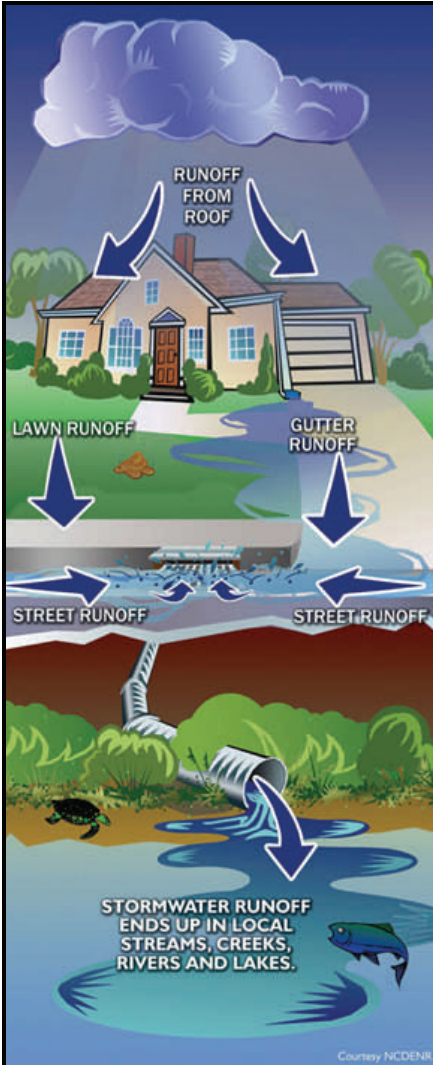


# Stormwater

## City of Newberg



### Isn't Stormwater Just Rain?

Stormwater is more than just rain. Rain picks up oil, antifreeze, grease, and brake lining dust when it falls on impervious surfaces such as asphalt driveways, streets, or parking lots.

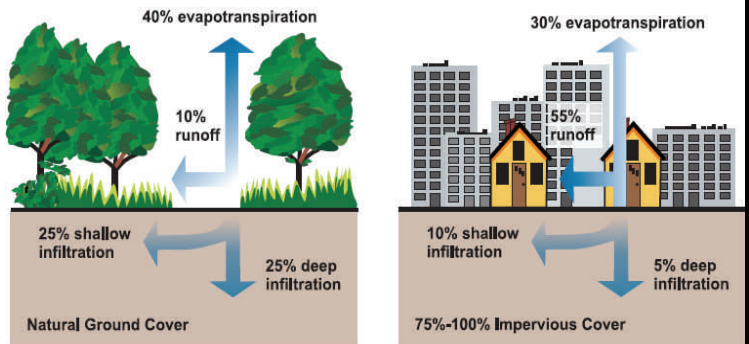
Rain flowing off of your landscape picks up fertilizer and pesticides. It dissolves pet waste and carries it to streams where it can cause disease. It moves soil from your yard to streams where it decreases visibility in the water and covers food sources for fish and other aquatic life.



Stormwater moves oil from the street straight to the stream.

### Why is there more runoff now?

Pavement and roofs can create 5.5 times more runoff than plants and trees. More runoff creates eroded stream banks and loss of YOUR soil and property. For example, Newberg receives 42 inches of rain per year. When Newberg was a very young city, it only had 4.2 inches or 7,500 gallons of rain becoming stormwater each year and running into our streams. As Newberg grows, it will have up to 23 inches or 41,000 gallons of rain becoming stormwater each year. That's a BIG difference!

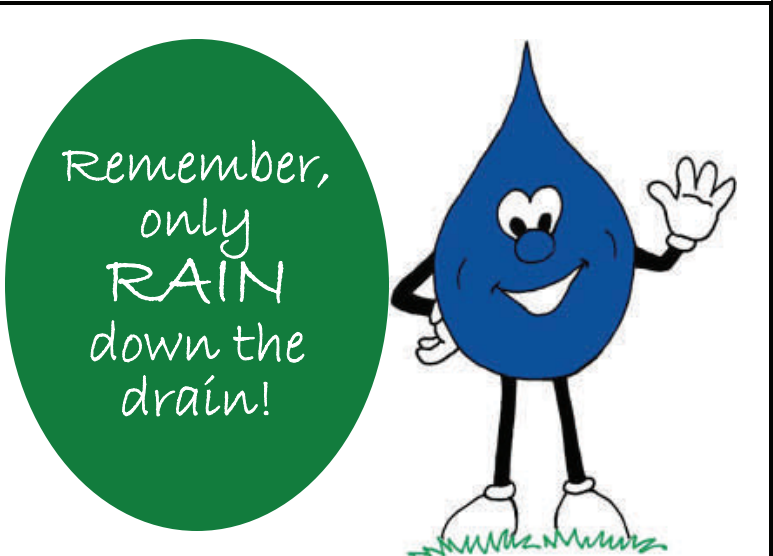


### Where does stormwater go?

In Newberg, all stormwater is discharged straight to streams. Oil, pesticides, fertilizers, litter, and other wastes that are dumped into the storm drain or picked up by stormwater are discharged straight to our streams and the Willamette River.



Trash in the catch basins ends up in our streams and the Willamette River.



# What can I do?



- Pick up litter. Every Fall, Maintenance crews have to unclog culverts and pipes that have been filled by plastic bottles and trash. Pick up around your street or get to know your neighbors by organizing a neighborhood clean-up each Fall.
- Put yard waste and tree trimmings in the yard waste bin or compost it. Throwing it in the ditch or sweeping it into the street will clog pipes and culverts when winter rains come and cause flooding.
- Don't dump ANYTHING down the storm drain including cleaning fluids. All storm drains in Newberg drain straight to the stream without ANY treatment. If you see someone dumping into a storm drain, call us at 503.554.7709.



## Keep It Clean



- Wash your vehicle in a carwash or area that will absorb the rinse water. Fish don't need soap to stay clean. Most car washes recycle and filter their water. Reduce the water required to wash your vehicle at home by using a hose nozzle which is available for free at the Water Conservation Table in City Hall.
- Pick up after your pet even if you can't see any water nearby. It only takes one teaspoon of pet waste to contaminate enough water to fill an Olympic-sized pool. Nitrogen in the waste creates algae blooms and reduces oxygen in the streams. Fish don't like to get sick any more than you do.
- Don't lose your property to erosion. Plant a groundcover or apply compost and mulch to help your soil absorb the rain. The booklet, **Water Efficient Plants for the Willamette Valley**, available at the Water Conservation Table in City Hall, can provide ideas.
- Test your soil before fertilizing and apply minimum pesticides to your plants. The excess fertilizer creates algae blooms in the streams.

- Plant a tree. A single mature tree can stop 700 gallons of rain each year from becoming stormwater. Their roots loosen the soil so more rain can soak into the ground.
- Let the rain soak into the ground by creating a rain garden. Instructions are in OSU's Rain Garden Guide, available for free at the Water Conservation Table, in City Hall.
- Use flagstone or pavers to create walkways in your yard. The rain soaks into the ground between them.
- Join groups like the Greater Yamhill Watershed Council and SOLV and help restore streams.



*Decreasing runoff means my home stays cleaner!*