

**IF YOUR CAR LEAKS  
OIL IN THE DRIVEWAY,  
YOU MIGHT AS WELL  
LET IT LEAK IN THE OCEAN.**



**Rain washes pollutants into storm drains which  
flows directly into our streams, lakes,  
rivers and the ocean.  
So what can you do?**



**[www.cleanwaterNJ.org](http://www.cleanwaterNJ.org)**

## WHAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH MOTOR OIL?

Oil does not dissolve in water. When motor oil runs into storm drains either from changing your car's oil or from leaky cars, it goes directly to our lakes, rivers and the ocean. Oil and other petroleum products are toxic and can contaminate your drinking water, as well as kill fish, wildlife and plants. Did you know that one pint of oil can make a slick larger than a football field? Used motor oil is the largest single source of all oil pollution in lakes, streams and rivers. Americans spill 180 million gallons of used oil each year into our waters.

### YOU CAN HELP!

- Keep your car well maintained.
- Regularly check your car for leaks and schedule tune-ups. If you find leaks or drips, have your car repaired.
- Take your car to a service center to the change oil.
- If you do change your own oil, do it in a garage, never on the street. Use a self-contained oil pan and discard the oil at a local service center for recycling.
- NEVER discard oil, gas, or antifreeze into a storm drain.
- If you spill hazardous fluids, contain it immediately with rags and cat litter. Clean up the spill and properly dispose of the waste.

## WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT CLEAN WATER?

Stormwater pollution is one of the greatest threats to New Jersey's clean water supply. Clean water provides access to safe drinking water, a place for recreation, commercial opportunities, healthy wildlife habitats, and adds beauty to our landscape. Rain washes pollution from streets, parking lots, and lawns into storm drains, then directly into streams, rivers, lakes and the ocean.

**Did you know more than 60 percent of water pollution comes from things like motor oil, fertilizers, pet waste, and detergents? By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater.**



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