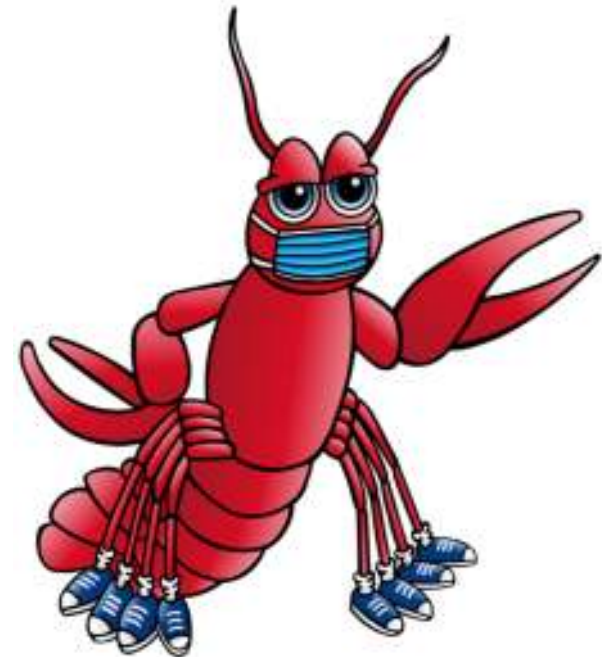


Board of Stark County Commissioners Stormwater  
Education Program - 330-451-7405  
[www.rpc.starkcountyohio.gov](http://www.rpc.starkcountyohio.gov)

Stark County Stormwater Public Involvement/  
Public Education (P.I.P.E.) Committee Members

City of Alliance  
City of Canton  
Village of East Canton  
Jackson Township  
Keep Alliance Beautiful  
City of Massillon  
City of North Canton  
Perry Township  
Plain Township  
Stark County Health Department  
Stark County Park District  
Stark Soil & Water Conservation District  
Stark County Regional Planning Commission

## “Stop Pollution Quick, Don’t Make the Water Sick”



No one practice can solve all issues related to **stormwater runoff**. The important thing to remember is that every effort helps! Any practices you follow at home will have a positive impact on water quality and will benefit you and the environment.

## “Only Rain Down the Drain”

## “Stop Pollution Quick, Don’t Make the Water Sick”

This past year, we’ve all worked hard to keep ourselves and others healthy. Now, what can we do to keep our **water** healthy?

Stormwater runoff is precipitation from rain or snowmelt that flows over the ground. As it flows, it can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and deposit them into a storm sewer or waterbody. Anything that enters a storm sewer flows untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and drinking water. Only 1% of our water is usable, drinkable water. We can not afford to pollute and contaminate it. Don’t litter, it’s the law!



Pick up pet waste and dispose of it in the toilet or trash. Hosing dirt and pet waste into storm drains sends it directly to the creeks and rivers.



Cigarette filters/butts are NOT biodegradable. The acetate filters take years to decompose, and the toxic chemicals trapped in the filters can leak, threatening our water resources.

Use pesticides sparingly. Fertilize only as needed using natural, organic, or other slow release fertilizers. Do not apply them if it is supposed to rain. Sweep grass clippings, leaves, and dirt back into the yard.



Fluids in your car can be extremely toxic. Fix leaks so children and pets are not exposed to toxic puddles or toxic fluids that could be ingested. If you change your own oil, use a drip tray and take used oil, filters, and batteries to an automotive store for recycling– most will accept these items. Go to a commercial car wash where the water is treated before going down the drain, reducing potential pollutants. If you wash it yourself, do so on the lawn.



Sewers and storm drains are not the same thing. Waste water from sinks, showers, and washing machines will travel through the sanitary sewer system to a waste water treatment plant where it is extensively treated before being discharged. However, the water entering storm drains flows untreated to lakes, streams, and rivers. Please dispose of all trash in the proper place. Do NOT litter!

Do NOT flush medications because they can get into our lakes, rivers, and streams. Prescription drugs can be disposed of at a local drug take back event or local prescription drug drop off box. (Plain Township Hall)



Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle!  
Check with your local solid waste district to see what is recyclable in your particular area. Keep styrofoam, plastic bags, masks, wipes, and latex gloves out of the recycling bin– they are NOT recyclable. Reduce waste with reusable products such as washable masks, coffee cups, and biodegradable takeout containers.



**Remember– Only Rain Down the Drain!**