

STORMWATER ACTIVITY BOOK



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS FISH?



You may see a message like this next to a storm drain. This is a reminder to all of us, that anything placed into these drains will go directly to the river!! Our drains discharge directly to the Boise River or ditches and pose a threat to our ground water.

Please remember, chemicals, oil, paint, garbage, or any wastes that enter a storm drain system will end up in the Boise River.....

NOT THE TREATMENT PLANT

Protect our water. Protect our River. It is everyone's job!



Protect the places we play!

Simple steps to keep our river clean!

- Compost Yard Wastes
- Wash latex based paint tools in the sink, so it may be treated.
- Recycle used motor oil, repair any leaks on vehicles.
- Utilize the Hazardous Materials Collection Site. Call Ada County 853-1008, or Boise City, 384-3901, for locations
- Chemicals, paints, solvents, garden care product wastes/left-overs should go to the Hazardous Waste Collection Site.
- Use chemicals carefully and sparingly.
- Use Water conservation methods and equipment in your home.
- Sweep paved surfaces, rather than washing with water.
- Ride a bike, take a bus, carpool or walk if possible...Reduce your car trips!



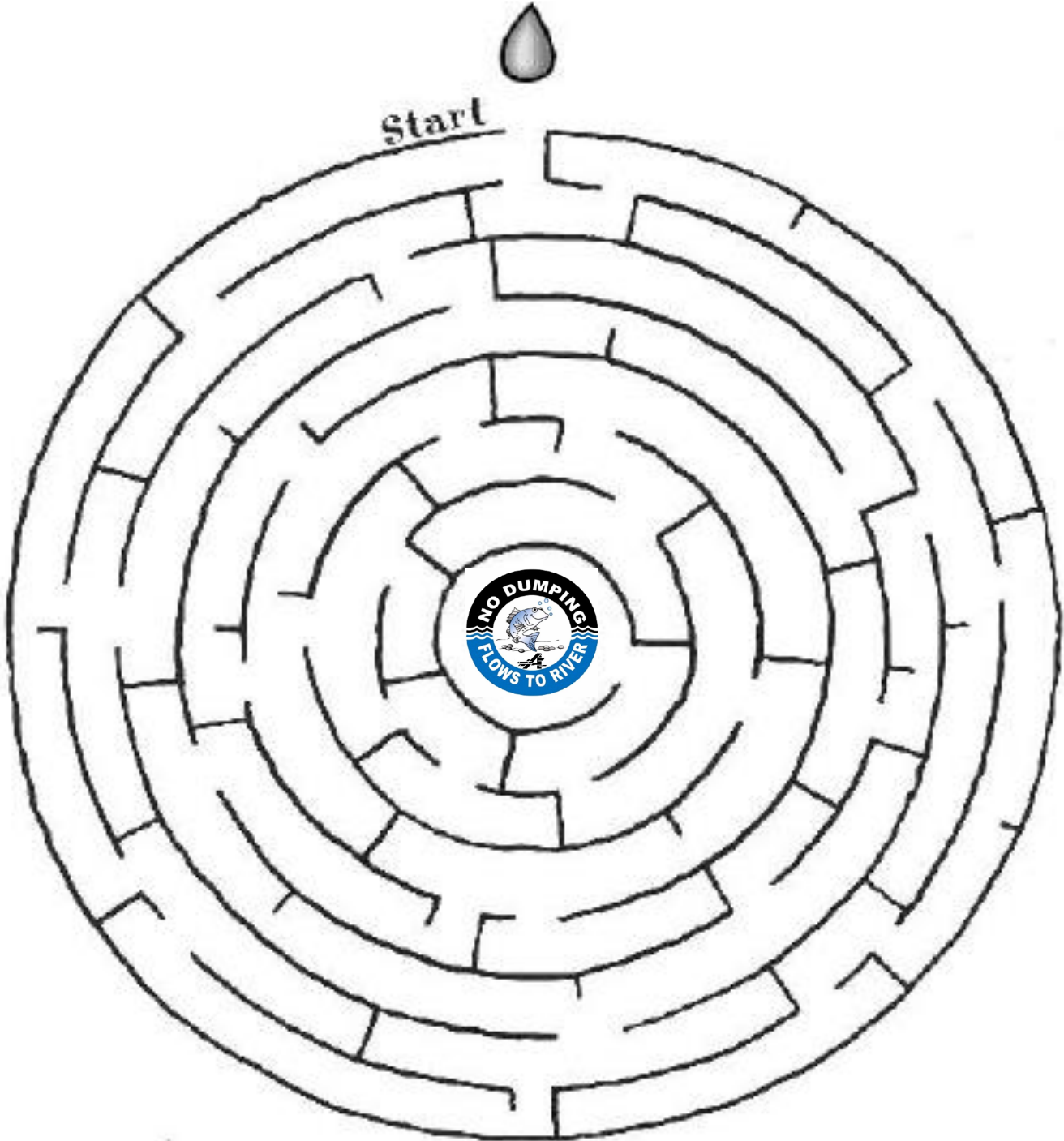
Contact Us:
ACHD Environmental Department:
208-387-6250

Stormwater Pollution Hotline:
208-395-8888

STORMWATER

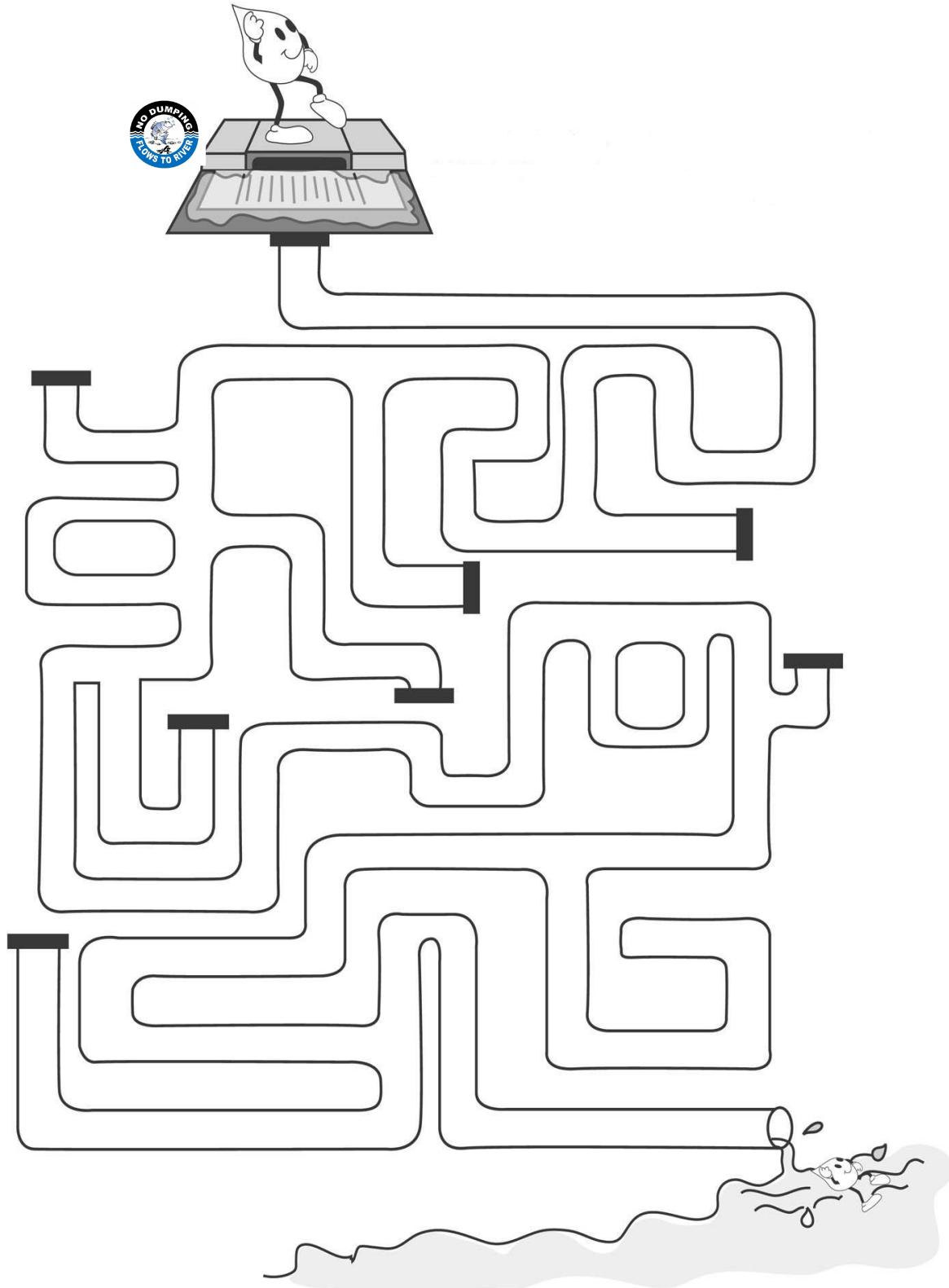
Cities and towns have more stormwater runoff than areas in the country because they have more concrete and pavement so the water can't soak into the ground.

Lead the water droplet through the maze and into the storm drain.



Water drops go through an amazing journey to get to the Boise River.

Please help this raindrop find his way...



POLLUTION

We often forget the everyday things that we do that cause pollution. Stormwater can become polluted with oil, fertilizer, pesticide, dirt, and dog pooh. These pollutants are carried into lakes and streams by stormwater.

Find these stormwater and pollution words:

CONCRETE
DIRT
DOGPOOH
DRAIN
DRIVEWAY
FERTILIZER
LAWNS

OIL
PESTICIDES
PLANTS
POLLUTION
RAIN
RIVER
ROOFTOPS

SEDIMENT
STORMWATER
STREAM
TRASH

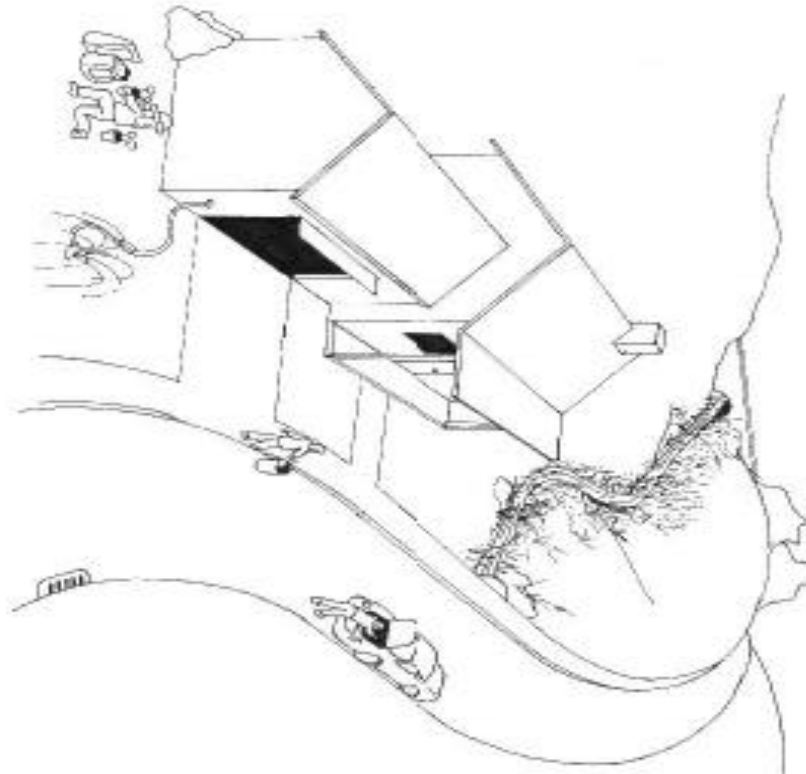
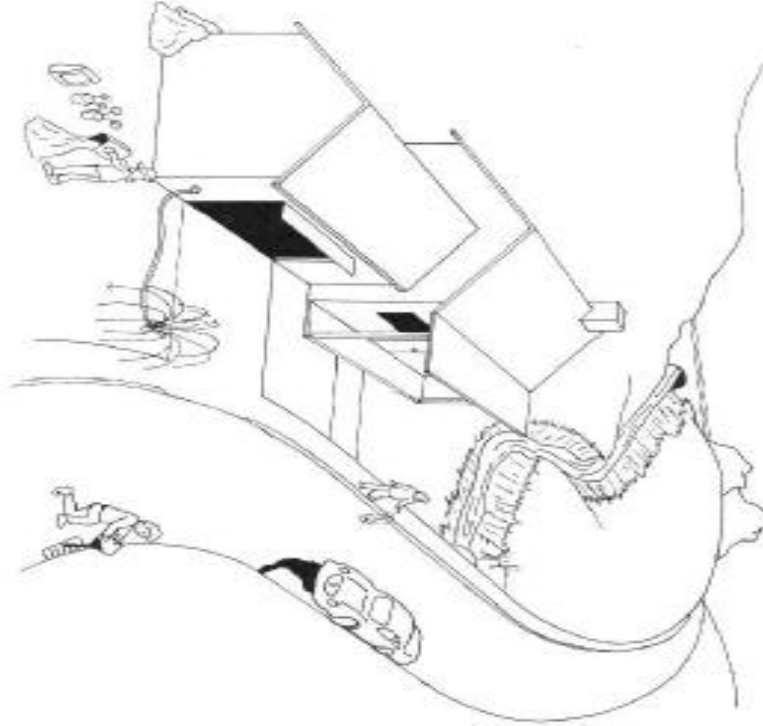
I N E P R W S L I T R S N J B
A Z W A E T I F O R Q T Y Q U
E D I E N S T R E A M O Q S Y
E N R A T G T H X S I R X P X
C K L A G N W I G H A M T O H
M P X Z I R E Y C O B W L T O
K K S W T N I T N I D A A F O
F E R T I L I Z E R D T W O P
S E D I M E N T I R C E N O G
T O A Q A H P V E H C R S R O
G W Y C U D E V Z D X N C T D
H N P S V W I U F I T Y O I L
P X D I A R Q I U R W J E C K
Q J H Y P O L L U T I O N B A
Z L M L L P T U C D G A K X L

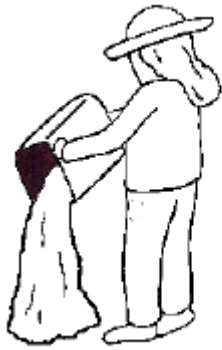
Find all the things that don't belong in the Boise River. You should find eleven.



STORMWATER POLLUTION SEARCH

Compare the two pictures and circle all the differences between them. You should circle six.





Oops!

This woman is dumping fertilizer and pesticides directly on her lawn.



This is better!

Only use as much fertilizer or pesticide as you need and be careful not to spill.

Remember:

- When fertilizers are washed into lakes and streams, they can pollute the water and use up all the oxygen that the fish need.
- When pesticides are washed into lakes and streams, they will kill the fish and other critters that live there.

Who Cares?

Fish need lots of clean water with no pesticides and plenty of oxygen. Draw a picture of a fish and other cool animals that live in water.





Oops!

This man is dumping chemicals down the storm drain.



This is better!

Never put something down the drain that can hurt a fish. Only storm water down the drain.

Remember:

- Encourage your parents to only buy as much cleaner and paint as they need. Substitute less poisonous products when you can.
- Always dispose of hazardous waste like motor oil, antifreeze, cleaners, and paints through the Household Hazardous Waste program, 208-577-4737.

Who Cares?



Storm drains often go straight to a rivers and streams. Help by reminding others not to dump anything down storm drains.

Draw a picture that reminds other why they shouldn't dump wastes into a storm drain.



Oops!

Don't be a litterbug!



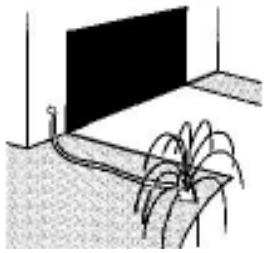
Way to go!

Always dispose of trash in a proper container (or pocket the trash until you find one).

Remember: Stormwater washes trash into rivers and streams. Fish and animals that live near rivers and streams can mistake plastic trash for food. If they eat trash, it could kill them!

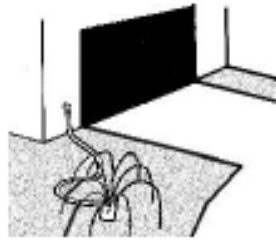
What can you do?

Make a list of some things YOU and your friend can do to reduce trash where you live.



Oops!

Don't water the driveway or sidewalk. We live in a dry area and need to conserve water.



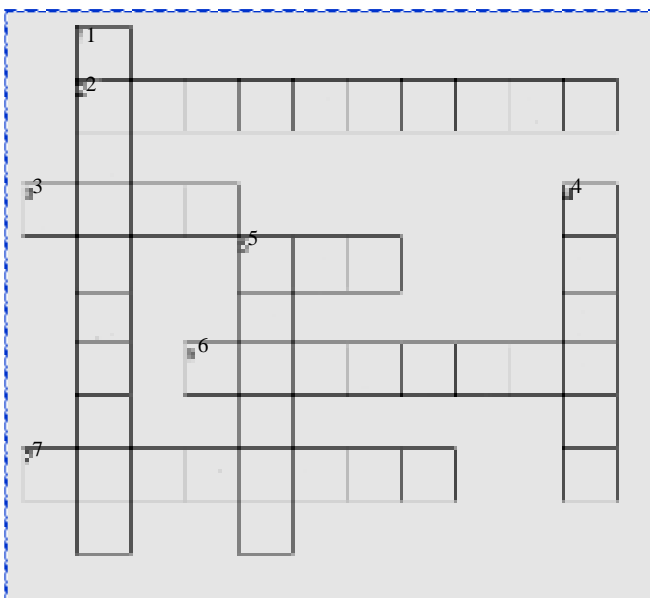
This looks better!

The water that lands on a driveway or sidewalk doesn't help your lawn, and ALSO washes pollutants into storm drains.

How can you help?

- Place sprinklers so that the water lands only on the lawn.
- Water the lawn or garden during the cooler times of the day.
- Don't water on windy days. The water may blow away and be wasted.
- Try to wash your car, bike (or even your dog!) on your lawn or someplace that doesn't run straight into the street.

Do this crossword puzzle about water conservation!



ACROSS

- 2) Can wash into storm drains and streams from driveway
- 3) Can blow away water while sprinkling
- 5) Wash this on the grass
- 6) Do this because we live in a dry state
- 7) Water that lands on this does not help your lawn

DOWN

- 1) Only water lawns, not driveways, with these
- 4) Water can carry pollutants here
- 5) Water only in this part of the day



Oops!

Oil that drips from cars can wash straight into our lakes and streams.



This looks better!

Our cars can't run without oil and antifreeze, but our rivers can! Leaks can be very dangerous to fish, birds, and even cats and dogs.

Another use for cat litter!

Did you know that cat litter absorbs leaks from cars really well? Spread it on the ground over the leak, let the oil and junk soak up, and then sweep up the car litter. Remember to dispose of the cat litter properly (with your household garbage).

Unscramble the words below:

(Hint- they are all found on this page.)

iol	_____
dsrpi	_____
zifnreeeat	_____
abgager	_____
klxae	_____
csra	_____
samter	_____



Oops!

The bare banks let dirt wash straight into the streams. This can cloud the water and smother fish eggs.



This looks better!

A few plants go a long way. The roots keep the banks from eroding. Plus the plants look nice!

How can you help?

- Help your community plant trees or leave native grasses and shrubs along a stream bank to reduce erosion.
- Walk only along existing trails when near water.

Solve the hidden message using the clues below.

♥ ⚙️ ✂️ 🌍 ✦ ⚙️ ⚙️ 🌍 ☆ ⚙️ π 🌸 🎯 ⚙️ ◻️ ❖ ✕ 🍷 ❖ ✕ ♠️ ❖ ♥ ⚙️ ☆ ❖ ✓ ⚙️ ✌️ 🎯

✌️ = A	✓ = R	π = D	⚙️ = E
🌍 = P	♥ = H	✦ = K	☆ = S
✕ = O	♠️ = F	🌸 = I	🎯 = M
🍷 = U	◻️ = N	✂️ = L	❖ = T

H _ _ _ _ _
 _ _ _ _ _ !

STORMWATER POLLUTION QUIZ

Match the pollutant with the problem. If you need help, look back in the book.

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1) MOTOR OIL | A. Used to kill garden pests but can also kill animals living in the water. |
| 2) HAZARDOUS WASTE | B. Animals sometimes confuse this with food and can die from eating it. |
| 3) FERTILIZERS | C. This can cloud the water and make it hard for animals to see and even smoother eggs. |
| 4) TRASH | D. Leftover poisonous chemicals that can pollute rivers and streams. |
| 5) DIRT | E. Good for cars, bad for birds and fish. |
| 6) PESTICIDES | F. Helps plants grow but can pollute a stream and use up the oxygen. |

Now match the pollutant with something you can do to help protect your water.

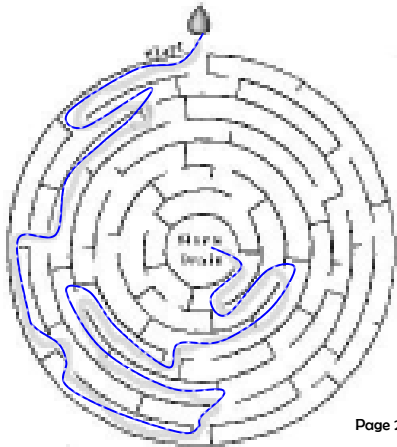
- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1) MOTOR OIL | A. Only use as much as you need to get rid of harmful pests. |
| 2) HAZARDOUS WASTE | B. Don't litter, put this in its place. Better yet, recycle as much as you can. |
| 3) FERTILIZERS | C. Cat litter can clean this up. |
| 4) TRASH | D. Look for disposal days in your community to get rid of this. |
| 5) DIRT | E. Always use the right amount on your lawn to keep it green. |
| 6) PESTICIDES | F. Plant trees and other plants near streams to help hold the soil in place. |

SUMMARY ACTIVITY

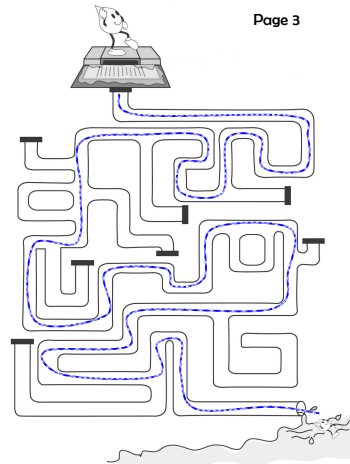
Fill the blanks to create correct or silly sentences. Find correct answers throughout the booklet.

1. There's more stormwater runoff in _____ than in forests and fields.
(Plural Noun)
2. Stormwater from cities can become very _____.
(Adjective)
3. Water pollution doesn't always come from huge _____.
(Plural Noun)
4. Only use as much _____ as you need to keep your lawn
_____.
(Noun)
(Adjective)
5. Substitute less _____ products for household chemicals
when you can. (Adjective)
6. _____ as much of your trash as possible.
(Verb)
7. Try to _____ your car on your lawn.
(Verb)
8. Check your car for _____ leaks.
(Noun)
9. _____ trees along the stream to keep the _____ from
eroding.
(Verb) (Noun)
10. I am _____ wise!
(Noun)

ANSWER PAGE

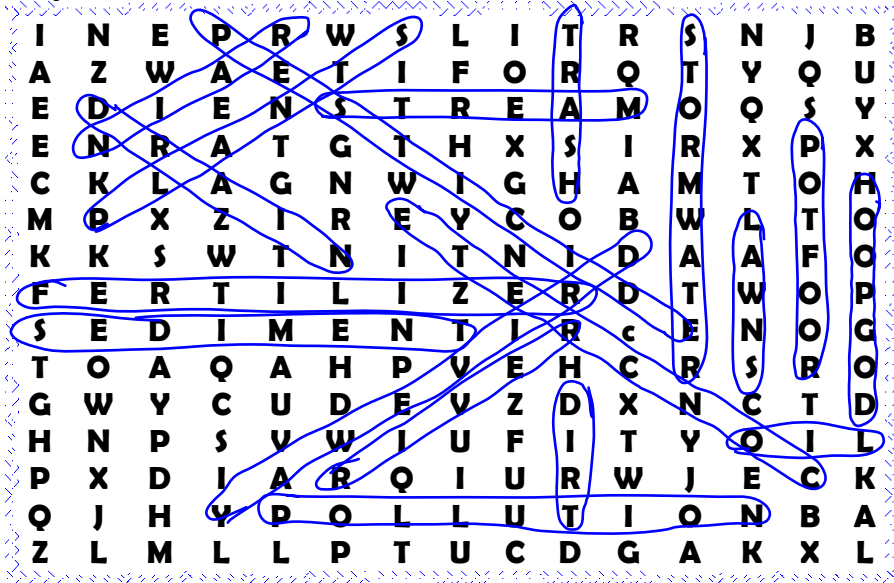


Page 2



Page 3

Page 4



Picture Search

- BALL
- CANS (3)
- CART
- CUPS (3)
- SHOE
- SPRAY CAN
- TIRE

Page 5

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- 2. pollutants
- 3. wind
- 5. car
- 6. conserve
- 7. driveway

DOWN

- 1. sprinklers
- 4. stream
- 5. cooler

Page 10

Word Scramble

Page 11

- 1. oil
- 2. drips
- 3. antifreeze
- 4. garbage
- 5. leaks
- 6. cars
- 7. stream

Hidden Message:

Help Keep sediment out of the stream!

Page 12

Stormwater Quiz

Page 13

- | | |
|------|------|
| 1. E | 1. C |
| 2. D | 2. D |
| 3. F | 3. E |
| 4. B | 4. B |
| 5. C | 5. F |
| 6. A | 6. A |

Summary Activity

Page 14

- 1. cities
- 2. polluted
- 3. factories
- 4. fertilizer, green
- 5. hazardous
- 6. Recycle
- 7. wash
- 8. oil
- 9. Plants, banks
- 10. water

NOTES AND DRAWINGS



FOR YOUR PARENTS

ACHD supports a stormwater pollution hotline. The hotline is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The hotline is for reporting spills, illicit connections, or illegal dumping to the storm drain system.

What to expect when you call:

The hotline operator will collect specific information to determine which agency needs to be notified and transfer the caller to that agency. Some calls may be routed to 911. For non-emergency calls made in the evening or on weekends, the operator will take a message and relay the information during business hours.

When to call the Stormwater Hotline:

- Contained pesticide/herbicides
- Paint/ antifreeze/ fat/ oil/ grease/ sewage (Under 10 gallons)
- Petroleum products excluding gas and diesel (under 10 gallons)
- Plugged, blocked, flooding storm drains
- Sediment/ yard waste/ excessive leaves
- Mud tracking into the roadway

Stormwater Hotline: 208-395-8888

When to call 911:

You can call 911 directly or be routed through the hotline for:

- Spilled hazardous/ unknown substance
- Gas and diesel (any amount)
- Uncontained (free-flowing) pesticide/herbicides
- Paint/ antifreeze/ fat/ oil/ grease/ sewage (over 10 gallons)
- Petroleum products excluding gas and diesel (over 10 gallons)
- Apparent risk to public health/ safety/ environment

For additional information or to volunteer for a storm drain marking project, please visit the ACHD website or give us a call:

<https://www.achdidaho.org/home>

ACHD Environmental Department: 208-387-6250.