rodney@coastalanglermagazine.com.

More FUN Ways to Learn About Water Quality

By Foot, By Canoe, By Kayak,
By Land, By Sea...it's all by the ELC!
For a complete schedule of
Ecology Adventures (EcoVentures)
visit www.DiscoverELC.org
Pontoon Boat Excursions ~ Hikes & Walks
Green Living Workshops
Grandparent/Grandchildren Programs
Kayaking & Canoeing ~ Campouts & More

- **Team ORCA provides opportunities to participate in educational events and outings,** such as a bioluminescence kayaking trip led by senior scientist Dr. Edie Widder; local environmental boat cruises with an ORCA scientist; Team ORCA cookouts & outings; VIP lectures and tours; and members-only invitations to other special events. For more information on how to become a Team ORCA member, call 772-467-1600 or go to www.teamorca.org.
- “Ocean Motion” events on the calendar at www.barrierislandcenter.com
- Be sure to check out the list of volunteer opportunities at www.ircstormwater.com/volunteer.htm
- Visit these COMMUNITY EVENT CALENDARS
Indian River County Cultural Arts Calendar <http://www.cultural-council.org/>
UF/IRC Extension Service Calendar - <http://indian.ifas.ufl.edu/>

What you can do to prevent water pollution...BMPs

BMPs = Best Management Practices: methods to prevent pollutant discharges to storm drain systems. BMPs are listed by category at www.ircgov.com/stormwater

Come tour the exhibits featuring
“Property Owner Pollution Prevention Practices”
At the December 8th Know the Flow event (continued from page 1)

Redirect Your Downspout - City of Sebastian

Install Rain Barrels – UF/IFAS Martin County Extension FYN Program

Swales, Cisterns, Rain gardens and Ponds - City of Vero Beach

Install Florida Friendly Landscaping and Do a Soil Test –UF/IFAS-IRC Extension

Plant a Tree: Right Tree Right Place - Florida Forest Service

Properly Store, Apply and Dispose of Pesticides and Herbicides - IR Mosquito Control District

Proper Irrigation Practices - IR Soil & Water Conservation District

Pick up After Your Dog -Indian River Lagoon National Estuary Program

Maintain Your Septic Tank - IRC Environmental Health Division

Properly Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste - IRC Solid Waste Disposal

Proper Disposal of Unwanted Prescriptions & Medicines – IRC Sheriff’s Office

Keeping Cigarette Butts Out of Our Canals - Breathe Free IRC

Join a local watershed volunteer organization – Keep Indian River Beautiful

Illicit Discharge: What is it and How to Report It – IRC Stormwater Division

Answer to “DID YOU KNOW” (from page 3):

The consequences of hazardous materials being improperly disposed.

1. Thrown in the Garbage?

Most landfills are not designed for hazardous household wastes. These wastes can leak into water supplies and/or cause air pollution. Hazardous household waste may cause a fire or explosion, or give off dangerous fumes. Sanitation workers have been seriously burned, lost their eyesight, or suffered lung damage while compacting hazardous materials. Equipment has also been damaged.

2. Poured Down the Drain?

When you pour hazardous household products down the sink or flush them down the toilet the hazardous materials enter either a septic system or a municipal sewer system. If you have a septic system, wastewater from your home goes into a tank buried underground. The solids settle out and partially decompose. The remaining wastewater then goes into a drain field where the natural, ongoing processes in the soil help to further break down the wastewater. Toxic materials in that wastewater can kill the helpful bacteria and the system will not operate properly. Some toxic materials move through the soil untreated or unchanged. When this happens groundwater or surface waters may become contaminated. For example, many paint removers and aerosol paint products contain the chemical methylene chloride. This chemical can pass directly through a septic system without breaking down at all. Chlorine bleach can also pass through a septic system without breaking down. Also the chlorine can react with organic matter to form new toxic chemicals. If your home is connected to a municipal sewage system, wastewater is piped to a central sewage plant. After treatment, it is discharged into area rivers, lakes, and streams.

Most municipal systems rely on bacteria or other organisms to decompose the waste. Some hazardous household waste can pass through the system unchanged and thus pollute the water downstream. In addition, hazardous household wastes poured down the drain may corrode the plumbing or collect in the trap and release fumes through the drains.

3. Poured in Ditches, Storm Drains, or Gutters?

If you pour hazardous household waste in ditches, storm drains, or gutters, it can poison plants and wildlife, contaminate the soil, and harm children and adults who come in contact with it. When it rains, the hazardous household waste travels directly to nearby streams, rivers, and lakes.

4. Burned?

If you burn hazardous household waste, you risk producing poisonous fumes, contributing to air pollution, or causing an explosion. Controlled burning in special hazardous waste incinerators by trained professionals can be a good disposal method; open burning by an untrained homeowner is not. Some hazardous materials may not burn away completely and become concentrated in the ash; others can pollute the air.

5. Dumped or Buried?

If you dump or bury some types of hazardous household waste, they may leach through the soil and contaminate the soil or water, especially if the waste is persistent or non-biodegradable. Children, pets, and wildlife may be exposed to such hazardous waste. Dogs frequently are poisoned by drinking antifreeze left on roads or driveways.

STORAGE OF HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD WASTE

Storing a hazardous household waste indefinitely is not a good solution. Containers and their contents degrade over time. Labels get lost, and the chance of children or pets finding the hazardous waste increases when waste is stored for long periods of time. However, storage may be the safest temporary option if there is not a safe and organized system in your community to handle hazardous household waste.

SAFE STORAGE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Store containers on high shelves or in locked cabinets away from children.
2. Protect the label so it does not come off and get lost.
3. Store hazardous household products in the original container.
4. Close containers tightly.
5. Keep containers dry to prevent corrosion.
6. Store similar products together to reduce any danger from reactions if containers should leak or contents should spill.
7. Store hazardous household products in a well-ventilated area.

DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD WASTE

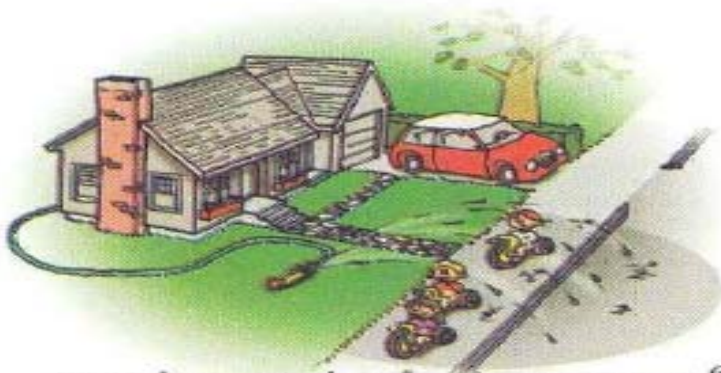
A number of problems can occur when we discard hazardous household waste using common disposal methods. Recommendations for proper disposal will depend on both the particular type of waste and the waste disposal options available in your community.

Local ordinances vary. Landfills may or may not accept certain hazardous household products. They also may vary on how they want the product to arrive at the landfill. For example, one landfill may want you to solidify (air-dry) paint and wrap the container. Another landfill may want paint handled a different way.

In addition, wastewater treatment plants may not allow certain liquids to be poured down the drain. If you have any questions, call your landfill, local wastewater treatment company, or local waste management office. In Indian River County you can reach the Solid Waste District at 770-5113 and the Utilities (regarding wastewater) at 770-5300.

Learn more at <http://nasdonline.org/document/1442/d001236/disposal-of-hazardous-household-waste.html> . The EPA Hazardous Waste website is <http://www.epa.gov/osw/conserves/materials/hhw.htm>

You Might Be an Indian River County Water Polluter if.....

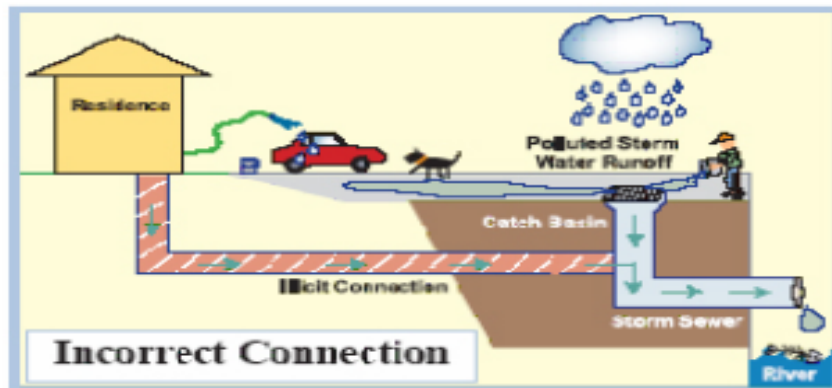


*...you're watering more of
the sidewalk than the lawn...*

Not only is this wasteful. The over-spray will eventually find its way to the stormwater system taking any contaminants along with it.

Illicit Connections

An **illicit connection** is disposing of waste water by deliberately or accidentally not connecting to the sanitary sewer, septic or other treatment system and conveying the waste water to the storm drain system or a waterway. Connecting washing machines, toilets, and other sources of waste water in this manner is illegal and potentially a health hazard.



Report Suspected Water Pollution – Call the IRC Pollution Reporting Hotline

Reporting what you see in your community is important to helping protect water quality!

Call 226-1888 or on www.ircstormwater.com to report a violation.

Photo source: www.jeffco.jccal.org

So Where Should Wash Water Go?



**Onto landscaping
or unpaved
surface**

If discharge does not contain hazardous waste and discharge will not cause flooding or nuisance problems or flow to a water body, and you have the owner's permission.



**Down a sink,
toilet, or cleanout
— through
the sewer to a
wastewater treatment plant**

If you have successfully used dry cleanup methods* before washing with or without soap and discharge does not contain hazardous waste.

* The “dry clean-up methods” can be found under “tips” on page 3 of this 6-page brochure:

<http://www.basmaa.org/Portals/0/documents/pdf/Pollution%20from%20Surface%20Cleaning.pdf>

“Slow the Flow on Your Property” Tip:

Use your yard to clean the water



- Slow the flow of water leaving the yard
- Use fertilizers and pesticides with care
- Keep your yard at home - stop erosion
- Use healthy lawn practices

By simply catching the rainwater that falls on your property, you can help prevent water pollution and recharge the groundwater supply naturally. Over 50% of the water problems in the U.S. today result from substances caught up in stormwater and carried into nearby waterways as a result of our daily activities (U.S. EPA) . Learn more at www.tappwater.org .

LOCAL VIDEO Taken South of the Wabasso Causway

Seagrass beds indicate lagoon health: Scientists check the health of the seagrass beds in the Indian River Lagoon to get an idea of how healthy the lagoon is. By Rik Jesse and Craig Bailey Posted Sept. 26, 2011 <http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20110925/NEWS01/109250309/Feed-your-lawn-choke-Indian-River-Lagoon?odyssey=nav|head>

Learn By Watching

On TV:

- **New stormwater programs on IRC TV schedule.** As part of Indian River County’s stormwater runoff education and awareness efforts, a variety of educational and entertaining videos and public service announcements (PSAs) on stormwater runoff topics air 5:00 pm – 11:30 pm Wednesday evenings on the County’s TV Channel #27. These “visual learning tools” teach how citizens how can make simple behavioral changes that result in the reduction of contaminated stormwater runoff reaching our waterways.
- **Watch “Your Florida Yard” TV Show On-line**
This monthly TV program features tips and ideas for making your yard and your neighborhoods beautiful and environmentally friendly. Hosted by Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Agent, Fred Burkey, videos of the show can be accessed at http://www.martin.fl.us/portal/page?_pageid=357,2119332&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL .

On-line:

- Here are two visual education tools that can serve as powerful ways to remind citizens about the importance of clean water and encourage them to adopt practices to protect our water resources.
 - ["Rubber Ducks" television PSA \(30 seconds\)](#)
 - ["Fish Bowl" television PSA \(30 seconds\)](#)

Sources of PSAs: The Clean Water Minnesota Media Campaign.

HOW TO REPORT POLLUTION ON LAND OR IN WATER:

To report pollution or learn ways to prevent stormwater runoff pollution leaving your property visit www.ircstormwater.com. Pollution reports can also be made anonymously by calling the Indian River County Pollution Hotline during working hours, Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. After hours report pollution to municipal police or call 911.

Topic To Consider for Your Next Meeting: **Your Behaviors Influence Florida's Water Quality**



Diane Wilson, Stormwater Educator

The stormwater division offers free seminars to nonprofit organizations, HOAs, schools and businesses.

Many people think they know what pollution is. But unfortunately many people do not realize the Indian River Lagoon is seriously impaired and how pollution is reaching the Lagoon (and other surface waters) faster and more intensely than ever before.

Audiences will learn the causes, effects and ways they can prevent water pollution.

To schedule a presentation email dwilson@ircgov.com