Stormwater Pollution Solutions

Humans are part of the ecological community and like it or not, our actions contribute to the health and survival of the world we live in. Some of our contributions to the environment are good, some are both good and bad, and some are just plain bad. A little tweaking here and there and a few changes in our habits can go a long way toward making our contributions better.

Humans have a lot of control over what goes into our waterways. A large percentage of the pollution in our rivers, lakes, and streams comes from stormwater runoff. Stormwater pollution is mostly a product of human activities that can easily be changed.

Common Pollution	Pollution Solution
Used grease and motor oil	Use drip pans for vehicles and equipment waiting for maintenance. Recycle used oil and automotive fluids.
Antifreeze, cleaners and solvents	Clean up spilled fluids with sand or kitty litter, then sweep it up and dispose of it properly.
Foam cups, plastics, cigarette butts and paper	Reduce, reuse and recycle. If you can't do this, dispose of the item in a proper container.
Trimmings from trees, landscaping and lawns	Mulch, mulch mulch! Learn to compost and leave grass clippings on the lawn.
Pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers	Buy only what you need and follow application directions carefully, use only recommended amounts.
Sediment	Whether from your yard or from a construction site, contain runoff, minimize disturbed or bare areas, stabilize with ground covers, protect slopes and channels.
Pet waste	Pick it up and dispose of it properly.