

keep it **BLUE**



only rain in the drain



Where does drinking water come from?

In the City of South Haven, water is pumped from Lake Michigan and then it is piped to a treatment plant where the water is treated so it safe for drinking. The water is then piped to houses and businesses for use.

Where does water go?

Water from Homes and Businesses flows in pipes to a wastewater treatment plant which removes solids and wastes, but not all chemicals. The water is then discharged into the Black River.

Water from Rain or Melting Snow flows over the land (grass, streets and parking lots) and picks up dirt, litter, pet waste and chemicals from fertilizers, pesticides and leaky cars. This dirty water or stormwater runoff, drains either directly to our rivers and streams or to storm drains which discharge the untreated water to nearby streams, rivers and lakes.

Have your septic tank pumped and inspected regularly.

Check car for leaks and recycle used motor oil. Never pour it on the ground or into a storm drain.

Minimize or eliminate pesticide use.

Compost yard waste (leaves and grass). Don't dump them in ditches or waterways.

Direct downspouts onto lawns and away from paved surfaces.

Take your car to a car wash or park it on the grass to wash so that the cleaners don't run off into storm drains.

Plant grass or plants on the bare spots in your yard.

Test your soil to determine if fertilizer is necessary. Follow the directions on fertilizer labels. Only use phosphorus free!

Pick up after your pet. Don't let pet waste wash into storm drains.

NEVER pour any kind of waste into storm drains.

Clean water begins at home...



Learn more at www.tworiverscoalition.org and www.swmpc.org/water.asp.