Clean Stormwater...plays an important part.

Water - it's priceless, vital, essential. We use it to grow food. We play in it. We water our lawns with it. We drink it!

But urban runoff - stormwater from rainfall and outdoor watering - picks up oil, dirt, litter and other materials on the ground and in streets. These materials can affect our water supplies.

That's why Clean Stormwater is important to YOU!
Can you find the urban practices that contribute to water pollution? The illustration above shows how our lifestyle can contribute to pollution of our water resources.

Here’s how you can help prevent stormwater pollution!

**AUTOMOTIVE CARE**
- Inspect and maintain your car regularly to prevent leaks of oil, antifreeze and other fluids.
- Take motor oil, antifreeze and other fluids to an automotive center or gas station with a recycling program or participate in a curbside motor oil pickup program.
  For more info call:
  City of Sacramento: (916) 808-4800
  County of Sacramento: (916) 363-9390

**HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE**
- Try to avoid purchasing oil-based paint! Unused oil-based paint, paint thinner, varnishes and solvents are hazardous wastes and must be taken to a household hazardous waste collection event.
  Save and re-use paint thinner and brush cleaners whenever possible.
- Water-based (e.g. latex) paint brushes should be rinsed out in the sink.
- Oil-based and water-based paint cans can both be disposed of in the garbage once they are empty and dry.
- Sweep sidewalks and patios rather than hose debris into gutters. In the City, compost or place garden refuse at curbside on the day of collection, making sure not to block the flow of water. In the County, compost or place in-garden refuse container.
  For composting information call:
  City of Sacramento: (916) 808-4800
  County of Sacramento: (916) 363-9390

**Purchase household and garden products that are “least toxic” to the environment.**
- Try to purchase only the amount of product you need. Properly store leftovers for later use. For more information about least toxic pest control, call the UC Master Gardeners at (916) 875-6913.
- Apply all household and garden products sparingly and in accordance with the instructions on the label. Do not apply lawn or garden products when rain is forecasted.
- Rinse empty lawn and garden chemical containers three times. Each time, pour the rinse water into the applicator and use it in your application of the product.

**MORE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO PREVENT POLLUTION**
- Shovel up animal wastes, seal in bags and throw away in a garbage can. Animal wastes may also be flushed down the toilet.
- Remember to reduce, re-use and recycle all materials whenever possible. Throw all litter and trash into covered trash containers.
- Stencil a Storm Drain
  Let others know about protecting our waterways. The Cities of Sacramento and Folsom and Sacramento County will provide everything you need to paint a storm drain in your neighborhood with the “NO DUMPING! FLOWS TO RIVER” stencil. It’s a great project for a neighborhood, school class or community group. To learn about the volunteer stenciling program call:
  Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership: (916) 808-4120 (4426)