

WHAT IS A STORM POND?

THE CITY OF CALGARY | WATER SERVICES

Storm Ponds are a vital and necessary part of Calgary's storm water system. These ponds collect storm water and runoff, trapping sediment and other materials, helping to return cleaner water to our rivers and streams.

- 1 Water enters the storm pond from various sources (catch basins, ground water, rain and snow)
- 2 Sand, dirt, silt and other sediments settle in the storm pond.
- 3 Cleaner water leaves the storm pond, returning to our rivers and streams.



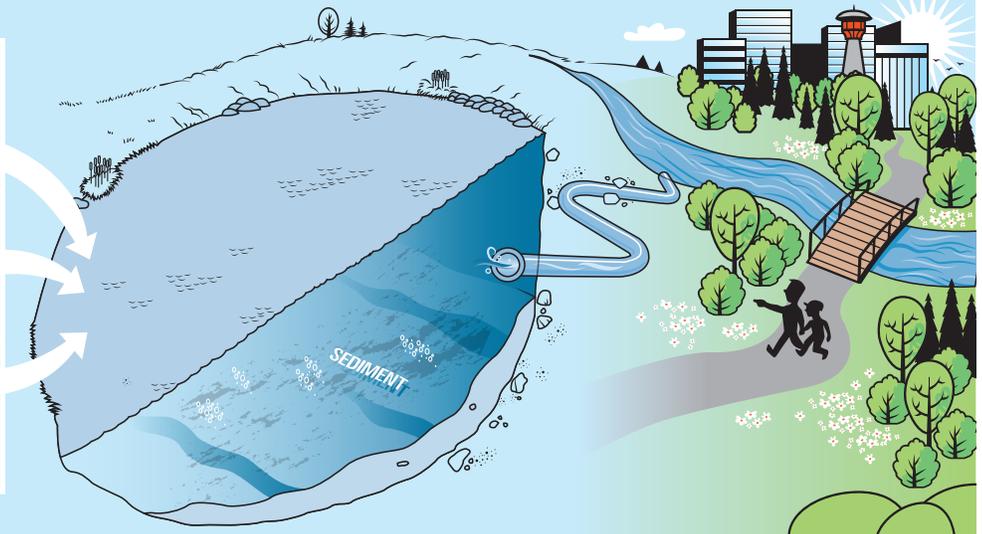
Washing cars in the driveway causes oil, soap, gasoline and debris enter our storm system- and is against water bylaw.



Over fertilizing lawns causes chemicals to run into our storm system.



Construction sites often have sand, dirt and sediment washing into our storm system.



What's In A Storm Pond

-  **Runoff Water**
from storms, car washings, lawn watering
-  **Vehicle Waste**
gas, oil, washer fluids, etc.
-  **Sand, silt, dirt and gravel**
sediment is deposited here, keeping our rivers cleaner and healthy
-  **Animal Waste**
wild and domesticated animal waste
-  **Fertilizers/Chemicals**
lawn fertilizers and other chemicals
-  **Bacteria**
good and bad bacteria
-  **Salt**
from winter road maintenance
-  **Debris/Garbage**
litter and natural waste (leaves etc.)

Storm Pond Safety



- Stay out of the water- swimming, wading, boating – water contact of any kind—is dangerous and strictly prohibited
- Stay off the ice- even in winter, water levels and flows change rapidly, making skating or other activities extremely dangerous and strictly prohibited
- Protect your pet- keep them away from and out of storm ponds for their health and safety

What Can YOU Do?

- Sweep your driveway with a broom, don't use water
- Pick up after pets, keep waste out of our waterways
- Dispose of hazardous products properly, call 311 for info
- Wash cars at a car wash, keep soap/chemicals out of storm ponds
- Drain downspouts onto your lawn, not into streets or alleys
- Limit fertilizer and pesticide use
- Get a rain barrel, save \$ on watering plants



Protecting what's precious. Land. Air. Water.

calgary.ca | contact 311



THE CITY OF CALGARY

Onward/The City's stormwater ponds filter run-off and protect our rivers