

ACTIVITY 2: STORMWATER & POLLUTANTS

Overview:

This activity will introduce what "pollutants" are and how they can make their way into our local waterways. Participants will also discover different sources of stormwater pollutants.

Learning Objective:

After completing this activity, participants will be able to:

- Understand what a pollutant is and provide examples.
- Identify types of litter and other pollutants in waterways.
- Describe sources of stormwater pollutants.

ACTIVITIES INCLUDED:

- 2.1 Stormwater Pollutants
 - Stormwater Pollutants Worksheet
 - Wordsearch
- 2.2 Sources of Pollutants Game
 - Game Pieces
 - Reflection Worksheet
 - Colouring pages

ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE:

- <u>Treat it Right! Stormwater Teachers Guide</u> (by Resources4Rethinking)
- Recycling and Cutting Waste! (video by Science North)



Activity 2.1: Stormwater Pollutants

Discussions to go along with the Worksheet:

1. Introduce the concept of pollution and pollutants to participants.

• Ask participants if they know what "pollution" and a "pollutant" is and ask them to share what they think it might be before sharing the actual definition.

Prompt: Pollution is the introduction of harmful materials into the environment. These harmful materials are called pollutants – they can be natural or created by human activity, such as litter or runoff.

2. How do pollutants enter local waterways?

• Ask participants to write down on their **stormwater pollutants worksheets** how they think pollutants enter local waterways.

Prompt: Pollution enters water bodies in a number of ways, including wind, intentional litter, rain/ runoff, and stormwater. **Activity 1.2** shows how pollutants on land travel enter into waterbodies.

3. Stormwater pollutants

- Explain that litter is a common pollutant found in stormwater.
- Ask participants to think of examples of different types of litter that might be found in stormwater and write them down on the stormwater pollutants worksheets.

Prompt: Stormwater runoff and pollutants enter storm drains and travel in pipes underground (storm drains) then into local waterways. The majority of stormwater is not treated - meaning litter is flowing directly into our local waterways and effecting wildlife.



2.1 Stormwater Pollutants: WORKSHEET

In a watershed, you can see many examples of litter, in a lot of different places. The types of litter we find can give us clues about where they came from and how they got there!

How do you think pollutants enter local waterways? What kind of impact do you think they might have?

What are some common types of litter you think can be found in a watershed?