

What does the stuff from YOUR property do when it ends up in our harbours?

Urbanisation increases surface runoff which flows through the stormwater system. Runoff from your property and adjacent roads collects leaves, soil, animal droppings and rubbish.

Unlike water that enters the sewers, stormwater is not treated before it is discharged into our waterways.

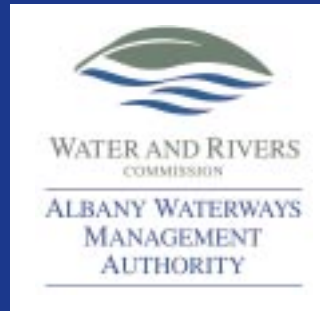
Anything washed into the gutters and drains could end up at your local fishing, surfing or swimming spot.

Urban runoff is also rich in nitrogen and phosphorus which causes troublesome algal growth. The algae smothers and kills large areas of valuable seagrass.

Stormwater drains in Albany include the Yakamia and Munster Hill drains as well as a large network of unnamed drains. These drains all feed into Princess Royal and Oyster Harbours.

You can help to reduce stormwater pollution!

To find out more please contact:



5 Bevan Street, Albany

Phone: 9842 5760

Fax: 9842 1204

Visit our website: www.wrc.wa.gov.au



221 York Street, Albany

Phone: 9841 9333

Fax: 9841 9222

**Don't throw this leaflet away!
Please pass it on to your neighbour.**



Printed on recycled paper



**Protect
Our
Harbours**
You can make a difference!

10 easy things to do at home . . .

It's the little things we do that make a **BIG** difference!!

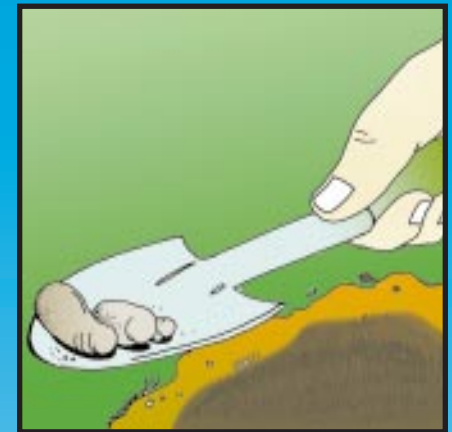
1. Avoid hosing down driveways into drains. Sweep and pick up leaves and rubbish instead.
2. Fertilise gardens sparingly. Our sandy soils do not retain nutrients well and any excess washes into our wetlands, rivers and harbours, causing algal blooms.
3. Mulching your garden waste helps retain nutrients and reduce water loss. Build barriers around garden beds to reduce runoff.
4. Practice sensible pest control. Chemical sprays can find their way into our harbours through surface run-off and groundwater.
5. Have your septic tank inspected and maintained annually.
6. Wash your car on the lawn so dirty water, detergent and oils do not run down the drain.
7. Don't tip oils, paint or chemicals down the drain. It takes only 1 litre of oil to contaminate a million litres of water!
8. Contact the City of Albany on 9841 9333 to find out about Council's free *Chem Collect* service, and where to recycle and dispose of wastes properly.
9. When building or renovating, cover building materials such as sand and cement so they don't get washed away down the drain.
10. Dispose of rubbish, especially plastic, carefully - it could become a trap for wildlife.



Use a **NO phosphorus** washing detergent



Wash only full machine loads



Collect and bury dogs' droppings



Wash vehicles on a porous surface so the water does not run into drains or gutters



Fertilise lawns, greens and gardens sparingly



Compost all garden and kitchen vegetable waste and do not sweep or hose down drains

Polluted water is dangerous for birds, aquatic plants, animals and people.
We all have a part to play in making our waterways healthier.