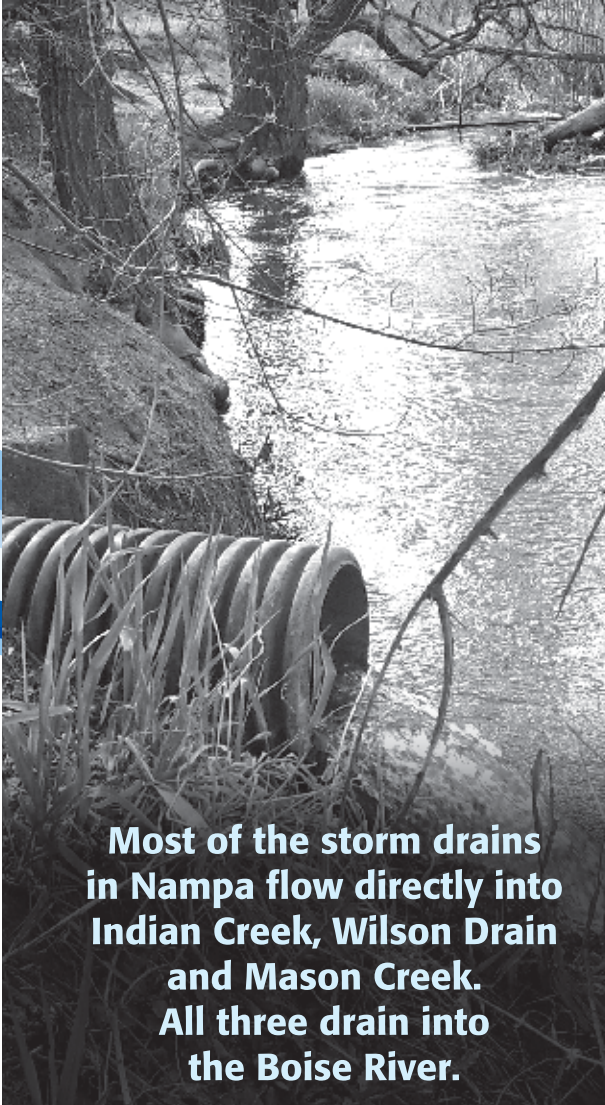


***The City of Nampa is making big changes to keep pollution out of storm drains. Learn why – and how you can help.***

# Keeping pollution out of our storm drains



**Most of the storm drains in Nampa flow directly into Indian Creek, Wilson Drain and Mason Creek. All three drain into the Boise River.**

Storm drains collect rain, melted snow and the water we use on our cars and lawns. That water is often called stormwater – and it becomes a problem when it runs over soil or pavement before washing into the drain. Pollution from litter, oil, gas, soap or fertilizer will also end up in the drain.

Polluted stormwater can significantly affect public health, harm fish and wildlife, kill native vegetation, and make Nampa's waterways unsafe for swimming or fishing. Clogged storm drains can also cause flooding during a storm.



## **Stormwater management is now the law**

The federal Clean Water Act requires cities in larger urban areas to “manage” stormwater and reduce pollution.

The City of Nampa's stormwater management program started in late 2009. It will be phased in over several years. The goals are to:

- Educate people about ways to reduce pollution.
- Meet all of the federal Clean Water Act requirements.
- Maintain, repair, and improve the aging storm drain system.
- Reduce the chances of flooding during a storm.
- Identify accidental spills and eliminate illegal dumping.
- Maintain or improve water quality in local streams and rivers.

## **What can Nampa residents do?**

All of us can make small changes that keep pollution out of stormwater. Here are a few easy changes to start with.

- Sweep your driveway to keep debris out of storm drains.
- Never dump anything down storm drains.
- Pick up after your pet.
- Don't over-fertilize the lawn.
- Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil.



**To give comments or learn more about Nampa's stormwater management program:**

- Visit [www.cityofnampa.us/stormwater](http://www.cityofnampa.us/stormwater)
- Contact the Nampa Stormwater Division at (208) 468-5476 or [stormwater@cityofnampa.us](mailto:stormwater@cityofnampa.us).