



MIDWEST
Environmental Services, Inc.

Stormwater Runoff

Did you know that stormwater runoff is considered by the EPA to be the largest non point source cause of pollution to our land and water? Each year it is estimated that over 200 million gallons of oil a year washes off of our roads and parking lots and into the environment. That's over 4 million barrels and nearly three hundred million dollars. Stormwater runoff is a result of urbanization, as more roads and parking lots are built less land becomes available for rainwater to soak into the ground. Because pavement is relatively impermeable this water collects and washes oil, chemicals, and trash into rivers, lakes, and storm drains in concentrated amounts making us sick, our fish toxic, and destroying our land and wildlife. More and more communities are treating stormwater before it enters the watershed and parking lots are designed with pollution controls but still millions of roads and parking lots in the U.S. exist with no means of pollution prevention.

What you can do.

Preventing runoff into the watershed is important to sustaining our health and important resources. It is both socially responsible and economically beneficial. Not only does it save money by recycling important resources it does so by preventing costly clean up operations. Several retail giants have lost millions of dollars in clean up projects due to not installing proper catch basins. If you are a handler of used oil or a household do it yourselfer taking your used oil and oil filters for recycling can reduce the impact of stormwater runoff by 36 percent. Taking your oil to a local auto parts store or recycler is responsible and convenient. Midwest Environmental Services manages used oil and oil filters in a dependable manner at several locations.

Dispose of your hazardous waste at your local hazardous waste facility and never pour chemicals down the drain or into a storm drain. If your community does not have a facility, consider organizing a household hazardous waste disposal day.

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Midwest Environmental Services offers household hazardous waste disposal services where a few times a year a central location is chosen in your community to bring all of your hazardous waste to be disposed of properly. Midwest provides all of the materials and does all the work.

If you currently operate a business that does not have pollution controls for parking lot runoff consider installing a catch basin or oil water separator. Pressure wash or look into a community street sweeper to remove debris and petroleum materials from the parking lot. Midwest Environmental Services offers many industrial and residential cleaning services including pressure washing and waste removal. Midwest's fleet of vacuum trucks can easily remove these contaminants from pits, tanks, and separators and recycle important resources leaving behind water that is safe for our health and the environment.

For more information on stormwater runoff and services offered by Midwest Environmental contact us at.

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