

## Keep Water Safe from Car Pollution—Here's how . . .

**Spills & Leaks:** Clean spills up immediately using dry cleaning techniques. Dispose of rags, etc., as hazardous waste material with the proper agency. Use absorbents and foams to clean up chemical materials. Report spills that pose a threat to human health to the local agencies or fire department.

**Maintenance & Repair:** Conduct vehicle and equipment repairs indoors or under cover. Collect used antifreeze, oil, grease, oil filters, cleaning solutions, batteries and transmission fluids in sealed containers and recycle with appropriate agencies.

**Car Washing:** Wash cars on grassy areas and use phosphorus-free detergents and non-toxic cleaning products or use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles wash water or conveys wash water to the sanitary sewer system. Do not discharge wash water into storm drains.

**Car Fueling:** Clean spills in fuel-dispensing areas with absorbent materials. Never wash down areas before dry cleanup is done. Ensure that wash water is collected and disposed in a sanitary sewer system.

**Vehicle Storage:** Vacuum or sweep parking lots. Hosing parking lots washes water directly into storm drains. Use absorbent material (ex. cat litter) to clean up auto fluids from parking lots.

**Tires:** Take used tires to a tire recycling center.



## Recycling Centers

### Tires:

Tire Shredders, Unlimited  
636-677-8471

### Used Oil:

Autozone & Jiffy Lube  
(all stores)

B & L Sanitation  
636-942-2557

### Batteries:

21 Auto Salvage  
636-942-4847

AutoZone—all stores

DeSoto Recycling  
636-586-9243

Midwest Scrap Iron  
636-671-0159

### Glass:

Byrnes Mill Recycling 636-376-4511

### Hazardous Waste:

Missouri Department of Health  
314-751-6102

*Please call our Recycling Coordinator for more information about recycling & hazardous waste stations:  
636-797-5043*

County of Jefferson  
Stormwater Program  
PO Box 100  
Hillsboro MO 63050  
Phone: 636-797-6228  
Fax: 636-797-6227  
Email: stormwater@jeffcomo.org

County of Jefferson

# Automobiles and Our Environment



**Did you know that your car can pollute your water supply?**

**Stormwater Management Program  
636-797-6228**



### De-icing salts: contain nutrients

- Causes excessive algae growth that robs water of dissolved oxygen and makes water taste and smell bad
- Excessive algae clogs water intake drains and pipes



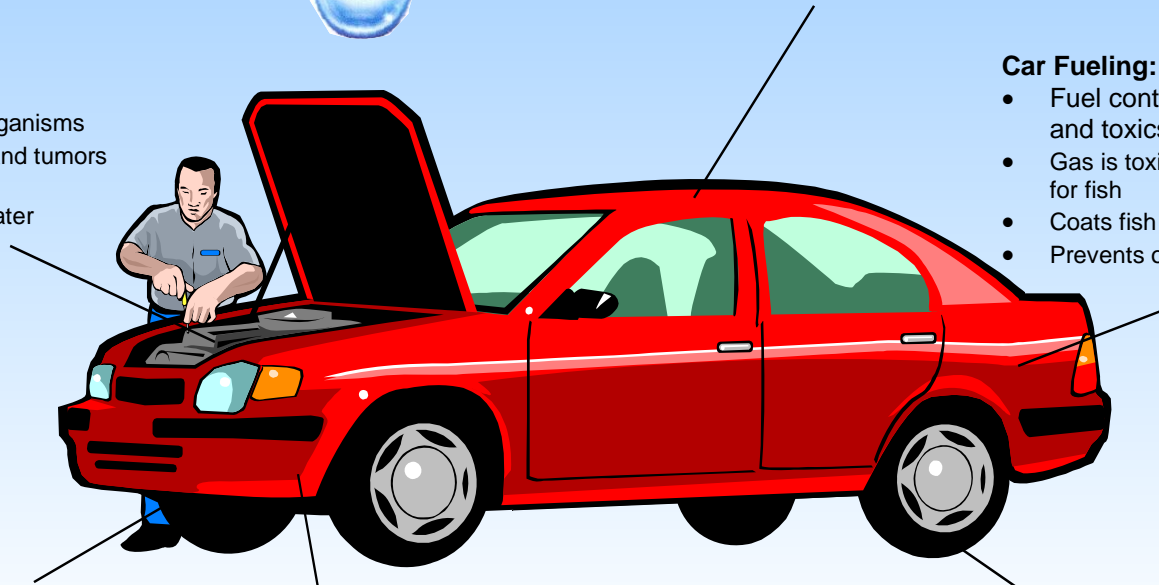
### Car Washing:

- Wash water may contain sediments, phosphorus, metals, oil and grease, that degrades water quality
- Phosphorus in detergents depletes dissolved oxygen necessary for aquatic survival
- Phosphorus in detergent increases algae growth that makes water smell and taste bad



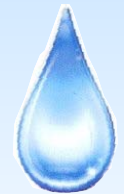
### Car Batteries:

- Acid is toxic to aquatic organisms
- Lead can cause lesions and tumors on fish
- Contaminates drinking water



### Car Fueling: Over-fueling causes spills.

- Fuel contains metals, oil, hydrocarbons and toxics
- Gas is toxic to aquatic organisms that is food for fish
- Coats fish gills
- Prevents oxygen from entering the water



### Oil & Grease & Repairs:

- Adds metals, oil/hydrocarbons and toxics to stormwater runoff
- Toxic to aquatic organisms
- Coats fish gills
- Prevents oxygen from entering the water
- Clogs drainage facilities

### Spills & Leaks: oil, antifreeze, battery acid, gas

- Are a significant source of lead, copper and zinc, and petroleum hydrocarbons
- All automotive fluids are toxic to aquatic organisms
- All automotive fluids coat fish gills
- All automotive fluids prevents oxygen from entering the water thereby causing death of aquatic organisms, fish and wildlife



### Tires: contain metal particles

- Causes health problems in fish
- Reduces reproductive cycles
- Contaminates drinking water

Anything that enters a storm sewer goes untreated into the same waterbodies that we use for swimming, fishing, and drinking water. And that's not healthy for people, plants, animals, or our delicate ecosystem.

As pollutants get washed into our water supply, so do the potential hazards for all forms of life.

