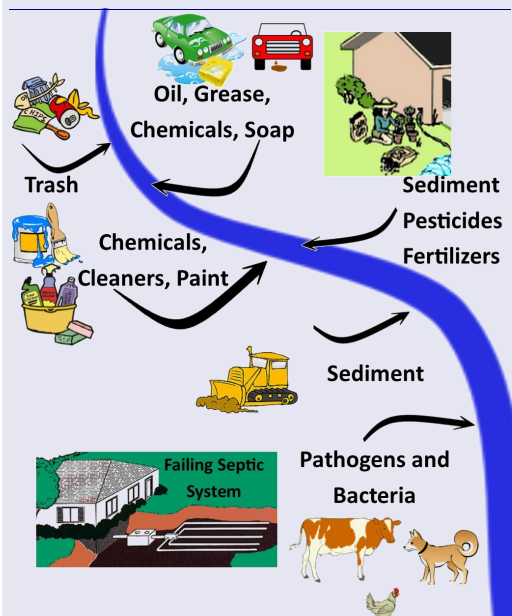


Actions You can Take to Reduce Nonpoint Source Pollution

- Do not litter.
- Pick up after your pet and throw away their waste.
- Use, store, and dispose of all chemicals properly. This includes cleaning up leaks and spills. Go with environmentally friendly or less toxic alternatives if possible.
- Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on the lawn (and then skip the next watering).

Some Sources of NPS



Find Out More Information on Nonpoint Source Pollution

- EPA's nonpoint source website
<https://www.epa.gov/nps>
- NOAA's educational page on NPS
https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/tutorial_pollution/welcome.html
- Backyard Conservation tip sheets from NRCS
https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/newsroom/?cid=nrcs143_023574
- CA Department of Water Resources water efficient landscaping
<https://water.ca.gov/Water-Basics/Conservation-Tips/Plant-and-Landscape-Guide>



Morongó Band of Mission Indians

Environmental Protection Department
Tribal Water Program
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Help Stop Nonpoint Source Pollution at Home



Things you can do to reduce the amount of polluted runoff from your house and yard



Residential Nonpoint Source Pollution

Nonpoint source (NPS) pollution is carried to waterbodies like rivers and streams through runoff. Runoff is usually created by rain or snow melt, but can also come from human sources such as too much lawn watering or a broken irrigation pipe. The runoff picks up pollutants as it flows over the ground and can collect a variety of pollutants over a large area. This can happen around our homes and affect waterbodies a long distance from where we live. While each person may only create a small amount of pollution, if we all work together to reduce nonpoint source pollution we can combine to make a big impact on water quality.

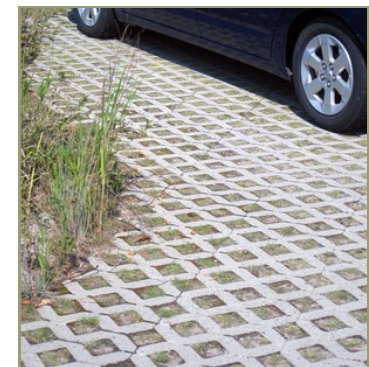
Reduce NPS Pollution From Your Yard

One of the most direct impacts on NPS comes from how you landscape and manage your yard. The main actions to take are to reduce the amount of potential pollutants you contribute to the environment, avoid adding excess water to your landscape, and reduce the amount of hard surfaces that runoff flows over quickly. There are many simple things you can do to reduce NPS from your yard.

- Use the least amount of fertilizers and pesticides as possible. Follow all directions on the labels. Also do not apply right before or during rain. Excess fertilizers that are not used by your plants can lead to too many nutrients in a waterbody and cause an algal bloom. Pesticides can continue to kill plants and insects if they are washed into natural areas.
- Plant native plant species to reduce pesticide and fertilizer use. They are also likely to use less water.
- Mulch around plants to reduce water use and the amount of exposed area.
- Properly store outdoor chemicals. Make sure the containers are not

leaking or exposed to rain.

- Reduce the amount of impervious sources around your yard. Allowing runoff to soak into the ground helps reduce chemicals that are picked up. Also areas with plants can help filter out some pollutants naturally. Think if permeable driveways or walkways might work for you.
- Regularly check on your irrigation system. Only water areas that need it and make sure you are not just adding water to sidewalks. Turn off irrigation when it rains. Check for leaks or areas that are being over watered.
- Sweep sidewalks and driveways rather than rinsing them off.



An example of a permeable driveway
*Jane Hawkey, Integration and Application Network,
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(ian.umces.edu/imagelibrary/)*