

Good Neighbors



Preventing Stormwater Pollution: Good Cleaning Practices for Food & Restaurant Industries

When it rains or snow melts, water flows from rooftops, streets and yards onto the pavement and into storm drains. Many people think this water gets treated before reaching ponds, lakes, streams and rivers. Storm drains and sanitary sewer systems are **NOT** connected! Water flowing into storm drains is carried **UNTREATED**, directly to our waterways. Keeping pollution out of storm drains is crucial to maintaining our water resources. In addition, releasing pollutants into the storm drain system is a violation of the Town Code under Sections 8, 11 and 21.

As a restaurant owner or manager, you are responsible for ensuring employees follow good housekeeping practices, not just inside, but outside your establishment as well. Employees must be instructed on preventing pollutants from entering storm drains and sewers. Below are some guidelines for preventing pollution and being a good neighbor—to those next door and to those downstream!

Clean floor mats, in a mop sink, floor drain or other designated area. Never clean in parking lots where excess water will flow into storm drains!



Pour dirty water into a janitorial or mop sink. **NEVER** pour waste water into sewers or storm drains!



Dispose of leftover oil or cooking grease properly—recycle or let solidify and place in secured trash cans. Never pour down sinks, floor drains or into storm sewers.



Use a broom to clean up spills—don't hose debris into floor drains or storm sewers.

Secure dumpsters and trash cans so debris doesn't get swept into gutters or storm drains. Report illegal dumping activities!



For information on the program, community outreach and educational opportunities, please contact the Department of Public Works, at 703-771-2790 or e-mail publicworks@leesburgva.gov. You may also visit www.leesburgva.gov/publicworks/waterquality for more information.

