

# Only rain down the drain!

City of Evansdale

Spring 2024



## What you should know:

Typically, stormwater is water that comes from rain or snow melting. This water accumulates on hard surfaces such as our roofs, roads, or parking lots but it also can be absorbed by the ground. When that water is unable to be absorbed it becomes runoff and goes into our storm drains. However, before it goes into the storm drains it flows over our yards, down the driveways and our city streets picking up water pollutants during its journey. Once in the storm drain that water carries the pollutants to our nearby creeks, streams, and ponds. Why does this matter? Did you know that stormwater runoff pollution is the #1 source of water pollution in the United States? Polluted runoff can degrade the quality of our swimming, fishing, boating and most importantly our drinking water. Stormwater runoff pollution can destroy aquatic habitats as well.

Clean stormwater benefits our neighborhoods and our community. Irrigation, drinking, washing, bathing, and flushing are all great benefits we all get from healthy stormwater runoff.

Evansdale residents, we can all do our part of “only rain down the drain” with a little awareness and responsibility.



## Awareness & Responsibility Tips:

- ❖ Pick up after your pets
- ❖ Follow lawn fertilizer application instructions
- ❖ Use P Free fertilizer
- ❖ Aerate and add compost to your lawn
- ❖ Use de-icing salt sparingly
- ❖ Manage your runoff on site by installing a rain garden or rain barrels
- ❖ Properly dispose of yard waste
- ❖ Keep contaminants out of the storm drain and street (leaves, oil, paint, dirt, concrete washout water)
- ❖ Go detergent free when power washing pavements
- ❖ Redirect rooftop runoff from storm drains to your yard.

For more information on Iowa Storm

Water visit their website at:

[www.iowastormwater.org](http://www.iowastormwater.org)



## Depositing Yard Waste on City Streets •••

The Evansdale Municipal Code prohibits anyone from depositing debris or yard waste of any kind onto the street, or curb and gutter. Violators may receive a warning or citation and the cleanup charges may be assessed against your property.

Grass clippings that are discharged by lawn mowers or dumped onto the street, curb, or gutter, or in creeks or streams, block storm drains and prohibit optimum flow. Mowers should discharge grass back into the yard not onto the streets. During hard rains, blocked storm drains back up water into the street causing flooding of streets and property. In addition, yard waste dumped into our streams and ponds can cause increased natural bacteria growth (blue-green algae) which can release toxins that can be harmful if ingested by humans and pets.

**What you can do:** Aim your mower discharge away from the street. Sweep, rake, blow any remaining clippings or leaves that get in the street. You can also collect your grass clippings and drop them off at the Yard Waste Center.

Please contact the Evansdale Code Enforcement Officer at 319-232-6683 to report violators.

## Storm Water Pollutants & Sources Include:

- Grass clippings and leaves
- Illegally dumped pollutants
- Sediment from construction sites
- Illicit connections to storm sewers
- Bacteria from pet waste and septic systems
- Pesticides and fertilizers from lawns, parks, and roadsides
- Oil, grease, and antifreeze from car leaks, gas stations and industrial areas
- Carelessly discarded trash such as cigarette butts, paper wrappers, and plastic bottles

G V I G J F U B S S T I Y E O  
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## WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

CITY	ENVIRONMENT	WASTE
WATER	CLIPPINGS	INFILTRATE
RAINFALL	SEWER	NUTRIENTS
GRASS	FERTILIZER	POLLUTANTS
EVANSDALE	RUNOFF	COMPOST