

Water Pollution in Rotorua

The problem...

If any pollutants get into stormwater grates they will also end up untreated in our streams and in our Lakes.

The cause...

Pollutants in streams and in lakes get there because people have poured wastes down stormwater grates, or have washed spills into them.

Most people don't know that stormwater grates are only supposed to drain rain. They are there to catch rainwater running off city streets, roofs, footpaths, carparks and yards. The grates enter the runoff into pipes which drain the water away into streams and lakes or underground, so it won't cause flooding.

Your stormwater drain is not a waste disposal or Sewerage system. Any pollutants that enter the stormwater system will also reach our waterways.

The solution...

Don't put anything down a stormwater grate that you wouldn't want to drink or swim in!



Be Aware!
Do your Share!
Don't Pollute!

Did you know...

...that these everyday household & industrial products are hazardous to fish?

Food Products

- Dairy products
- Juices
- Food Acids
- Alcohol
- Sugars
- Pulps
- Fats and edible oils

Painting and renovating products

- Turps
- Wood preservatives
- Paint - oil or water based
- Cement
- Rustproof coatings
- Paint stripper
- Thinners or solvents

Automotive products

- Antifreeze
- Brake fluid
- Fuel - diesel or petrol
- Used oil
- Transmission fluid
- Degreasers
- Radiator water
- Car washing detergent

Gardening products

- Lawn clippings
- Fungicides
- Pesticides
- Herbicides
- Rodent baits
- Insecticides
- Molluscicides
- Fertilizers

Cleaning products

- Disinfectants
- Roof cleaning chemicals
- Drain and toilet cleaners
- Detergents
- Caustics
- Carpet cleaning water
- Polishers and cleaners

Recreational products

- Swimming pool chlorine
- Outboard motor oil
- Scrubdown sandings
- Spa pool water
- Boat bilge water
- Litter

☎ **Want to know more about use and disposal of any of these substances? Ph (07) 348 4199**

The Myths

...that stormwater grates take it all 'away'...

But there is no 'away' in the environment. Anything we tip or let go down the stormwater grate will end up affecting our local waterways - and the places we go for our recreational activities

...that stormwater is 'pure rainwater'...

Contaminated stormwater accounts for a considerable amount of the uncontrolled pollution entering our streams and lakes.

Most of these contaminants come from motor vehicles, and most of the rest - and often the worst - are pollutants washed off untidy industrial yards by rainfall.

To combat this threat to our natural environment, the Rotorua District Council has implemented a long term programme to remove these pollutants from stormwater before it enters our natural waterways, using a range of techniques.

