

CANDY WRAPPER
 IPONATLALRAU
 GPRSODACANLC
 ALATCBATSCCU
 REGGEBOTTLED
 ECTTPEBIIWGB
 TOILBGSRCOGA
 TRCJUICEBOXU
 EEICILGLASSE
 BTBUBBLEGUMB
 USTAJTGCSLME
 TBANANAPEELU
 TGTIATTBALEB

candy wrapper	juice box	soda can
bubble gum	glass	bottle
plastic bags	oil	tire
cigarette butt	apple core	banana peel

Find and circle all the things that someone carelessly threw away before they wash into the storm drain.

Stormwater can act as the ultimate vehicle for transferring litter from urban environments to seas. Waterway collection systems are becoming crucial to reduce the environmental damage caused by rubbish. This specific type of pollution occurs when any type of precipitation (stormwater) runs over land, picks up trash and eventually deposits it into rivers, lakes, and oceans. Capturing the litter early in the process greatly reduces environmental damage

Animal waste contains two main types of pollutants that harm local waters: nutrients and pathogens. When this waste ends up in water bodies, it decomposes, releasing nutrients that cause excessive growth of algae and weeds. This makes the water murky, green, smelly, and even unusable for swimming, boating, or fishing.

**THINK PICKING UP SPIKE'S POOP IS GROSS?
 TRY SWIMMING IN IT.**

**THINK AGAIN.
 THINK BLUE.**

When you leave dog poop on the ground – or throw it down a storm drain – the rain carries Spike's mess into storm drains and straight to our rivers, lakes, and ponds making them unsafe for swimming.

Help keep our waters blue...pick up after your dog and throw the waste in the trash.

www.ThinkBlueMA.org

Earth Day-Stormwater

There is approximately 50 billion pieces of litter along the roadways and waterways. That is approximately 152 pieces per person. Nine out of 10 pieces found on the ground are less than four inches in size! That means cigarettes, which also top America's list of most littered things, have the longstanding distinction of being the most littered item on earth, with about 4.5 trillion cigarettes discarded each year worldwide.

**THINK SMALL DOESN'T MATTER
 LITTLE THINGS ADD UP.**

THINK IT'S JUST ONE BUTT ON THE GROUND?

TO A FISH OR BIRD IT CAN BE DEADLY.

Photo courtesy: Karen Hanson



Polluted runoff threatens the health of Massachusetts water. You can do your part at home, at work and at play to help keep our streams clear of pollution after rain and snow melt.

For more tips and information visit www.thinkbluemassachusetts.org.



Scoop it! Pet waste is gross and can make you sick. Bag and dispose of solid pet waste in trash cans.

Close it! Rain water running off of trash cans sends waste into nearby streams. Close your trash can lids, cover dumpsters, and properly dispose of trash to keep pollution locked away.

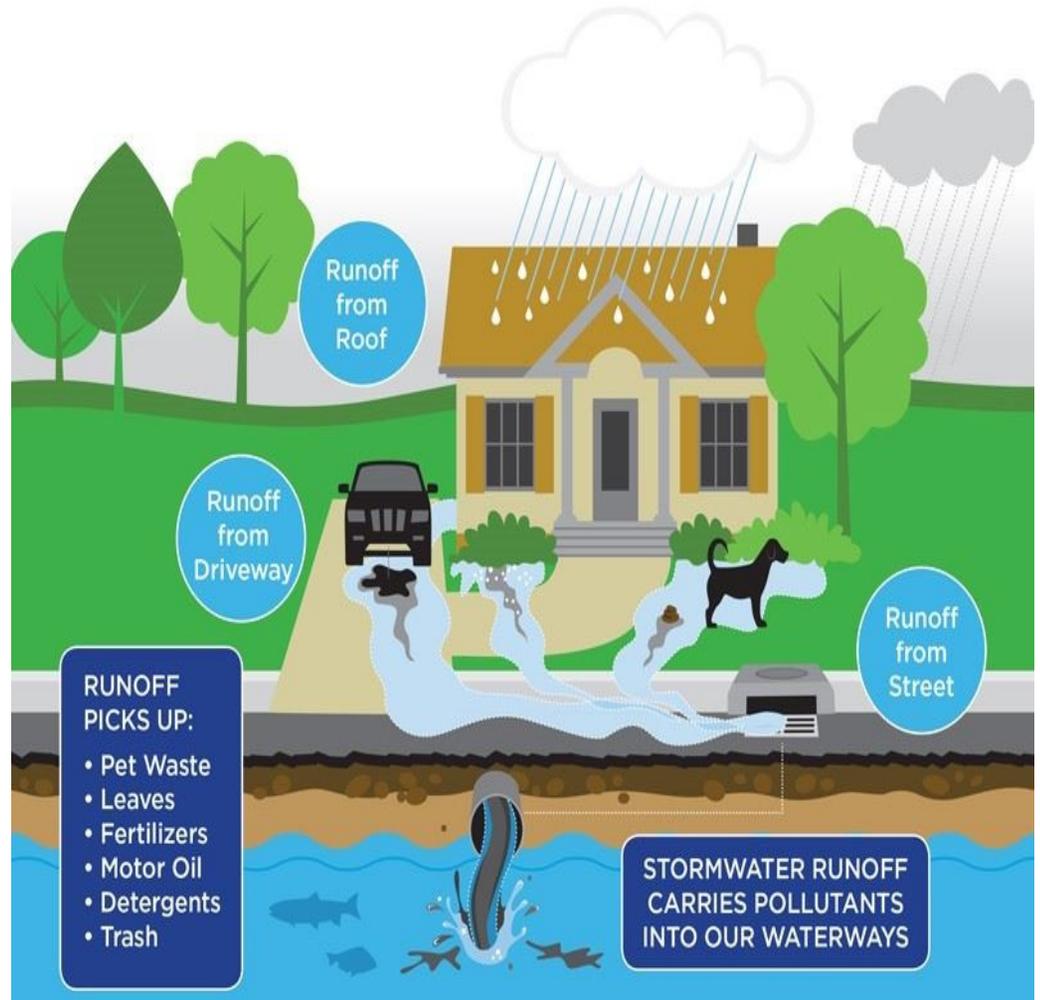


Stop it! Stormwater pollution often begins at construction sites, but it doesn't have to. Take steps on your job site to prevent dirt from washing into nearby streams, roads and storm drains.

Catch it! Industries and businesses can keep oil, gas, and grease from washing into streams. Use drip pans to catch fluids. Keep absorbent materials close by to clean up small spills. Fix leaks and clean up spills quickly.



Learn more at www.ThinkBlueMassachusetts.org



Put trash in its place, pick up pet waste, only rain in the drain. Help save our planet and water ways.