

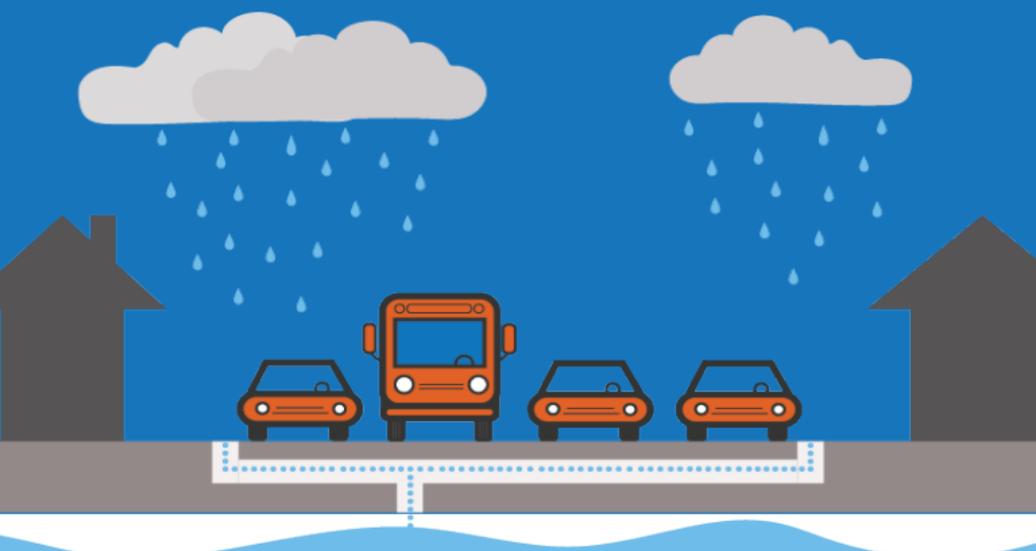


THIS IS YOUR WATERSHED



WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

A watershed is the area of land that catches rain and snow that drains or seeps into a wetland, stream, river, lake or groundwater. There are 10 major watersheds that all eventually drain into the Columbia River. By protecting the health of our watersheds, we can preserve and enhance the quality of life in our local environment.



TO RIVER, STREAM OR LAKE

WHAT IS STORMWATER?

We live in urban areas where much of the land is covered by pavement, which does not allow rain or melting snow to soak into the ground.

When it rains, stormwater flows over our paved streets and driveways. Along the way, stormwater collects and transports pollutants on the ground, such as motor oil and fluids from a leaky vehicle.

Stormwater runoff goes directly into stormdrains, flowing into wetlands, streams, rivers, lakes or groundwater often untreated.

HOW DO OIL LEAKS IMPACT OUR WATER?



TOXIC TO FISH

Motor oil contains concentrations of chemicals, petroleum products and heavy metals such as ethylene, glycol, zinc, lead, and cadmium.

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife services, there are several threatened fish species that live in Clark County. These include Bull trout, Steelhead trout, Coho Salmon, Chinook salmon, and Chum salmon. Fish and other aquatic species rely on clean water to survive.



DEGRADES HABITAT

An estimated 600,000 quarts of oils and fluid leak from Clark County vehicles each year, polluting our streams, rivers and lakes.

WHAT DOES A HEALTHY WATERSHED DO?



IMPROVES WATER QUALITY

Native creekside plants filter pollutants, help reduce erosion, and provides shade to keep water cool.



SUPPORTS DIVERSE FLORA & FAUNA

When watersheds are healthy and functioning well, they provide food, clean water, and habitat for native plants and animals.



INCREASES CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCY

Healthy watersheds are better adapted to more extreme weather patterns and changes in precipitation that are associated with climate change.



PROVIDES OUTDOOR RECREATION

Healthy watersheds provide us with opportunities for swimming, fishing, hiking, biking, boating, and wildlife viewing.

LEARN MORE AT:
WWW.FIXTHOSELEAKS.ORG
WWW.THEWATERSHEDALLIANCE.ORG

