

## STORM WATER WORD SEARCH

Almost everyone in Dane County lives on a lake or stream when it comes to “**nonpoint**” or storm water **runoff** pollution. That’s because the distance between your yard and the water’s edge is as close as the nearest **storm drain** or ditch.

Storm water that goes into storm water drainage system is *not* filtered at wastewater **treatment** plants. Rather, it **drains** *directly* into our lakes and streams impacting the **water quality** here in Dane County. In wooded areas and grassy fields, **rain** and melting **snow infiltrate** or soak into the ground, as nature intended. But in urban areas, these “**pervious**” surfaces have been paved over so that rainwater gushes down our sidewalks and roads, carrying dirt, oil, leaves, **fertilizer**, pesticides, grass, **litter** and animal waste into the gutters and storm sewers and ditches.

*What can I do?*

Whether you like to fish, **boat**, **swim** or **paddle**, there are simple things each of us can do at home and elsewhere, that collectively will help our lakes and streams. Every **drop** counts.

- **Conserve** groundwater by using water from a **rain barrel** for plants instead of from a garden hose.
- Plant a **rain garden** so that water from your downspouts or driveway **infiltrate**, or soak into the ground rather than becoming runoff.
- **Compost** your leaves instead of raking them to the curb or till them into your garden. If you **rake** your **leaves** to the curb, make sure to keep them out of the gutter to keep them out of the lakes. Once in the **water**, they release **nutrients** as they decompose that contribute to the accelerated growth of **algae**. The result is a **green** lake choked with foul smelling, dying plant life that can kill **fish** and other **aquatic** critters and generally make water recreation an unpleasant experience.
- **Sweep** clippings off of pavement and add them to your compost pile.
- Make sure your **car care** activities include preventing and fixing leaks and washing your car on the lawn or at a commercial car wash.
- Volunteer to stencil storm drains with “**Dump No Waste, Drains to Lake**” to remind folks not to let anything but rain go down the drain.

Just as a **river** starts with small springs and streams, protecting watersheds starts with our daily activities, big and small.

The **solution** is simple: to keep it out of the **lakes** and **streams**, we’ve got to keep it out of the **gutter** and ditches.

These words are hiding up and down, backwards, diagonally, and forward.

<b>algae</b>	<b>fertilizer</b>	<b>paddle</b>	<b>storm drain</b>
<b>aquatic</b>	<b>fish</b>	<b>pervious</b>	<b>streams</b>
<b>boat</b>	<b>green</b>	<b>rain</b>	<b>sweep</b>
<b>car care</b>	<b>gutter</b>	<b>rain barrel</b>	<b>swim</b>
<b>compost</b>	<b>infiltrate</b>	<b>rain garden</b>	<b>treatment</b>
<b>conserve</b>	<b>lakes</b>	<b>rake</b>	<b>water</b>
<b>drains</b>	<b>leaves</b>	<b>river</b>	<b>water quality</b>
<b>drains to lake</b>	<b>litter</b>	<b>runoff</b>	
<b>drop</b>	<b>nonpoint</b>	<b>snow</b>	
<b>dump no waste</b>	<b>nutrients</b>	<b>solution</b>	

**MADISON AREA MUNICIPAL STORM WATER PARTNERSHIP  
WORD SEARCH**

N	O	N	P	O	I	N	T	A	D	E	R
C	A	R	C	A	R	E	B	D	R	O	P
D	O	M	W	S	W	O	N	S	A	C	T
R	V	N	O	A	A	Z	P	F	I	S	H
A	C	U	S	T	T	E	P	T	N	O	L
I	G	T	N	E	E	E	A	A	S	E	T
N	N	R	I	W	R	U	R	W	A	S	C
S	E	I	S	L	Q	V	E	V	O	H	A
T	D	E	Z	A	U	M	E	L	F	L	N
O	R	N	A	B	A	S	U	V	E	E	R
L	A	T	G	R	L	T	D	L	R	R	D
A	G	S	C	U	I	I	G	I	T	R	U
K	N	I	I	O	T	E	E	T	I	A	M
E	I	W	N	C	Y	T	P	T	L	B	P
A	A	N	F	R	A	K	E	E	I	N	N
I	R	G	I	D	N	I	A	R	Z	I	O
S	T	V	L	A	K	E	S	J	E	A	W
T	E	R	T	A	R	T	E	F	R	R	A
R	L	A	R	G	A	D	R	O	T	L	S
E	D	H	A	P	C	O	M	P	O	S	T
A	D	V	T	O	N	E	E	R	G	M	E
M	A	C	E	P	E	R	V	I	O	U	S
S	P	T	N	E	M	T	A	E	R	T	O
R	U	N	O	F	F	E	S	M	I	W	S