

HOW TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY IN WEST LAKE HILLS

Did you know...?

As a small municipality, the City of West Lake Hills maintains certain water quality standards to comply with requirements from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The goal of stormwater management is for only rain water to flow into the City's storm sewer system including ditches, culverts, and creeks.

Runoff from our properties and streets flows into our local creeks, aquifer, and Lady Bird Lake, so it's critical that we each do our part to protect our environment and prevent stormwater runoff pollution. These measures are also key to protecting the Edwards Aquifer.

How can I help?

It is our responsibility as a community to protect our natural waterways. **As a resident or business owner, you can make a difference!**

Keep the following best practices in mind when...

...WALKING YOUR DOG.

- ❖ Always dispose of pet waste properly, since leaving it on the ground can add harmful bacteria to our creeks and lakes.

...MAINTAINING YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM.

- ❖ Have your septic tank inspected regularly (usually every 3-5 years).

- ❖ Do not flush items such as cleaning products, grease, diapers, or paper towels.

...CARING FOR YOUR CAR.

- ❖ Ensure that harmful fluids such as antifreeze, brake fluid, motor oils, and gasoline are properly disposed of so they do not discharge to waterways.

...CARING FOR YOUR LAWN.

- ❖ Do not overwater. Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- ❖ Plant native and drought-resistant plants that require less care. Limit use of pesticides and fertilizers and always follow label instructions.
- ❖ Properly dispose of yard waste by composting or mulching. Yard clippings and leaves can contribute to excess organic matter in our streams.
- ❖ For more information on brush pick-up guidelines, visit: <https://www.westlakehills.org/132/Trash-Recycling-Brush-Pickup>.

...FLUIDS OR OLD BATTERIES ARE GATHERING DUST

- ❖ Dispose of hazardous materials responsibly at designated recycling locations, such as:
Recycle & Reuse Drop-Off Center
2514 Business Center Drive, Austin, TX 78744

...RENOVATING YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS.

- ❖ Limit use of hazardous products like cleaning products, paints, and solvents, and store and dispose of them according to label instructions.

- ❖ When working outside, always make sure places where your site drains to ditches and creeks are properly protected.

IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING:

- ❖ If you notice an illicit discharge (such as a hazardous material spill or improper disposal of pet waste), please call 512-327-3628 so the incident can be investigated.



Tell me more!

For more information about how the City of West Lake Hills is working to protect the quality of our stormwater, visit: <https://www.westlakehills.org/228/Stormwater-Pollution-Education-and-Aware>



November 2020

