• A sewer system and a storm drain system are not the same. These two systems are completely different. The water that goes down a sink or toilet in your home or business flows to a wastewater treatment plant where it is treated and filtered. Water that flows down driveways and streets and into a gutter goes into a storm drain which flows directly to a lake, river or the ocean. This water may pick up pollutants along the way which are never treated.

• Less than 1% of the water on the earth can actually be used by human beings.

• Storm drains do not remove pollutants and were designed for the specific purpose of draining water from sidewalks and streets.

• Anything you place in storm drains goes directly into a lake or stream.

• One of the most common pollutants found in storm drains and creeks is detergent from the washing of cars.

• It is illegal to dump wastewater or water containing soaps, cleaning products, or grease and oil into streets or storm drains.

• The improper use of lawn fertilizers can be a main source of water pollution.

• Landscaping can help reduce storm water runoff.

• Trees and shrubs require less fertilizer than other plants, helping to further reduce the chance of pollution.

• Most water pollution is preventable.