



U.S. General Services
Administration

Protecting Storm Water

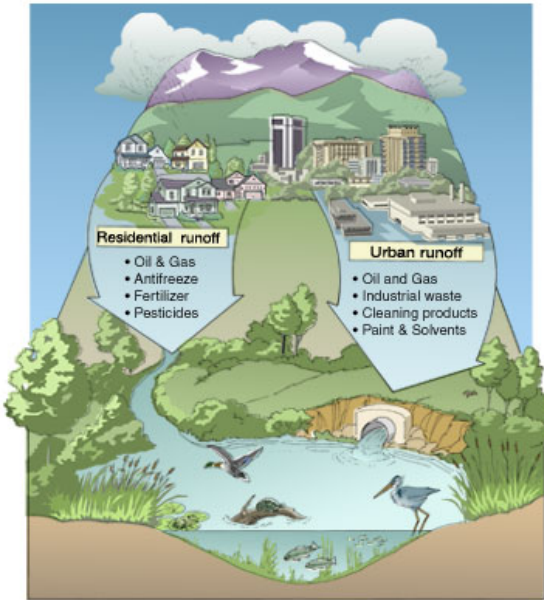
at the
Denver Federal Center

U.S. General Services
Administration
Public Building Services

DFC Environmental
Programs Group
Building 41, Room 240
PO Box 25546
Denver, CO 80225-0546

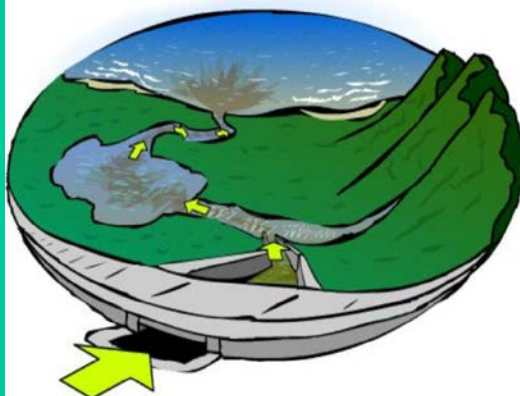
Emergency Hotline:
303-236-2911

For More Information:
John Kleinschmidt
303-236-2858
Bill Fieselman
303-236-2516



Remember:
Only Rain Goes
Down The Drain

Where Storm Water Goes After the Curb Inlet



Denver Federal Center Storm Water Program

Rainwater flows over parking lots, lawns, sidewalks, picking up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. Storm water can flow into a storm drain system or directly into a lake or stream. Anything that enters a storm sewer system flows untreated into water bodies we use for swimming, fishing, and drinking. Polluted runoff* is the nation's greatest threat to clean water.

McIntyre Gulch flows across the Denver Federal Center (DFC) and converges with Lakewood Gulch and then flows into the Platte River. Wildlife use McIntyre Gulch, the Agricultural Ditch, Downing Reservoir and a storm water pond on the DFC as water sources. Downstream, the Platte River supports fisheries, and other community uses.

The DFC's storm drain system collects rain and snow melt from drain inlets and flows directly into McIntyre Gulch. Any DFC contaminants that enter the Gulch and the Platte River compromise water, wildlife, fish and downstream water supplies. Care must be taken to ensure that DFC runoff does not degrade water quality.

*Polluted runoff is precipitation that captures pollution from agricultural lands, urban streets, parking lots and suburban lawns, and transports it to rivers, lakes, or oceans.

The DFC has an EPA Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit to discharge storm water into McIntyre Gulch. A storm water management plan outlines what measures the DFC will take to protect storm water quality and comply with the permit requirements.

The DFC has implemented a storm water management plan, which includes an active construction site inspection program, to ensure that storm drains are protected from construction sediments. The DFC has also placed distinct markers near storm drains on the campus to increase public awareness of the storm drain system and its direct connection to McIntyre Gulch and the Platte River.

Water pollution is often unintentional. It's caused by things we do everyday at work, at home, and at play.

Water Pollution Facts:

- A pint of used motor oil can expand over an acre of water surface.
- A gallon of gasoline can contaminate 750,000 gallons of water.
- Antifreeze is poisonous to wildlife and contains heavy metals.
- Trash can plug storm drains and endanger fish and other wildlife.

How You Can Help:

- Check vehicles for leaks & spills. Make repairs as soon as possible.
- Clean up spilled fluids with absorbent material, don't rinse spills into a nearby storm drain.
- Clean paint brushes in a sink, not outdoors.
- Properly dispose of excess paints through a household hazardous waste collection program.
- Cover piles of dirt and mulch being used in landscaping projects to prevent these materials from blowing or washing into local water bodies.
- Cover trash containers and dumpsters, so rain can't enter them and wash material into gutters and storm drains.
- Don't flush wash water from equipment down storm drains.
- If we do our part to maintain the integrity and natural beauty of our waterways, they will continue to provide clean water for fish, wildlife, and humans.

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