

“Protecting our Lakes, Rivers and Arroyos is everybody’s business.”

Stormwater Management Program

In order to improve water quality and meet the requirements of the Arizona Pollution Discharge Elimination System, Mohave County has put together a **Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP)**.



The plan, has been approved by the **Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)** for the purpose of improving the storm water quality through public education and awareness, placement of structural and non-structural controls and encouraging practices that keep pollutants out of rivers and lakes.

OTHER INFORMATION RESOURCES

English Versions

AZDEQ.gov/MS4_GP

AZDEQ.gov/AZPDES/CGP

LHCAZ.gov/COMMUNITY-INVESTMENT/STORM-WATER-MANAGEMENT

Spanish Versions

EPA.gov/NPDES

EPA.gov/NutrientPollution/WHAT-YOU-CAN-DO

ESPAÑOL.EPA.gov

ESPAÑOL.EPA.gov/ESPAÑOL/LO-QUE-USTED-PUEDA-HACER-PARA-COMBATIR-LA-CONTAMINACION-POR-NUTRIENTES

AZStorm.org/

ARTICLES.EXTENSION.org/PAGES/8647/MANURE-NUTRIENT-MANAGEMENT-FACTORY-FARMING.COM/ENVIRONMENTAL_PROBLEMS.HTML

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact

MOHAVE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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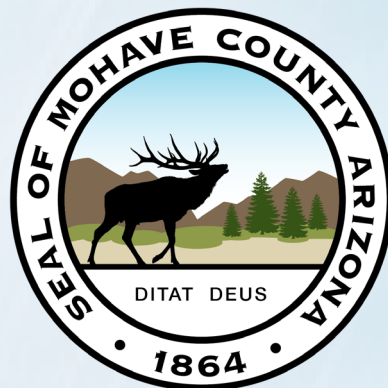
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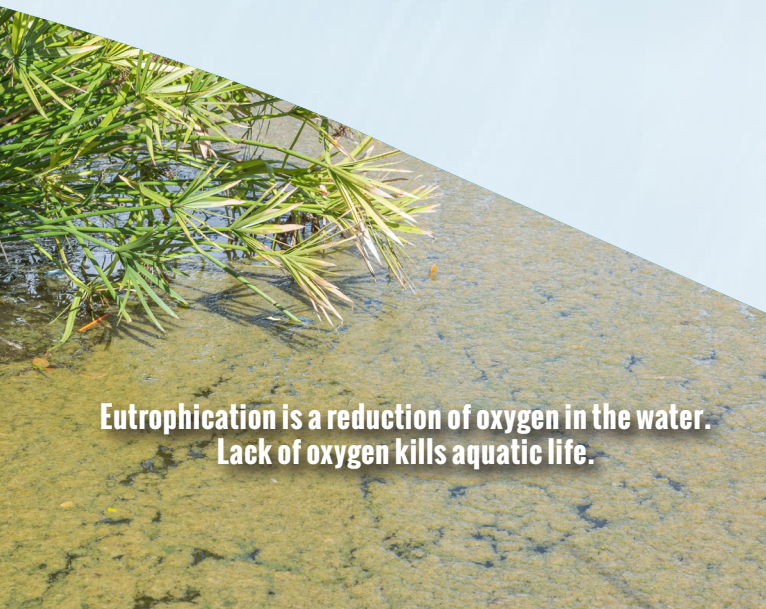
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a **SUBURBAN FARMER'S** **GUIDE** *to Understanding* *Stormwater Quality*



**Eutrophication is a reduction of oxygen in the water.
Lack of oxygen kills aquatic life.**

Jump-In! And Do Your Part!

When stormwater travels over land, it picks up the debris, trash and sediment. Often included with sediment, are spilled chemicals, fertilizers and pet or livestock waste. These pollutants go untreated and are transported directly to our lakes, rivers and streams.

Upon entering a waterbody, these pollutants cloud the water, remove much needed oxygen, poison the aquatic life and can be a threat to humans through disease and toxicity.



How Do You Jump In? KEEP READING!

While you might not own an industrial factory, or operate a construction site, as a suburban farmer, you can do your part to manage stormwater runoff, and promote water quality. By working together, we can keep Mohave County's waterways clean and safe. Read this pamphlet and find out how.



WHAT MUST YOU DO TO STOP STORMWATER POLLUTION?

Be sure to implement the following items and procedures whenever applicable!

Polluted runoff is one of the Nation's greatest threats to clean water. On the suburban farm, rain falls on exposed earth, gardens, manure, stored fertilizer, and on uncovered work areas. As stormwater runs off, the flow picks up whatever is on the ground, including vegetation litter, trash, chemicals, nutrients, sediment and potentially biological pathogens. This polluted flow enters the storm drain system and is ultimately discharged into the Nation's waterways untreated. Here it threatens wildlife, increases toxicity and leaves streams, rivers and lakes too dangerous for human use.

By knowing some simple facts and adopting the healthy farming habits below, you help keep our waterbodies clean and clear.



FERTILIZER MANAGEMENT

Phosphorous and nitrogen are key nutrients for crops and livestock. Over fertilizing leaves the excess to be carried by stormwater to a downstream waterbody, where it can cause Eutrophication. Applying only what crops need, keeps the rivers and lakes healthy.



LIVESTOCK AND PET WASTE

A horse produces 35 lbs. of waste per day. A dairy cow, 80 lbs. per day. The waste contains bacteria, viruses and/or protozoa that can be harmful to humans and other animals. Properly manage manure. Store it in a confined area away from flow paths. Install vegetation buffers to filter out contaminants. Create catchments to capture runoff. Routinely remove excess manure from the farm.



FARM EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

When maintaining your farm equipment be sure to prevent the automotive fluids, grease and other chemicals from spilling on the ground. Clean up spills or leaks with cat litter or sand. Recycle spent fluids at a nearby service station. Just 1 quart of motor oil can contaminate 250,000 gallons of water.



SEDIMENT CONTROL

Sediment transported from a farm in stormwater runoff carries with it all the pollutants from the farm. Creating vegetation buffers, sediment traps, or water harvesting basins that capture the runoff and sediment will keep these pollutants out of the rivers and lakes.



ROUTINE CLEANING

Washing stalls, pens, or farm equipment can result in contaminated runoff leaving the site. When cleaning, don't use excessive amounts of water. Do use biodegradable or low phosphorous detergents. Direct the flow towards a vegetation buffer or catch basin. If it is in the water, it can end up in the lake.



HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

Paints, solvents, lubricants, thinners, and pesticides are just a few of the hazardous chemicals found on a suburban farm. When the project ends, dispose of chemical waste. Wash tools over a sink where the contaminated water can be sent to be treated. Contact a local waste disposal facility to learn more.