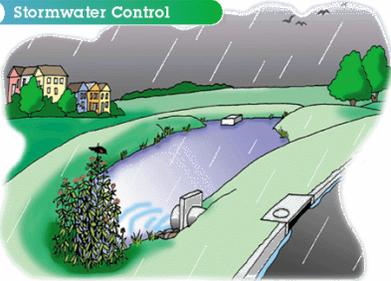


## WHY WE CARE ABOUT WATER POLLUTION?

In recent years, sources of water pollution like industrial waters from factories have been greatly reduced. However, now the majority of water pollution occurs from sources such as cars leaking oil, fertilizers from farms and lawns, failing septic tanks, pet waste, and residential car washing.

Stormwater Control



Whether you live next to a creek or the White River, polluted runoff from your home will eventually reach our waterways. Even if the polluted runoff doesn't immediately reach the storm drain or the water evaporates, the problem isn't gone. Pollutants still remain on the pavement and will be washed into the storm drain the next time it rains. Once in the creek, these pollutants are harmful to fish and wildlife.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

### Proper Disposal of Household Hazardous Wastes:

East Central Indiana Solid Waste District  
(765) 640-2535

### Yard & Garden Recycling

City of Anderson  
(765) 648-6399

### Heavy Item Pick Up Service:

Republic Services, Inc.  
(765) 644-8796

### To Report Illegal Dumping:

City of Anderson  
Environmental Court  
(765) 648-6068

### For Permitting or General Stormwater Questions:

City of Anderson  
Stormwater Utility Department  
(765) 648-6129

For Additional Stormwater Pollution Prevention Tips visit:  
[www.cityofanderson.com/stormwater/](http://www.cityofanderson.com/stormwater/)

## PROPER CAR CARE FOR CLEAN WATER!

### Stormwater Pollution Prevention Outreach Program



### Sponsored by:

Stormwater Utility Department  
Anderson, Indiana



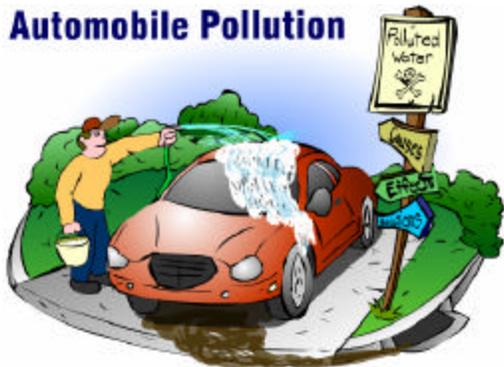
Kris Ockomon, Mayor

## DID YOU KNOW YOUR CAR CAN CAUSE WATER POLLUTION?

We all know that cars cause air pollution. But did you know that cars also cause water pollution? When we drive our cars and trucks, bits of tires, brakes and rusty metal are left on the street. When we park, our cars and trucks leave stains of oil, grease, and transmission fluid on driveways and parking lots.

What happens to all this “car dirt” when it rains? Rain and melting snow wash auto pollutants off the pavement, down the gutter, and into storm drains. Under these storm drains are storm sewers that carry the dirty water to our streams.

**The water that enters storm drains is NOT TREATED prior to flowing into the river.**



## WHAT'S WRONG WITH CAR WASHING?

There is nothing wrong with washing your car. It's just how, where, and what you use to do it. Many brands of car detergents and other cleaning products contain phosphates and other chemicals that degrade water quality and harm fish. The soap, together with dirt and oil washed from your car flows into nearby storm drains and then into our creeks, eventually reaching the White River.

The best way to prevent car wash pollution is to take your car to a commercial car wash, especially if you plan to clean the engine or the bottom of your car. Car washes discharge their wash water to the sanitary sewer system, which sends the water to our sewage treatment plant.

If you have to wash your car at home, there are several steps you can take to help prevent wash water from polluting our waterways.

- Wash your car on a grassy area if possible, so the water can soak into the ground and be filtered naturally.
- Use soap sparingly - even biodegradable soap is toxic to wildlife.
- Pour your bucket of soapy water down the sink when you're done, not in the street.
- Avoid using engine and wheel cleaners or degreasers. Use paper towels to wipe brake dust off of wheels before washing.

## CAR CARE FOR DO-IT-YOURSELFERS

### WHAT TO KNOW

Each year in the U.S. an estimated 180 million gallons of used oil are disposed of improperly – dripped, spilled, or poured onto the ground, directly into waterways, or down storm drains. That's sixteen times the amount spilled by the *Exxon Valdez*!



*A car that isn't tuned properly produces 10 to 15 times more pollution than a well-running vehicle.*

### YOU CAN HELP!

- Fix leaks as soon as possible to prevent drips on the driveway, streets and parking lots.
- Drain fluid into a drain pan. Use a funnel to pour fluid into a plastic container.
- Recycle your used motor oil and your oil filter.
- Don't drain or pour any auto fluid onto the ground or into a storm drain.
- Clean up drips and spills immediately using rags or kitty litter.