



BE THE SOLUTION!

What is stormwater pollution? What impact does it have on the health of our rivers, lakes, and streams, and what can you do to prevent it?

Did you know that when it rains, it pollutes? As rain makes its journey from sky, over land and roads, and finally to surface waters, it picks up pollutants like trash and litter, car fluids, pet wastes, and excess fertilizers along the way.

Questions and topics to consider while preparing your essay:

- » How many forms of stormwater pollution can you think of?
- » How might polluted stormwater effect communities downstream of you?
- » How does increased development and growth in your community contribute to stormwater pollution?
- » Look at a map of streams and rivers in your community and see where the stormwater from your home ends up. Trace it from beginning to end.
- » What programs does your county or city's stormwater management department offer that you can get involved in to make a difference?

Successful essays will show an understanding of the type of information found at these sources:

- » Clean Water Campaign – www.cleanwatercampaign.org
- » Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District – <http://northgeorgiawater.org/protect-our-water/stormwater-in-our-region/>
- » Georgia Environmental Protection Division – <https://epd.georgia.gov/storm-water>
- » Environmental Protection Agency – <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/npdes-stormwater-program>

Teachers, want to dive a little deeper?

We encourage you to perform the Watershed in Your Hand activity from Georgia Project WET's Urban Watershed (attached with this flyer) with your class to help them gain a better understanding of what a watershed is and why we need to prevent stormwater pollution. If you're not familiar with Georgia Project WET, find out more information about this program, the excellent teaching resources it offers, and how you can participate in trainings at <https://projectwet.georgia.gov/>.

