

# COMMON STORMWATER POLLUTANTS

For More Information  
Or  
To Report A Problem  
Visit Our Website At:  
[www.ttownstormwater.com](http://www.ttownstormwater.com)  
Or Call:  
CITY of TUSCALOOSA  
Josh Yates - 248-5380

## TUSCALOOSA AREA STORMWATER MANAGEMENT GUIDE

POLLUTANT	IMPACT
<b>SEDIMENT</b> <i>Dirt and Sand</i>	Flooding due to blocked ditches and storm drains  Choked streams that cannot support fish or animals
<b>DEBRIS</b> <i>Grass Clippings, Cigarette Butts, Trash, Plastic</i>	Polluted lakes and rivers
<b>HEAVY METALS</b> <i>Lead, Mercury</i>	Fish that are unsafe to eat
<b>HOUSEHOLD WASTE</b> <i>Antifreeze, Gas, Oil, Pesticides, Fertilizers, Paint</i>	Increased water treatment costs  Polluted groundwater  Fish kills and polluted waterways



**TUSCALOOSA COUNTY**  
Bob Cunningham - 345-6600

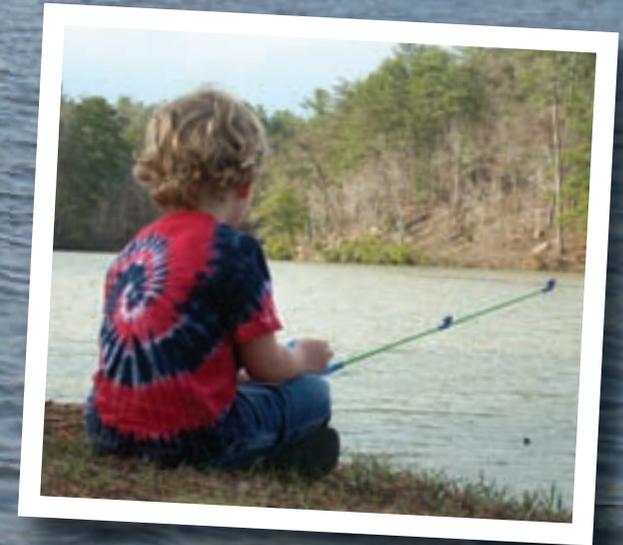


**CITY of NORTHPORT**  
John Powell Webb - 339-7000



**UNIVERSITY of ALABAMA**  
Hal Barrett - 348-5905

Proud Partners of:



*Water Quality Equals  
Quality of Life*

# Always remember.... “ONLY RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN”

## WHAT IS STORMWATER POLLUTION?

Think of a single rain drop falling from the sky. It lands on your roof, flows down into the gutter, across your lawn and down your driveway. Along the way it picks up pesticides, fertilizer, oil and grease, pet waste, and many other chemicals and trash.

Next, it reaches the road where it can pick up sediment, cigarette butts, and more. Then, it flows into a drain, stream, river, or network of pipes that flow into your favorite fishing hole.

Now, imagine an entire storm, millions of raindrops, catching all these pollutants and flowing into our water bodies.

This is “Stormwater Pollution” and it occurs every time it rains!



## WHY IS STORMWATER POLLUTION A PROBLEM?

Stormwater pollution can result in dirty lakes and streams, fewer and less healthy fish and wildlife, limits on recreational use of Lake Tuscaloosa, and increased water and sewer treatment costs.

## HOW CAN I PREVENT STORMWATER POLLUTION?

- Report Spills or Erosion Problems Immediately
- Establish Grass on Bare Areas to Prevent Erosion
- Wash Your Car On The Lawn Instead Of The Driveway
- Dispose of Clippings, Leaves and Garbage Properly - Compost or Place Behind the Curb
- Recycle Used Oil and Antifreeze
- Sweep Your Driveway Instead of Pressure Washing
- Maintain Septic Tanks Properly
- Use Silt Fencing and Other Erosion Control Measures in Construction
- Don't Over Fertilize Your Lawn and Don't Apply Before Heavy Rainfall