

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- 1) Check your vehicle regularly for leaks and drips. If you notice a leak, get it fixed as soon as possible.
- 2) Use catch pans when draining any fluid from your vehicle. Elkhart County has a hazardous waste collection day the first Saturday of each month at the Elkhart County Correctional Facility from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, where you can get rid of these fluids properly. Many auto supply stores accept used oil to be recycled as well.
- 3) Use oil dry, kitty litter, or another type of absorbent material to dry up spills, which can then be disposed of in the trash.
- 4) Never dump automotive fluids down a storm drain or into a ditch, as these drain to our local waterways, like the Elkhart River.



By doing your part, we can help to eliminate the pollution that is so devastating to our beautiful environment.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Jason Kauffman with the City of Goshen Stormwater Department at 574-534-2201 or by email at jasonkauffman@goshencity.com.



I Think We've Sprung a Leak!



POLLUTION
PREVENTION
IS NOW IN
YOUR HANDS!

CLEANING UP OUR ACT

Today water pollution is one of the greatest issues facing the world. With a vast reduction in industrial pollution, 60% of water pollution now comes from household sources, such as leaking automotive fluids. But each of us can do small things to help clean up our water and keep it clean for many years to come.

WHY ARE AUTOMOTIVE FLUIDS SUCH A BIG DEAL?

Automotive fluids are insoluble in water, which means they do not dissolve. They are also not biodegradable, so they will stay in the environment for a long time and stick to anything it touches, which could include wildlife and plant life. Most automotive fluids are made from petroleum, a chemical that is toxic to animals, plants, and people. When an automotive fluid leaks from your car onto roads and driveways it gets washed down a storm drain which flows directly to a local waterway untreated.

POLLUTION INDICATORS TO LOOK FOR:

- Oil sheens on water
- Concrete washout / white residue on the ground
- Grease Marks / stains around catch basins
- Discolored water in waterways
- Unknown materials on the ground
- Dirt being tracked / washed onto the road
- People pouring liquids down storm drains



AUTOMOTIVE FLUID FACTS:

- Oil, antifreeze, and brake fluids contain heavy metals that can harm aquatic wildlife. The oil from just one oil change can pollute up to a million gallons of water
- Americans spill 180 million gallons of used oil into our waters each year. This is 16 times the amount spilled by the Exxon Valdez in Alaska in 1989.

