



CITY OF  
**Westfield**  
INDIANA  
Presents:

*Your*  
**Stormwater**  
**Dollars**  
*at work*

*written and illustrated by Matt Vincent*



On dark and stormy nights like this, Westfield gets A LOT of rain water.

Problem is, with every house and every building, more and more hard surface keeps that water from soaking into the ground.



The only place for that water to go are the drains, and with it...

animal droppings

motor oil

and various pieces of trash and litter.



This all rushes through the pipes,



untreated and unfiltered,



straight into our creeks, rivers, ponds, and reservoirs

places where you go swimming and fishing

It pollutes our drinking water and the water we use in our homes.

Not to mention what it does to the environment and local wildlife who have to try and live in the run-off.

So, what are we to do?

Well, that's where the



comes in.

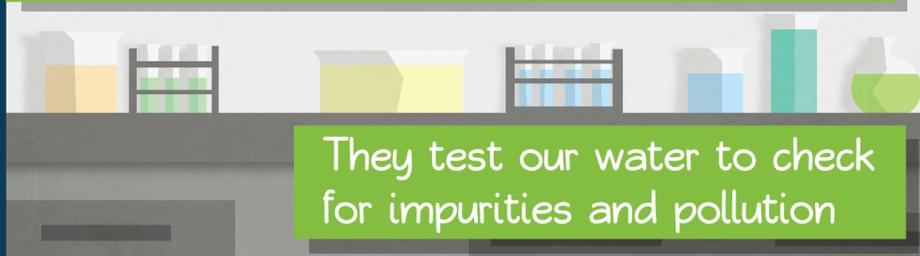


You see, the stormwater tax is based on the amount of hard surface you own.

Larger businesses in town actually provide the bulk of the funds necessary for all the operations of our stormwater treatment team.

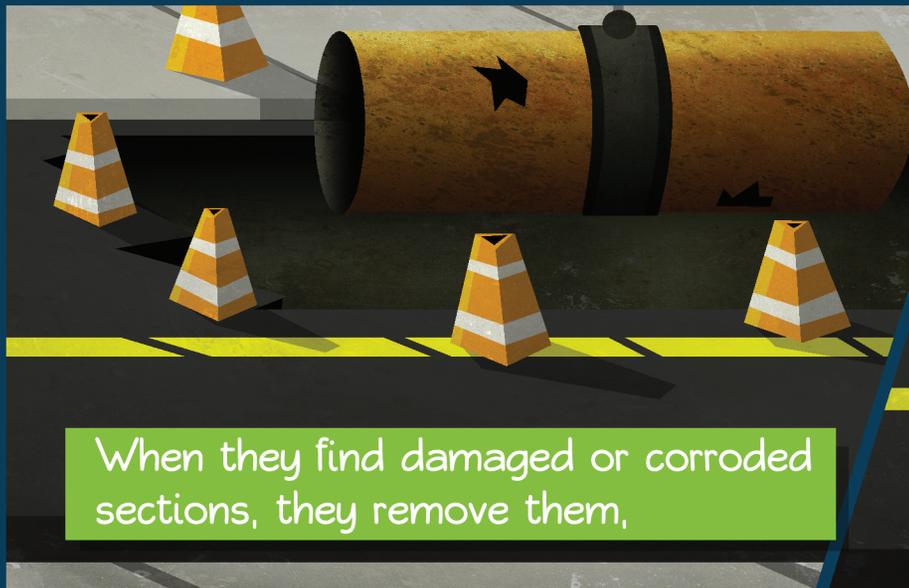
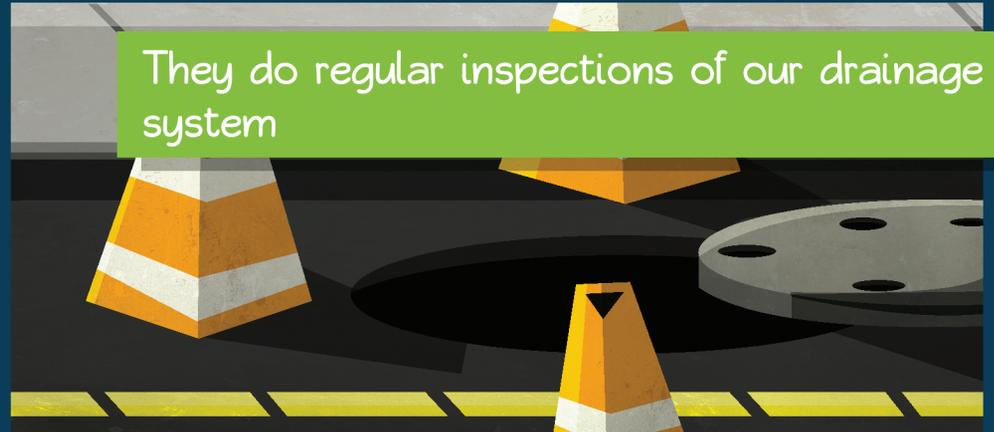


The stormwater team takes those funds and uses them in different ways to maintain and improve the quality of our water sources:



They test our water to check for impurities and pollution

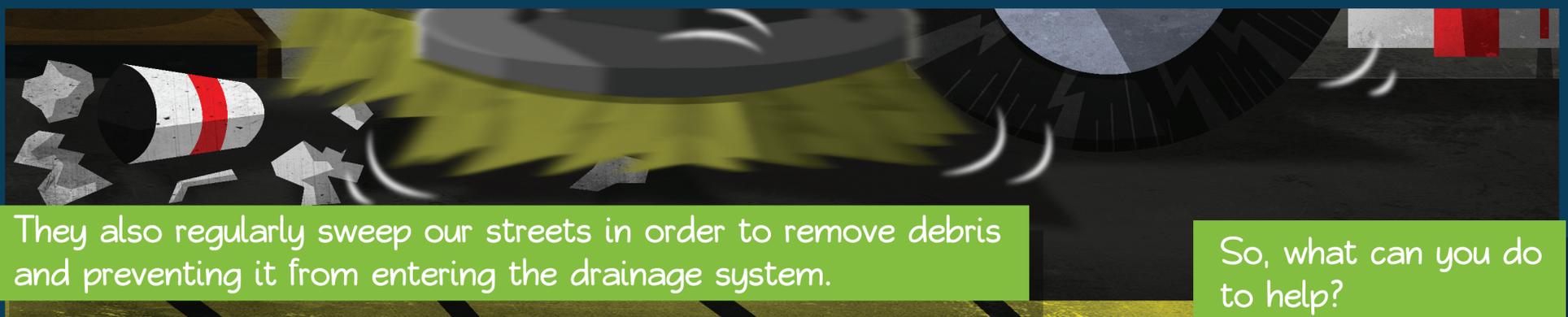
They do regular inspections of our drainage system



When they find damaged or corroded sections, they remove them,



and replace them with new piping



They also regularly sweep our streets in order to remove debris and preventing it from entering the drainage system.

So, what can you do to help?

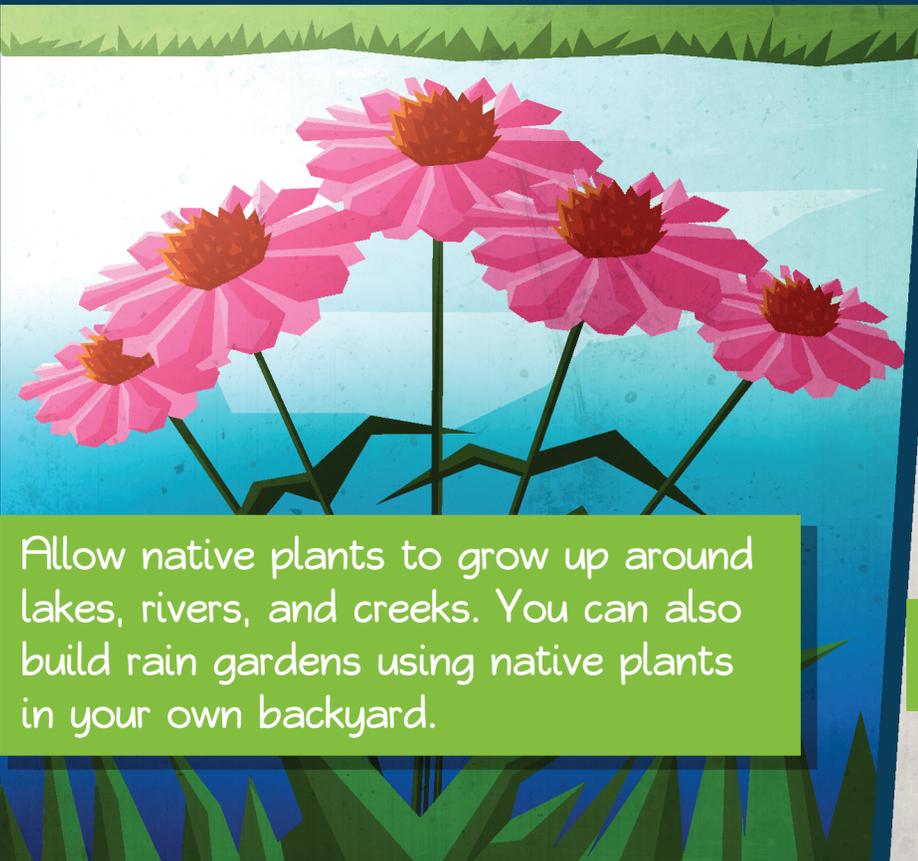
For starters, if you have a pet, please pick up after them.



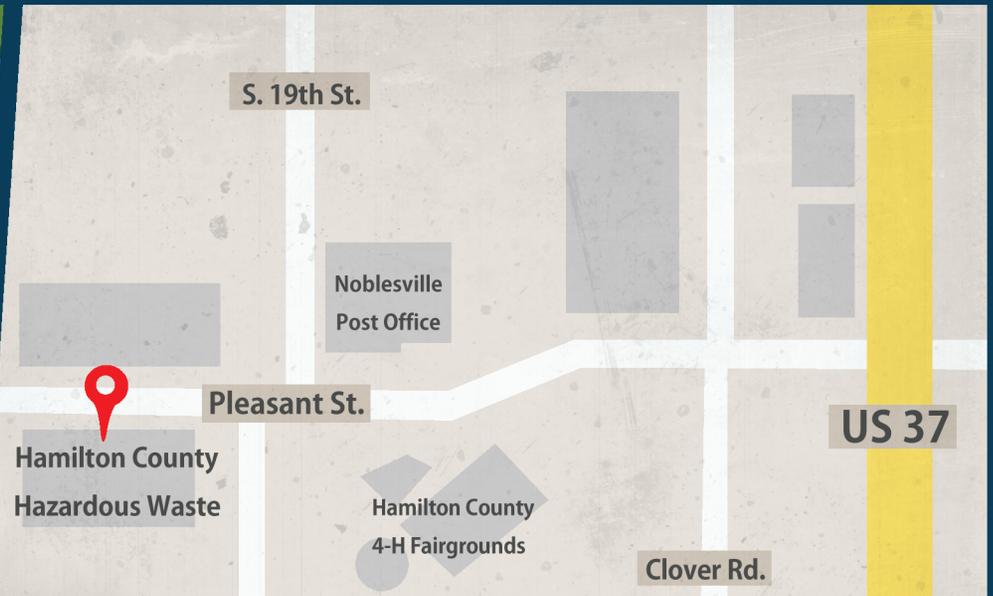
If you use fertilizer,



try to reduce your usage by half.



Allow native plants to grow up around lakes, rivers, and creeks. You can also build rain gardens using native plants in your own backyard.



Finally, dispose of any hazardous waste (oil, paint, etc.) at our county facility in Noblesville.

Small steps like these add up to make a BIG difference.

To review:

- Hard surface prevents rainwater from naturally soaking into the earth.
- The water that is not absorbed picks up anything that is left on the hard surface, like trash, oil, fertilizer, and animal waste.
- These run straight into creeks and rivers through the storm drains, unfiltered and untreated.
- The Stormwater Tax you and businesses pay provides the resources necessary for the Westfield Stormwater Dept. to maintain the purity of our water supplies.
- The Stormwater Dept. has several duties, which include:
  - Testing the purity of the water
  - Checking and maintaining the storm drain system
  - Sweeping the streets to remove trash and litter
- There are several things you can do to help keep our water supply clean:
  - Pick up after your pets
  - Use less fertilizer
  - Allow native plants to grow near creeks and streams
  - Deposit all hazardous waste (paint, oil, etc.) at the county facility:

1717 Pleasant St. #200  
Noblesville, IN 46060

*A product of*



CITY OF  
**Westfield**  
INDIANA  
stormwater treatment department

Westfield Stormwater Treatment Dept.  
2706 East 171st St.  
Westfield, IN 46074  
317-804-3100  
[www.westfield.in.gov](http://www.westfield.in.gov)

Clear Choice for Clean Water  
[www.indiana.clearchoicescleanwater.org](http://www.indiana.clearchoicescleanwater.org)  
"Take the Pledge!"