

# 1200Z INDUSTRIAL STORMWATER PERMIT

# FACT SHEET

## IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING STORMWATER

### What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is the water you see flowing across the ground and across impervious surfaces that is generated from precipitation, such as a rain storm or snow/ice melt. Stormwater runoff picks up pollutants and debris that get carried to the stormwater system and eventually to the stream. Non-stormwater sources can contribute to runoff as well, including wash water and over-irrigation.



### Why Do We Care About Stormwater Runoff?

Preventing pollution in stormwater runoff is important because most storm drains in Salem flow untreated directly to a stream. Any pollutants picked up by the stormwater runoff go right into the streams, which can affect aquatic life as well as the stream's beneficial applications, such as domestic water supply, recreational uses, and industrial water use.

### Why is Keeping Pollutants Out of the Stormwater Beneficial?

People can depend on clean water in our streams and rivers for multiple purposes, such as swimming, irrigation, and drinking water. Plants, water bugs, fish, waterfowl, wildlife, and livestock all depend on clean water in the streams and rivers, too. Pollution can negatively affect their habitat and health.

Implementing best management practices (BMPs) and good housekeeping practices around your facility can help keep harmful pollutants out of streams, help protect aquatic wildlife, and protect all of the streams' beneficial uses.



CITY OF *Salem*  
AT YOUR SERVICE  
Public Works Department

To receive a Good Housekeeping poster for your business, or additional training materials, contact City of Salem's Clean Streams Outreach Team

**503-588-6311 or [1200Z@cityofsalem.net](mailto:1200Z@cityofsalem.net)**

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