



Protecting Water Quality

New Orleans receives an average of 64 inches of rainfall a year and is bounded by water on nearly all sides. Our quality of life, health, and prosperity is dependent on water.

The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans holds the primary responsibility to protect water quality through the management of stormwater runoff in Orleans Parish. The Louisiana Pollution Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) Permit issued through the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) mandates the regulation of discharge into federal waters (our lakes, rivers and bayous).

It is in the best interest of the City and the region for all stakeholders to improve the water quality by reducing the amount of urban stormwater runoff into the Lake Pontchartrain Basin.



To report illegal dumping and other stormwater violations call:

52-WATER
(504-942-3856)

or contact the Environmental Affairs Department @ 504-942-3855



STORMWATER 101



Orleans Parish MS4 Co-Permittees

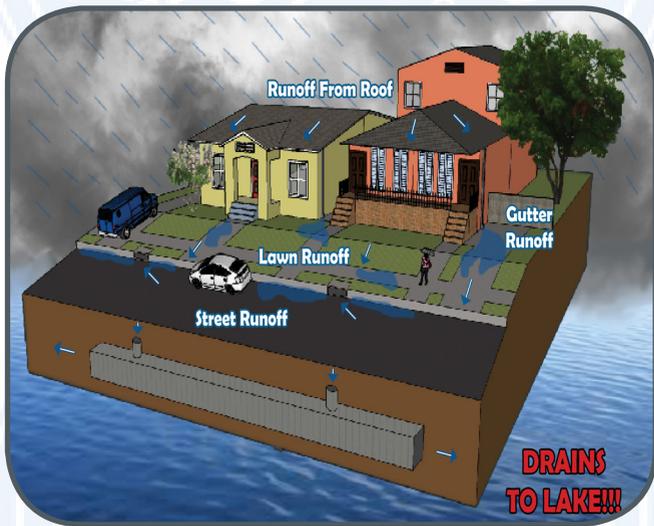


Environmental

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Stormwater Summary

Rain water runs off all impervious surfaces including roofs, driveways, sidewalks, and streets, collecting pollutants such as oils, fertilizers, metals, litter and bacteria along the way to the storm drain. In Orleans Parish, all stormwater is pumped straight into Lake Pontchartrain and the Mississippi River. Keeping non-stormwater liquids and debris out of storm drains helps keep our lake and river clean and prevents flooding caused by clogged drains. Please help our community by making sure only rain goes down the drain!



Cars

Washing cars and degreasing auto parts can send detergents and automotive fluids into the storm drain system.



Wash your car on grass or gravel or use a commercial car wash that treats wastewater. Safely dispose of used auto fluids and batteries.



Pets

Pet waste left on the ground washes into our storm drains.



When walking your pet, pick up the waste and dispose of it properly.



Lawns

Yard clippings and leaves that wash into storm drains cause flooding and fertilizers can end up in the Lake and canals.



Clean up grass clippings and use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly.



Illegal Dumping

Dumping ANYTHING into the storm drain system is illegal in Orleans Parish.



Call 52-WATER if you observe or suspect illegal dumping is taking place.

Safely dispose of waste and hazardous materials.



Call 311 for hazardous materials collection scheduling and locations.

Litter and Debris

Litter and debris that enters our storm drains pollutes the Lake and canals and causes flooding by clogging catchbasins.



Call 311 to report clogged catchbasins

Dispose of waste in its proper place.

