

GEORGIA DOT STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



KEEPING GEORGIA'S STREAMS, RIVERS AND LAKES HEALTHY AND CLEAN

Drivers don't always realize the impact they can have on helping to keep our water clean. We have put together this checklist to help you "check" your car and make good choices that will benefit you and the environment!

RAIN CHECK – Before you go out on the road, have you checked the following:

- ✓ **Is there any garbage in my car?** Gather and discard trash prior to your trip to reduce the chance of littering while on the road.
- ✓ **Is my car leaking any fluids?** Check for spots on the surface where you park! Clean up any spills or leaks with cat litter and sweep up, then throw it away in a trash bag. Use absorbent cloths for small leaks and throw them away in the proper receptacle. Get leaks fixed immediately to prevent further pollution and keep your car running efficiently.
- ✓ **Do I have a bag or container in my car to dispose of garbage during the trip?** Keeping a bag in your car will make it easier to gather and empty trash periodically and to make sure that litter is disposed of properly and won't blow away.
- ✓ **Do I have a place to put my cigarette butts and ashes (for smokers)?** Keep those butts in the car until you're ready to throw them into the trash! Cigarette butts clog and contaminate our stormdrains and can poison wildlife.



We All Have a Part to Play – ON THE ROAD

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HERE ARE A FEW MORE ITEMS YOU CAN CHECK TO HELP KEEP OUR NATURAL WATER CLEAN:

- ✓ **Gas**-Don't overfill or "top off" your gas tank. Prevent accidental spills by staying at the pump when you use a latching handle.
- ✓ **Fluids**-Follow proper filling and draining techniques for antifreeze, motor oil, and brake and transmission fluids. Keep new and used materials separate. Do not pour into septic system or storm drains.
- ✓ **Car Wash**-When washing your car, check to see where the dirty water goes. Avoid washing cars on driveways or streets where it will flow into a storm drain. Car washes often provide self-serve wash areas, which filter and clean reclaimed wash water.
- ✓ **Hauling**-If you're hauling anything on a trailer or attached to your car/truck, make sure your cargo is completely secured, including any packaging or protective covering that could become loose and blow off during the trip.
- ✓ **Trash**-After your trip, throw away any garbage that accumulated during the trip and empty your ash tray again to be sure you're ready for the next trip.



Georgia DOT's
Stormwater Management Program

For more information on Georgia DOT's Stormwater Management Program, visit: www.dot.ga.gov and for concerns or comments on erosion control contact: espccp@dot.ga.gov

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