



CITY OF NORMAN
201 W Gray
Norman, OK 73069
normanok.gov
405.366.5396



Tips for Protecting our Water Quality

Did you know there are easy, everyday ways you can make a positive impact on the quality of our water in Norman? You can help protect the river, creeks, streams, and Lake Thunderbird, which supplies nearly 70% of our drinking water.

Why do creeks and streams matter? The creeks and streams throughout our community eventually flow into the Canadian River and Lake Thunderbird. Our creeks and streams are also home to fish, frogs, turtles and other aquatic life.

Picking up litter near creeks, streams, and Lake Thunderbird also makes a difference for aquatic life and water quality.

Lawn care practices have a significant impact! If you choose to fertilize, do a soil test to make sure that you aren't over fertilizing. (When you do fertilize - stay at least 20 feet away from any waterbodies.)

Vegetate bare spots in your yard or plant a vegetable garden. Use native plants in your landscape - they look great and they don't need much water or fertilizer.

Avoid pesticides, and use non-toxic gardening techniques.

Consider planting a rain garden in an area where there is a natural low spot. A rain garden diverts and cleans water.

Dig a shallow trench along the border of your driveway and add plants or gravel to catch the runoff before it travels too far.

- Sweep up driveways, sidewalks and roads.
- Check for, and fix, car leaks and recycle motor oil.
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces.
- Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway.
- Pick up after your pet and throw waste in the garbage.
- Compost your yard waste. Did you know the City of Norman provides yard waste collection for composting and makes the compost available to residents? Find out more at normanok.gov/utilities/sa/sanitation-yard-waste-collection.
- Never dump anything down storm drains. Take all unwanted chemicals and paint to a hazardous waste collection site or bring them to the City of Norman's annual HHW collection event each fall.
- Our toilets are not trash cans and neither are our sinks. Don't let paint, used oil, chemicals, or other questionable household products go down the drain.
- Don't blow grass clippings into the street.
- Clean debris off of neighborhood storm drains.
- Don't drain pools into storm drains.