



Capturing stormwater since 1956.

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VALLEY RAIN AND OUR STORM DRAINS
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR VALLEY RESIDENTS?

FRESNO, Calif. (January 8, 2018) – Valley residents are often overjoyed to hear of a rainstorm after an extended dry period, but many do not realize the repercussions this rainfall can have on our stormwater basins and groundwater system.

A rainstorm can dislodge debris and rubbish from our yards and streets and send it into our storm drains, which lead to the 153 urban stormwater basins in the Fresno and Clovis metropolitan areas. The water is stored in these basins to protect neighborhoods from flooding and to help replenish the groundwater aquifer—the primary source of this area’s drinking water.

When debris builds up over periods of low rainfall, it can end up blocking our storm drains and causing floods, or being swept into the stormwater basins, potentially causing groundwater pollution. The most common pollutants are trash, motor oil, paint, fertilizer, and pesticides.

When the forecast predicts significant rainfall, clear your gutters of leaves and debris. Rake leaves from your yard, and pick up any trash in your area and properly dispose of it. Turn off your sprinkler system for the next few days, and do not apply fertilizer or pesticides, as they will likely be washed away. If you see oil or any other out-of-place substances in your gutters, please call 559-456-3292.

Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District has been protecting the community from property damage, personal injury, and inconvenience due to flooding since 1956. FMFCD also collaborates with community partners in an effort to prevent pollution and educate the public. This organization is dedicated to protecting the open recreational spaces provided through the creation of stormwater basins, and protecting the many species of wildlife that call these basins home.

“During this first big rain of the year, we encourage the public to be aware of the habits that can inadvertently cause pollution,” says Alan Hofmann, General Manager of FMFCD. “It is our mission to prevent pollution in order to make our community a better place for all of us.”

For more information about stormwater pollution prevention, please visit FresnoMetroH2O.com.

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About Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District

For more than 60 years, we've been protecting the community from property damage, personal injury, and inconvenience due to flooding. The water that flows into our storm drains is collected in the 153 urban stormwater basins around the Fresno and Clovis area and is repurposed to benefit the community. These basins help to replenish our groundwater, which is the primary source of drinking water in our area. Protect your water—it's just beneath your feet.