

## HOME & GARDEN ACTIVITIES

- Consider using less toxic chemical and methods for plant care and insect control. For guidance go to this link <http://www.ourwaterourworld.org/factsheets.cfm>. If you must use pesticides or fertilizers, do so carefully and sparingly. Follow label instructions. Do not apply if rain is expected since stormwater will carry these substances into the watershed. Dispose of unused products at Household Hazardous Waste Turn-in Events.
- Compost yard clippings or place them in a pile on the street no sooner than the day before pick up day. Use a broom to clean off sidewalks and driveways. Be sure the pile is a foot or more away from the gutter to allow for water passage.
- Pick up and dispose of animal waste in garbage containers. If you take your pet to a park, bring a bag and be prepared to clean up after them.
- Consider washing pets in the bathtub rather than outside. If you must wash your pet outside, use non-toxic cleaners and dump wastewater into sink, or grass so that residues can be filtered out.
- Properly store all toxic products including cleaners, solvents, and paint. Use cat litter or other absorbent material to clean spills. Always clean painting tools in the sink. Take unused materials to a Household Hazardous Waste Turn-in Event.

For more information on recycling, composting, or hazardous waste disposal go to:

Davis Recycling Program  
[Davisrecycling.org](http://Davisrecycling.org)

For more pollution prevention solutions, less toxic alternatives or to participate in California Coastal Cleanup Day please call: The Public Works Department at 530-757-5686



Remember, it is against the law to dump toxic substances into the storm drain system. If you see anyone dumping questionable materials, please call 911.

Stormwater pollution is extremely harmful to the health of and abundance of plants and animals with which we share this planet.

**Help us to protect your water resources for current and future generations.**

**PLEASE KEEP OUR WATERSHED CLEAN!!**

## CITY OF DAVIS STORM DRAIN MARKING PROGRAM



**Pollution Prevention  
Starts at Home**

## A WORD ABOUT WATER



What happens to water from rains, lawn watering, or car washing? These waters, referred to as stormwater or urban runoff, flow into the city's storm drain system through over 2500 curbside catch basins – small openings that you find along street gutters. These waters move through the system to our rivers, creeks, wetlands, sloughs, the delta and the bay, on their way to the ocean.

Upon entering the catch basins, the runoff is transported via an intricate system of storm drain piping below our streets. Initially, these waters fill the stormwater detention/wildlife ponds. The North Area, West Area, and Core Area ponds are a few that you may have visited. These ponds are landscaped to support an array of wildlife species. From the ponds, water flows through conveyance channels towards the northern and eastern edges of the city.

A large portion of the stormwater that is collected in the city is conveyed to the Davis Wetlands where it's used to support the wetlands system and all its wild inhabitants.

## PROTECT OUR WETLANDS

It's important to ensure that the water entering our ponds and wetlands is safe for wildlife. This is why toxic materials may not legally be dumped into curbside catch basins. Water quality is compromised when people dump used motor oil, antifreeze, paint products, pesticides, pet wastes, or other pollutants into catch basins. This, in turn, threatens the health of wildlife that is dependent on the ponds and wetlands habitat.



Tours of the Davis Wetlands are offered the first Saturday of the month. Call the Yolo Basin Foundation for more information: 757-4828.

The City is, therefore, working to remind everyone about the importance of preventing pollution of our stormwater by installing drain inlet markers with these words:

## STORMWATER ONLY DRAINS TO WETLANDS



These markers are easy to install. So if you, your group, or organization would like to participate in this pollution awareness program, please contact City of Davis Public Works at 757-5686.

## HELPING FROM HOME

### Automotive Care:

- ☞ Home auto mechanics – when you change your oil, collect used fluids and take to either Davis Waste Removal, 756-4646, or to a Household Hazardous Waste Turn-in Event at the Yolo County Landfill, 666-8729. The Landfill will also take your oil filters.
- ☞ Maintain your vehicle to avoid leaks of oil, antifreeze, or other liquids. Use a drip pan where appropriate.
- ☞ Take your car to a car wash or wash it on your lawn. Use a shut off nozzle to save water and be sure to pour your soapy water down the sink.

### DID YOU KNOW!?

**Dumping one quart of motor oil down a storm drain contaminates 250,000 gallons of water!!**