



Gwinnett County

Department of Water Resources

Managing and Protecting our Water Resources

The Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources manages three water systems:

- The water distribution system brings clean water to homes, schools and businesses
- The sanitary sewer system carries wastewater to one of three water reclamation facilities
- The stormwater drainage system directs rainwater to streams, rivers and lakes

The first two systems (water distribution and sanitary sewer) are closed systems, meaning that water enters and exits those systems only at specific locations. The stormwater drainage system is an open system that allows rainwater runoff to enter and exit at various points.

With Gwinnett averaging 50" of rain a year – the stormwater drainage system manages a lot of water! This system is made up of storm drains, gutters and ditches that channel stormwater runoff directly to the nearest body of water, without any treatment. This means that any pollutants on the ground will be picked up and carried to local rivers, lakes and streams. In addition to trash, these pollutants include things like lawn care products and yard clippings, pet waste, automotive fluids, and paint.

To help prevent this type of pollution:

- Don't litter
- Never dump anything down storm drains
- Pick up after your pet
- Don't blow yard trimmings into the street or down the drain
- Check vehicles for leaks and repair them quickly
- Use lawn care products sparingly, and sweep the excess from sidewalks and driveways back onto your lawn

The Gwinnett County Illicit Discharge and Illegal Connection Ordinance (IDIC) prohibits the discharge of anything other than stormwater into a storm drain or any other part of the stormwater drainage system. If you see someone discharging anything into a storm drain, please call the Gwinnett County Department of Water Resources at 678.376.7000 so we can address the discharge and provide education on preventing stormwater pollution.

