

Oil Free Surface Waters Please

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Clean Water Is Important To Us All

It's up to all of us to make it happen. In recent years sources of water pollution like industrial wastes from factories have been greatly reduced. Now, more than 60% of water pollution comes from things like cars leaking oil, fertilizers from farms and gardens, and failing septic tanks. All these sources add up to a big pollution problem. But each of us can work together and do the small daily things a little bit better to help clean up our water too- and that adds up to a pollution solution!



Why do we need clean water?

Having clean water is extremely important for our health and economy. Clean water provides recreation, commercial opportunities, fish habitat, drinking water and adds beauty to our landscape. All of us benefit from clean water-and all of us have a role in getting and keeping our lakes, rivers, marine and ground waters clean.

What's the problem with motor oil?

Oil does not dissolve in water. It lasts a long time and sticks to everything from beach sand to bird feathers. Oil and other petroleum products are toxic to people, wildlife and plants.



Did you know?...

- One pint of oil can make a slick larger than a football field.
- Oil that leaks from our cars onto roads and driveways is washed into storm drains, and then usually flows directly to a lake or stream.
- Used motor oil is the largest single source of oil pollution in our lakes, streams and rivers.
- Americans spill 180 million gallons of used oil each year into our waters. This is 16 times the amount spilled by the Exxon Valdez in Alaska.

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