



Celebrating Small Town Life

Pollutants from homes, businesses and farms are major contributors to the pollution of Florida's lakes and ground water. Stormwater washes down storm inlets and into the storm sewer, which is not connected to the sanitary sewer. It is a separate system that carries the stormwater directly to the nearest water body, such as East Lake Tohopekaliga, Lake Tohopekaliga and Lake Runnymede. In many cases, pollutants sent into the storm system receive little treatment prior to discharging into a water body.

Where do stormwater pollutants come from?

- Sediments from soil erosion caused by unvegetated soils and by uncontrolled construction activities
- Automotive and lawn equipment gas, oil and grease that leaks onto paved areas or is dumped directly into the inlets
- Runoff of pesticides and fertilizers from residential lawns, commercial and recreational turf, gardens and farms
- Organic contaminants from litter, yard trash, sludge and pet waste
- Pathogens and excessive nutrients from septic tank overflowing

For additional information on how you can help prevent stormwater pollution, log onto the City of St. Cloud's website at www.stcloud.org or contact the IFAS Extension Services office at 321-697-3000.

Things you can do to protect our lakes, creeks and wetlands:

- Put yard debris and lawn clippings in the green garbage cans instead of dumping them near streams or in the road
- Put litter in trash cans where it belongs
- Pick up after your pet
- Recycle used motor oil and antifreeze
- When taking care of your lawn, follow package directions carefully; only use pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers when other methods fail
- Use slow-release fertilizer
- When washing your car, direct soap suds onto the lawn instead of the streets or storm drains
- Use products labeled biodegradable, non-toxic, non-phosphorus or water soluble; they readily decompose and will not pollute surface or ground waters

Do you live in a floodplain?

If you have any questions about whether your property is located within a floodplain, please call **407-957-7353** or visit the Public Services office in City Hall.

Did you know that flood insurance is available to you whether you live in a Special Flood Hazard Area or not? You can purchase flood coverage at any time. Typically, there is a 30-day waiting period after you've applied and paid the premium before the policy is effective. Please contact your insurance provider to discuss your coverage needs.