

## TOP 10 MYTHS ABOUT STORM WATER

STORMWATER is water from rain or other forms of precipitation that flows from a variety of surfaces including rooftops, other impervious surface, bare soil, and sloped lawns.

<b>MYTH</b>			<b>FACT</b>
1	No real solutions exist to solve our stormwater problem	→	Because humans create urban stormwater pollution, humans can reduce or prevent it through responsible practices. Your local cities and county are proactively working with the water board to develop programs to prevent and control stormwater pollution.
2	Stormwater pollution will eventually go away	→	The problem will continue to grow, unless each one of us does our part. By practicing simple techniques, such as keeping your vehicles in good operating order, recycling motor oil, composting yard clippings, and cleaning up after pets, you can play a part in preventing pollution
3	The state should take care of all stormwater pollution	→	The state manages only a limited portion of the land. All of us—individuals, farmers, and industrial and commercial operations—must also do our part.
4	Roads are responsible for most of the state's stormwater runoff	→	Roads typically make up a small portion of the total land use in urban areas.
5	Industries are the greatest source of water pollution.	→	Construction, urban and agricultural stormwater runoff rivals discharges from factories and sewage treatment plants as a source of pollution throughout the United States
6	Stormwater is mainly an urban problem.	→	Stormwater runs off agricultural fields and pastures, carrying herbicides, fertilizers, nutrients, and sediment. Stormwater also runs off paved urban communities and even the backyards in our neighborhoods.
7	Stormwater flows only to local streams.	→	Stormwater makes its way to all water bodies such as streams, rivers, lakes, bays, and even to the ocean.
8	The pollutants in stormwater are not harmful.	→	Little drips can add up to a big environmental problem. The volume of waste oil from one oil change is enough to form a film over a 4-acre surface water supply. Stormwater is one of the largest sources of water quality damage.
9	Stormwater drains lead to treatment plants	→	Storm drains and storm sewers directly convey runoff from your neighborhood into local waterways: creeks, rivers, lakes, and the ocean. Unlike wastewater, stormwater is not treated before it goes into our waterways.
10	Stormwater is clean	→	As it flows over the land, stormwater runoff collects and transports sediment, pet waste, pesticides, fertilizer, automobile fluids, deicing products, grass clippings, leaves and other yard waste, cigarette butts, and other litter.