

A Healthy Watershed is Everyone's Business

Kirkland's streams, lakes and wetlands are an important resource for our community. As a business owner in Kirkland, you have the ability to improve and protect this resource.

Many of our water pollution issues are largely due to pollutants that are washed off land by storms. The quality of this "stormwater" affects every water body it enters. This brochure outlines what to do to reduce the contamination of stormwater running off of your property and to help protect streams, lakes and groundwater.

This guide contains information on activities and practices that you can use to help protect water quality. These practices will reduce the amount of contaminants in stormwater and improve the quality of our water resources. These practices can also help your business reduce waste, decrease costs and create a healthier work environment.



Onsite Technical Assistance

For information or to schedule an onsite consultation, contact the Kirkland Public Works Department at (425) 587-3800.

What Are The Regulations?

Federal, State and City regulations protect water quality by prohibiting pollutant discharges to the storm drainage system and our lakes, streams and wetlands. While Kirkland relies primarily on education and voluntary corrective actions to achieve compliance, discharging pollutant into storm drains or water bodies can result in fines and liability for cleanup costs.

Per Kirkland Municipal Code 15.52.090, any person causing or allowing discharge to a public drainage facility, natural discharge system, surface and stormwater, or groundwater whether as an employee, supervisor, manager or landlord must take part in implementing appropriate BMPs.

If polluted stormwater is found originating from your property or if you or your employees are negligent in allowing contamination to occur, you may be fined and held responsible for cleanup costs by City and/or State Agencies.

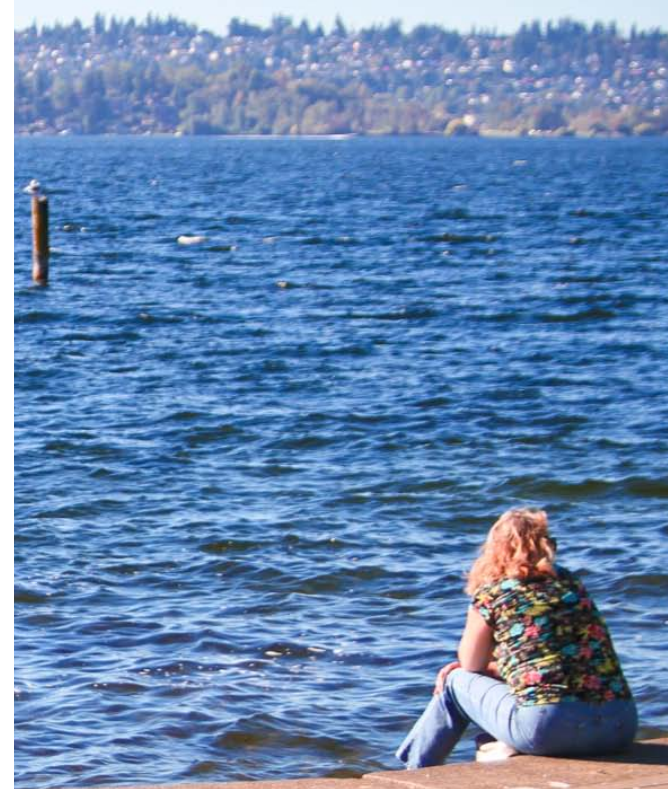
Did You Know?

Under current state and local law, if you own a commercial property and lease or rent it, you can be held responsible for water quality problems caused by your tenants. Inform your tenants of their responsibilities under KMC 15.52.090.

Report Dumping, Erosion, Drainage or Stream Problems

Call the Kirkland Public Works Department at (425) 587-3800 to report any spills, erosion problems or illegal dumping. You may remain anonymous.

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Clean It Right
See inside for FREE poster information!

What is a Pollutant?

Any substance that can impair water quality is considered a pollutant. It is important to keep pollutants out of storm drains and our local creeks, lakes and wetlands in order to protect the health of our community, salmon and other wildlife.

Pollutant	Source of Pollutant
Sediments	Construction Runoff, Sidewalk Sweepings, Pressure Washing Runoff
Oils & Greases	Restaurant Grease, Automotive Oil
Chemical Compounds	Soap, Bleach, Moss Remover, Industrial Chemicals, Cement, Cleaners
Bacteria	Animal Waste, Fertilizers, Failing Septic Systems
Toxic Organic Compounds	Pesticides, Herbicides, Antifreeze, Cleaners
Metals	Paints, Pesticides, Industrial Waste, Emissions
Nutrients	Fertilizers, Animal Waste, Detergents, Eroded Soil, Organic Matter

Pollution Prevention

Spill Cleanup

- Clean up spills and vehicle leaks immediately. Do NOT hose down materials into the storm drain.
- Prepare and use a spill kit. Include safety equipment and appropriate cleanup materials.

Training/Employee Education

- Train employees on proper spill cleanup. Include information on how to use a spill kit and proper disposal of waste. Designate a person responsible for effective implementation of pollution prevention.
- Label your storm drains inlets with “Dump No Waste - Drains to Stream” to discourage illegal dumping. Free stenciling materials are available from Kirkland Public Works, (425) 587-3800.

Waste Disposal/Dumpster Maintenance

- Inspect dumpsters periodically. Have your waste hauler repair or replace leaky dumpsters.
- Cover dumpsters, waste containers or any areas where potential pollutants are stored to prevent rainwater from entering the container.
- Never dispose of waste products in storm drains.
- Use up chemicals (paint, pesticides, cleaners, etc.) completely or dispose of as hazardous waste.

Site Management

- All areas should be swept prior to washing. Washwater should be directed to indoor sink, toilet or other drains connected to the sanitary sewer.
- If outdoor cleaning with soap is required (i.e. pavement, awning, window or building cleaning), collect washwater and dispose in indoor sink, toilet or other drains connected to the sanitary sewer.
- Sweep parking lots and other paved areas periodically to remove debris. Dispose of material in the garbage - NOT in the street.
- Cover materials stored outdoors and contain materials that could spill.

Fleet Management/Equipment Cleaning

- Designate a well-marked wash area with signs indicating where and how washing must be done. All washwater must flow to a drain connected to the sanitary sewer - NOT a storm drain. This also applies to Mobile Vehicle washing services.



Clean It Right Poster

A free poster is available on request from Kirkland Public Works, (425) 587-3800.

Please hang this poster in a common area to remind employees about protecting water quality.

Fact Sheets

Fact sheets are available for specific business activities. These fact sheets cover subjects such as automotive repair, mobile car washing, materials storage, pressure washing, boat maintenance/repair, restaurant grease handling, and landscape/construction activities. For copies of these materials or for more information, please contact the Kirkland Public Works Department at (425) 587-3800 or stormwater@kirklandwa.gov.