

Stormwater Runoff and Land-Use Impacts on Lake Hunter

Stormwater runoff is now considered the largest water pollution source for our lakes, streams and rivers. The conversion of flatwoods, wetlands, sandhills and prairies to rooftops, roads and parking lots have created a layer of impervious surface on the landscape that has changed the flow pattern of water to the lake. This alteration reduces the amount of rainwater that can infiltrate into underground aquifers, increasing the amount of stormwater runoff. As the percentage of impervious cover in a watershed increases, the stormwater pollutant loads entering directly into the lake increase.



Natural Pervious Ground Cover

You can minimize the amount of nutrients entering nearby storm drains by:

- Washing your car in your yard rather than the driveway. Grass acts as a natural filter, preventing soap from entering storm drains and flowing into our lakes.
- Disposing of lawn waste properly. Mulch or compost lawn clippings and other wastes to prevent debris from entering storm drains.
- Following directions closely when applying fertilizers and pesticides. Applying too much or fertilizing before a big storm results in fertilizer washing away and entering nearby storm drains. Or, better yet, landscape with Florida-friendly plants, which require little or no fertilizer to thrive.

Lake Hunter



Impervious Ground Cover



There are many storm drains that carry stormwater runoff into Lake Hunter. Pollutants of concern for Lake Hunter include nitrogen and phosphorus (nutrients). Nutrients exist in soaps, fertilizers and even lawn clippings.



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