

## Did you know?

There are 2 separate sewer systems in the City of Greeley.

**Stormwater Drains:** The stormwater drainage system collects urban runoff from rain, snowmelt, lawn watering and car washing. Water is transported down gutters and into storm drain inlets that make it directly into either the Cache La Poudre or the South Platte without any treatment. Care must be taken to ensure that stormwater runoff does not degrade the quality of the rivers.

**SANITARY SEWER:** The sanitary sewer system transports wastewater from residential, commercial and industrial sources to the wastewater treatment facility located on 8<sup>th</sup> Street on the east side of Hwy 85. There the wastewater is treated until it is clean enough to discharge back into the Cache La Poudre River. Most wastewater treatment plants cannot fully treat difficult chemicals like strong household cleaners or solvents. Never pour them down the drain. Save these products for recycling at the Weld County household chemical collection center.

## YOU CAN DO SOMETHING TO HELP

**PROBLEM:** One pint of used motor oil can expand over the surface of an acre of water. Oil dumped into gutters or on the ground can find its way into Cache La Poudre and South Platte.

**SOLUTION:** Do not use waste oil or diesel fuel for weed or dust control on your property. Use proper containers if you change your oil at home. Ask your local county extension agent for better alternatives.

**PROBLEM:** One gallon of gasoline can contaminate 750,000 gallons of water.

**SOLUTION:** Store gasoline in approved containers. Don't allow vehicles to leak oil, gasoline or other fluids onto driveways and streets. Do not put gasoline down the sanitary sewer. It could cause a fire or an explosion.

**PROBLEM:** Used antifreeze contains heavy metals and is very poisonous.

**SOLUTION:** Store antifreeze in closed containers and recycle or dispose of it properly. Never pour it down storm drains or into the sanitary sewer.

**PROBLEM:** Paints contain chemicals that can harm the environment and human health if disposed of improperly.

**SOLUTION:** Remove as much latex paint from brushes and containers as possible with rags or paper towels. Latex paint rinse water can go into the sanitary sewer but should be kept to a minimum. Never dispose of any paints or finishes in the sink or in the storm drain. Buy only as much paint as you need and recycle usable paint products.

**PROBLEM:** Grass clippings, leaf litter and trash can plug storm drains and endanger wildlife along the Cache La Poudre and South Platte.

**SOLUTION:** Dispose of trash properly and compost organic materials.

**PROBLEM:** Excess fertilizer that is not absorbed by your lawn or garden can wash off and enter the Cache La Poudre and South Platte.

**SOLUTION:** Herbicides and pesticides should always be used according to directions. More is not better. Use beneficial insects to control pests, compost to enrich soil and use other environmentally safe alternatives.