

**City of Mount Vernon
Community & Economic
Development Department**

Did you know....



STORMWATER FACTS

Did you know that all the storm water from the city's catch basins along all streets goes directly into the Skagit River and the Skagit is the only river in Washington that has all five Pacific salmon species?

Did you know that the rinse water from making exposed aggregate driveways and sidewalks is lethal to all fish down stream for hundreds of feet or more depending on how large the driveway is? The acid washed from the concrete kills the fish. Muddy water from car washes, gardens, new yards, and new construction sites that is washed into catch basins and discharged into fish streams, fill up the small voids in between the sand and gravel within our streams that fish rely on to lay their eggs?

Did you know that trees and vegetation, along small streams and tributaries, are important to cool water temperature which is vital to fish?

Did you know that when a yard is given too much fertilizer, the extra nutrients will cause algae blooms in storm water ponds and those ponds do a lot to clean up the water that is discharged into the Skagit River?

Did you know that some clays, once dissolved into a storm water system can take many months or longer to settle out enough so that the pond water will look clean?

Did you know most of the contaminants that are discharged into the Skagit River in Mount Vernon are caused by "innocent oops" by home owners trying to clean up their yards, sidewalks and driveways? **Instead of washing it down, sweep it up!**



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