## STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BONUS AT HOME coloring page! . Rain Barrels Permeable Pavers Stepping Stones Trees Rain Gardens

Stormwater runoff is rain and snowmelt that flows over surfaces such as paved streets, parking lots, and building rooftops picking up pollutants like trash, chemicals, oils, and dirt/sediment on it's way to our local streams, lakes, and rivers.

Stormwater management is crucial to preventing water pollution, which is essential to supporting our ecosystem and community health, function and resiliency. Runoff can include bacteria and organic matter from trash and animal waste, oil and grease from leaky cars on the roads, toxic chemicals like pesticides and more. Stormwater management can also be very effective in reducing and/or preventing flooding and erosion.

## Lets talk about the stormwater management practices you can do at home to help!

- Limit large paved areas or use permeable pavors/concrete or stepping stones for your driveway and sidewalk areas. Plus, leaving a grass area in the center of your drive way can help prevent the liquids from being washed down a storm drain but you should always fix and clean vehicle leaks promptly.

- Plant more trees, flowers, shrubs, and grasses to help absorb more stormwater management but be mindful of the placement, you don't want to disrupt any utilities.

- Installing a rain barrel to your down spout can detour some stormwater and leave you with around 50 gallons or so for later use in your garden.

- Planting a rain garden is a beautiful addition and can help soak up more stormwater runoff, Rain gardens are also great to help in those those low yard areas that flood.

- Remeber to clean up your yard and dispose of trash, leaves, grass clippings, and brush properly. These items can very easily clogg storm drains which results in flooding almost every time.

- Clean up your pet's waste both in your yard and while out on walks to avoid bacteria from entering our local streams, lakes, and rivers.

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