Would you consider swimming in water containing pet waste, oil, pesticides or trash? If you have ever tried to cool down in a water-filled retention basin- you did!

When rainfall creates runoff, that water travels through our streets and open channels to retention basins and washes, picking up pet waste, oil, cleaning fluid, pesticides and trash, along the way.

All of these pollutants pose risks to human and animal health, as well as landscape survival. But, those pollutants can also seep into the ground and reach our water table.

Don’t swim in, play in or drink from a stormwater-filled retention basin!

How can you help?

- Clean up all spills and do not wash spills into the street
- Reduce the use of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers
- Absorb the drippings for our vehicle with cat litter or a drip pan
- Throw away all waste in the appropriate containers
- Pick up all pet waste even from your backyard - bag and toss in garbage

And remember, stormwater-filled retention basins are not designed for recreational use. Swallowing or having contact with contaminated waters may cause illness.

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