

Protect Florida's Water

Department of
Environmental Services
Stormwater Division
386-424-2400 ext 4007

STOP *Pointless Personal Pollution*

What is Pointless Personal Pollution?

The cause of water pollution is often blamed on "point sources," such as industrial or sewage treatment facilities. Discharges from these sources flow through pipes and into our waterbodies. This pollution source can be readily identified and treated.



Pointless Personal Pollution, commonly referred to as Stormwater runoff is "nonpoint" source pollution that is difficult to identify and treat. This is because many of our daily activities can cause this type of pollution. This type of pollution can travel by different avenues into the ground and surface waters. Take a moment and look around your home, workplace, and yard. Most will find sources of **Pointless Personal Pollution**. Any or all of these pollutants could land in the City's waterways.

Some examples of pollutants include:

- * Oil and grease from automobiles or lawn equipment.
- * Pesticides, fertilizers and weed killers.
- * Litter, yard clippings, pet wastes.
- * Sand and dirt from erosion.

Did you know that wherever you live, your daily activities could end up polluting

*Pollutants from our homes and businesses are major contributors of pollution of our waters. This pollution is washed into our waters by rain or irrigation water and is known as **Pointless Personal Pollution**.*

WE are the cause of this type of pollution and **WE** can stop it!



Information for this brochure was provided by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

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The Ways Pointless Personal Pollution Impact Our Waters.

Pointless Personal Pollution comes in many forms that contaminate our waters in all different ways. Here are a few examples of how **Pointless Personal Pollutants** can harm our waterways:

- * Nutrients from fertilizers, septic tanks and animal waste cause excessive growth of algae and aquatic weeds.
- * Garbage and litter reduce the oxygen in the water which can kill the aquatic life.

Ways You Can Reduce Your Pointless Personal Pollution:

- * Shop for products labeled **biodegradable, non-toxic, non-phosphorus or water soluble**. These products readily decompose and will not pollute surface or ground waters.
- * Compost leaves, grass and clippings then use this as mulch to supplement fertilizers. When using compost you are returning nutrients back into the soil requiring less fertilizer to be used.
- * Do not apply lawn chemicals if rain is in the forecast. This prevents excessive run off into the surface and ground waters.
- * Store your products properly by keeping toxic products in original containers and clearly marked in a safe and proper storage area. By proper storage you eliminate the possibility of spillage along with eliminating possible accidents.
- * Having your car regularly serviced/maintained will help prevent any leakage of fluids. Prevent the leaks while preventing the motor oil, anti-freeze, etc. from being washed into waterways.
- * Stop "Poo"llution by Scooping the Poop— Pick up your pet waste when walking your pet or in your own yard.