Do your part to prevent stormwater pollution:

● Sweep grass clippings and leaves off sidewalks and streets and place in a compost heap or the trash.

● Recycle used motor oil, paint, and other household chemicals at a hazardous waste collection site. For locations call: 575-5050.

● Wash your car on the lawn. This will allow the groundcover to use nutrients from the soap.

● Landscape your yard with trees, shrubs, and groundcovers. They help reduce runoff.

● Cleanup after your pet. Bury or dispose of waste in the trash (not in a storm drain or canal). Pet wastes can be a source of bacteria and excess nutrients to local waterways.

● Organize a Stormdrain Marking event in your neighborhood. Call 575-5050 to find out how.

For additional information, to report stormwater pollution, or to report possible illegal dumping in stormdrains, call the Punta Gorda Department of Public Works at 575-5050.
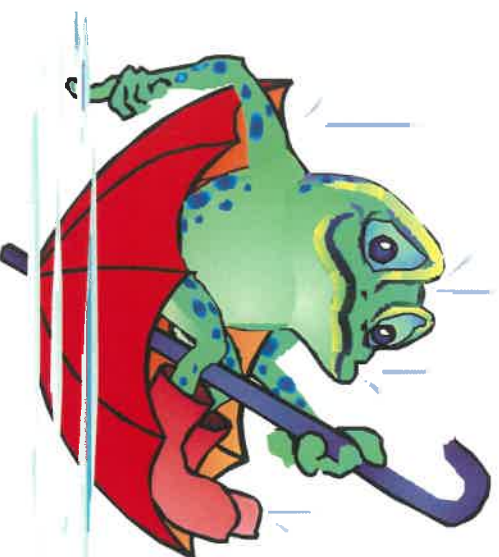
Watershed Weekly

Today's weather: Rainy

free

EXTRA! EXTRA!
Frog Exposes Stormwater, The Mystery Polluter

By M.Phibian
WeeklyStaffWriter

Watershed Weekly's hard working staffwriter, M. Phibian, uncovers causes and solutions to non-point source pollution. After months of investigative work, stormwater runoff was found to be the carrier of pollutants. But how did they get there?

The CULPRITS

When it rains, water that is not absorbed into the ground, intercepted by vegetation, or evaporated flows into surface waters such as rivers, canals and coastal waters. This flow is called runoff. As the runoff flows over the roads and land, it picks up pollutants.

Roads are a source of pollution. Oils, grease, construction dirt, trash & cigarette butts wash off roads when it rains.

Creek

Lake

Coastal Waters

Surface water can be polluted through groundwater.

SOIL

GROUNDWATER

To Waterbody

Things put into stormdrains and on the street can end up in our rivers, canals, & coastal waters

To Waterbody

Excess fertilizers wash off lawns & gardens when it rains & flow into surface water.

To Waterbody

To Waterbody