

Get the DROP on Polluted Runoff!



Did you know? It only takes **1.5 inches of rain** to “flush” most pollutants off of hard surfaces, like roads and parking lots, and wash them into local waterways. This is known as the “First Flush”.

Pollutants can be visible, like litter and motor oil, but some are difficult to see, like bacteria and pesticides. Each time it rains, these pollutants are washed into creeks like Bradley and Hewletts Creeks. Even brief rains can affect local water quality.

Have a rain gauge at home? Use it to keep track of how frequently it fills to 1.5 inches (this would be a great science project). You may be surprised at how quickly it fills up!



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Here are some steps you can take at home to keep polluted runoff out of Bradley and Hewletts Creeks, even during the smallest storms!

Reroute the Spout

Attach a downspout rerouter and direct it away from your driveway, towards a lawn or garden.



Stop the Drop

Install a rain barrel or cistern. Use the water to irrigate your plants or garden or wash your car!



Minimize Your Footprint

Pick up litter, limit the use of fertilizers and pesticides, pick up after pets, and check cars for oil leaks to keep pollution out of local waterways.



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