



Save Our Basin: Keep Storm Drains Clear!

Did you know that everything entering our storm drains flows directly into our basins, sounds, and local waterways without being treated?

Northend properties face a higher risk of heavy runoff due to extreme storms, high tides, and rising sea levels. When trash, debris, or loose materials wash into these drains, they cause immediate street flooding, blockages, and severe damage to our marine ecosystems.

As a Northend resident or property manager, you are the first line of defense. Follow these simple steps to keep our waters clean and our streets safe:



Secure Loose Items: Wind and high tides move quickly. Always anchor or bring inside lightweight lawn furniture, toys, empty pots, and recycling bins before a storm.



Avoid Light Mulches: Do not use wood chips, pine straw, or light bark mulches in your landscaping. Heavy rains and coastal winds easily wash these lightweight materials into gutters and storm grates, causing instant clogs.



Landscape with Large Rocks: Opt for larger, heavier river rocks, cobble, or rip-rap stones for your garden beds and borders. These stones stay firmly in place during high water events and help slow down rushing rainwater.



Manage Yard Waste: Never sweep or blow grass clippings, leaves, or trimmings into the street, ditches, or gutters. Bag your yard waste or use it for home composting.



Redirect Downspouts: Ensure your gutters discharge into grassy areas, rock-lined garden beds, or rain barrels rather than pouring directly onto paved driveways and streets.



Clear the Curb: Check the storm drain closest to your home once a month. Use gloves to safely clear away accumulated leaves or litter from the grate, and toss it in the trash.

Remember:
Only rain down the drain!



To report a major clog, structural damage, or severe street flooding, please call the Town of Carolina Beach Public Works Department at (910) 458-2525.



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