

# MULTI-FAMILY COMMUNITIES

## Stormwater Best Management Practices

Protect creeks and lakes.  
Avoid fines for polluting.



### Stormwater Pollution Prevention Education

Apartments, condominiums, and other multi-family communities can be a significant source of pollution due to discharges that are harmful to the environment. Common pollution sources include sewage overflows, waste dumpsters, swimming pools, landscaping, etc. A pollution discharge can lead to violations and even financial penalties. Best management practices such as proper handling, storage and disposal of waste materials can prevent surface water pollution, protect water quality and reduce the potential for violations.

### Sanitary Sewer Maintenance

- ✓ NC State law (15A.NCAC 02T .0403) requires multi-family communities to develop an Operations & Maintenance Plan to prevent backups and overflows.
- ✓ The O&M plan must include a map of the sanitary sewer system which identifies key areas for regular inspection. Record keeping required by the plan must be kept on site for at least three years.
- ✓ Residents must be educated about proper use of the sewer system, including proper grease disposal. Visit Charlotte Water's Flow Free campaign for resources: [www.CharlotteNC.gov/water/protectpipes](http://www.CharlotteNC.gov/water/protectpipes)

### Trash and Recycling Storage

- ✓ To prevent rain from contacting trash and recycling items, ensure that the dumpster and storage bin lids are kept closed.
- ✓ To prevent drainage of liquids from dumpsters, ensure that a drain plug is in place and there are no holes near the bottom of the dumpster.
- ✓ Ask the waste contractor to replace leaking dumpsters and missing lids and drain plugs.

### Pet Waste

- ✓ Pet waste contain diseases and parasites that are harmful to humans, animals, and waterways.
- ✓ Remind residents to Scoop It, Bag It, and Trash It.
- ✓ Install pet waste stations around your community.
- ✓ If your community has a dog park or run, post signs with rules, maintain adequate vegetation or mulch to control runoff, and clean up pet waste regularly.

**Report Spills and Stormwater Pollution to  
311 or (704) 336-7600**

For more information, visit [StormWater.CharMeck.org](http://StormWater.CharMeck.org)



# Storm Drains are for Rain Only



Stormwater goes directly to our creeks and lakes without treatment. Pollution that washes away with rain and enters storm drains is called stormwater pollution.

Preventing stormwater pollution is important for:



Drinking Water



Recreation



Fish & Wildlife



Quality of Life

**Pollution *isn't* just bad for  
the environment—IT'S ILLEGAL.**

*You can be fined up to **\$10,000** per day, per event.*

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