

Help Your Watershed

What is a Watershed?

We all live in a watershed – an area of land that drains rain to a stream, lake, wetland, estuary, or the ocean. Pollution washed from the land is a leading reason why many of our watersheds are in trouble.

Your Actions Count

Your actions and the actions of others in your watershed impact the quality of water coming from your watershed. As water drains to the lowest point in the watershed – running across the surface or seeping into the ground and moving with the shallow groundwater – it can pick up tiny particles of soil, oil, animal manure, nutrients, pesticides, and other pollutants. Quality soil, vegetation and water management can help negate some actions. However, the best water quality results from responsible actions by everyone in the watershed combined with effective watershed planning.

For more information visit:

www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater

www.claycountygov.com



Black Creek Watershed, Clay County

How Can You Help

In your home...

- **Don't let the water run! Fix leaks and install water saving faucets and toilets.**
- **Choose environmentally friendly household products.**
- **Maintain your septic tank to prevent leaks from polluting nearby waters.**

In your yard...

- **Use hardy plants that need little water, fertilizers, or pesticides.**
- **Know plant and soil needs before applying garden chemicals.**
- **For decks, patios, and walkways, use surfaces that allow rain to soak in.**

In your community...

- **Don't dump used oil or antifreeze into the storm drain or street. Recycle them!**
- **Pick up after your dog.**
- **Tune up your car and check for leaks.**
- **Get involved in your watershed!**

This is a public service announcement provided in conjunction with the Clay County National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program.