

## Clean Water Act

The Clean Water Act was passed in 1972 by the U.S. Congress to control pollutants being dumped into our nation's waters. The Clean Water Act gave the Environmental Protection Agency the authority to set standards for industrial pollution. The act also made it unlawful for any individual to pollute any waterway. The Clean Water Act's primary goal is to restore and maintain the nation's water's chemical, physical and biological integrity so they can support fish, shellfish, wildlife, and recreation. Be aware: Only rain in the drains helps keep pollution out of storm drains.

## Stormwater Awareness

Storm drains, and roadside ditches lead directly to lakes, rivers, creeks, and streams. Oil, trash, leaves, debris, or dirty water from cleaning cars flowing into a storm drain gets into our waterways. We all need to be aware of what goes into our storm drains; awareness is essential. Many believe storm drains are connected to sanitary sewer systems and that stormwater is treated at sewage treatment plants. This is true in areas with combined sewers, but in some parts of the city, the storm drains directly to the river. Stormwater is not treated. People carelessly dump pollutants like oil, grease, pesticides, and paint into storm drains. Nonpoint source pollution is ranked as one of the highest ecological risks because it poses a significant threat to our waterways' birds, fish, and aquatic life. Please help us keep storm drains clean, especially during wet weather events. The City of Monticello asks residents who see anyone dumping into curb drains or storm sewers to please notify the Public Works or Police Department as soon as possible. Residents who see a catch basin or a storm sewer covered with debris should remove the trash to allow the drains to accept water flow. Let us all work together to alleviate the problem of nonpoint source pollution.

The City of Monticello thanks you, and the environment thanks you.