

## What's the problem?

Vehicle fluids like oil, antifreeze and brake fluid that end up on the ground are eventually carried by stormwater to the nearest river, lake or stream. Even small leaks can add up to be a big problem for our waterways. In fact, a single quart of motor oil can contaminate up to two million gallons of drinking water. In addition, runoff from washing and detailing your car contains detergents, dirt, oil, metals and other chemicals which can be harmful to people and the environment. It's important to keep your vehicle in tip top shape and always follow proper maintenance and wash practices to help protect our waters.

**Be the solution to stormwater pollution.**



## The Clean Water Campaign

The Clean Water Campaign is a collaborative multi-agency education and outreach effort coordinated by the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District for the 15-county Metro Atlanta area. The Clean Water Campaign's mission is to build awareness of water quality problems and solutions.



The Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District serves as the water planning organization for the greater metropolitan Atlanta area, which encompasses the following counties and their respective municipalities: Bartow, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Fulton, Forsyth, Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Paulding and Rockdale.

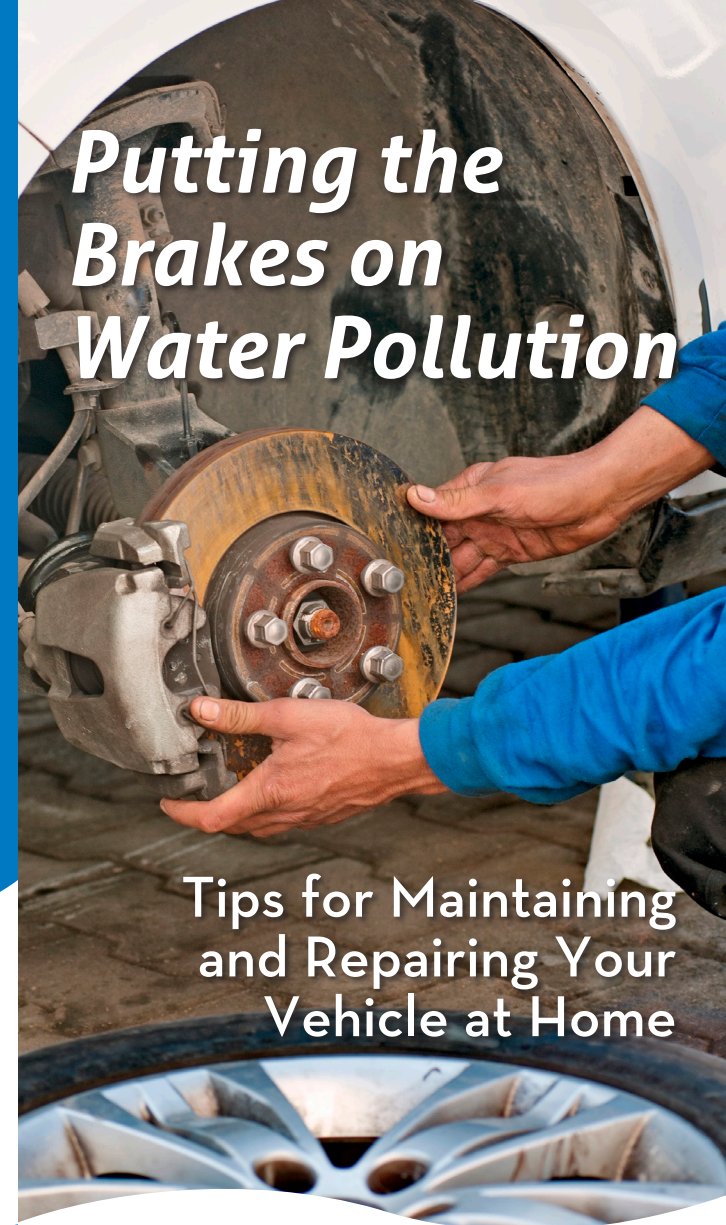
Clean Water Campaign

[www.cleanwatercampaign.com](http://www.cleanwatercampaign.com)



@NorthGAWater | [comments@northgeorgiawater.com](mailto:comments@northgeorgiawater.com)

# Putting the Brakes on Water Pollution



## Tips for Maintaining and Repairing Your Vehicle at Home





## Be Aware of Where You Work

- ◆ Never work on a vehicle in the street or near a storm drain.
- ◆ Perform maintenance in a covered area when possible.
- ◆ Choose to work on a flat concrete surface where spills can be easily cleaned up.
- ◆ Place a tarp, ground cloth, sheet of plywood, cardboard or newspaper under a vehicle to capture any leaks or spills.

## Putting the Brakes on Pollution When Replacing Brake Parts

- ◆ Don't hose down brake pads, rotors or drums.
- ◆ Use shop cloths to wipe the brake dust off the rotors and drums before using brake cleaner fluid. The shop cloths can be laundered and reused.

## Follow These Tips When Changing Vehicle Fluids

- ◆ Never dispose of vehicle fluids into a storm drain or drainage ditch.
- ◆ Collect vehicle fluids in separate drip pans and containers. Don't mix the fluids. Recycle used oil, antifreeze and other vehicle fluids separately.
- ◆ Always use a funnel when pouring liquids to avoid spills.
- ◆ Immediately clean up vehicle fluid spills with rags or other absorbent materials such as kitty litter or sawdust.
- ◆ Use a drip pan under a vehicle when changing fluids, unscrewing filters and removing other parts that might leak.

Be sure to recycle tires, batteries and your vehicle fluids. For the nearest recycling location go to [www.earth911.com](http://www.earth911.com)



## Keep Our Streams Clean When Washing and Detailing Your Car

- ◆ When possible, take your vehicle to a commercial car wash.
- ◆ If you must wash your vehicle at home:
  - Don't wash it close to or upslope from a storm drain.
  - Wash it on the lawn or a gravelled area, which can serve as a natural filter to absorb pollutants.
  - Use environmentally safe products.
  - Use shut off nozzles to reduce over spraying and wasting water.
  - Wash it when needed rather than as a "once a week" activity.