

The following simple actions can help keep roads open, catch basins clear, and everyone safe:

1. Use a rake or pitch fork to clear leaves and debris from catch basins so that water can drain easily.
2. Do not rake leaves into the street. Pile them on the curb in the parking strip (grassy area between the sidewalk and the street).
3. For leaves that have already collected on the street, move them no closer than 10-12 inches from the curb, allowing water to flow to the catch basin without carrying the leaves with it.
4. When you see City crews out working, please slow down. Remember that you are in a hazardous area with low visibility. Be considerate to workers and slow down especially when driving through standing water.
5. Watch carefully for pedestrians and bicyclists, who may be in the street to avoid a flooded corner or who may be moving quickly to get out of the rain or catch a bus. Darkness limits everyone's visibility. Look out for each other.

How to prevent neighborhood drainage problems

- Check your home's drainage system. Maintaining the drainage system on private property is the owner's responsibility.
- Make sure your drainage system directs water away from your foundation and not on to your neighbor's property. Never discharge water over the side of a steep hill.
- Clean your gutters and downspouts. Check your gutters once a week during fall and winter. Just one wind or rainstorm can clog a well-flowing drainage system.
- Rake up leaves. Leaves clog drains, which can lead to flooding. Use a rake or pitch fork to clear the storm grates near your property of leaves and debris. To report a clogged catch basin, call 530-633-2761 or after hours call - 530-633-0926.

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**CITY OF
WHEATLAND'S
STORM WATER
DRAINAGE
MAINTENANCE**



**PLEASE DO YOUR
PART TO KEEP
OUR STORM
DRAINS CLEAR!**

When it rains, water washes over roofs, streets, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots, and land surfaces. Along the way, it can pick up a variety of pollutants, such as oil, pesticides, metals, chemicals, and soil. This polluted storm water drains into the storm system that eventually discharges into our rivers and streams. The pollutants can endanger the water quality of our waterways, making them unhealthy for people, fish, and wildlife.

No matter where you live, there's a drainage system in place to help rainwater find its way to the river. Storm drains, ditches, trash racks, and culverts all are prone to blockage, and leaves are the prime culprit in the fall of the year.

The federal Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, and Endangered Species Act direct the City to improve storm water quality and protect watersheds, rivers, streams, and drinking water resources. The overall management of the storm water system is the responsibility of the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES).

BES coordinates the citywide response to the federal storm water permit that requires the City to reduce storm water pollution, and oversees other programs that respond to water quality requirements.

The goals of the program are to ensure public and vehicle safety, control property damage, enhance and protect water quality, prevent flooding, respond to flood events, maintain a system to handle the quantity of storm water, and protect the safety, health, and environment of the city.

Storm water drainage maintenance activities include:

- debris removal
- culvert cleaning and repair
- trash rack cleaning and repair
- detention pond cleaning and repair
- erosion damage repair
- investigation of customer reports
- emergency response

How you can help keep storm drains clear

The City asks residents to help clean the inlets and catch basins (grated storm drains) in front of your properties.

Use a rake or pitch fork to clear leaves, limbs, and debris from the storm drain/catch basin. Do not put your feet and hands into the storm drain -- all kinds of debris collect there that could be dangerous, including injection needles.

If you believe an emergency response is necessary, because you cannot clear your clogged catch basin, call Public Works Maintenance at 530-633-2761 or after hours call -530-633-0926 to report a clogged catch basin.

Please do not rake or blow your leaves from your yard into the street. Leaves become a slippery mess that can cause localized flooding and pedestrian, bicycle, and motor vehicle accidents. Rotting leaves diminish the life span of the asphalt that's underneath them.

For leaves that have fallen into the street, please keep them out of the channel right along the curb, where they will block the path of rainwater. Rake them at least one foot from the curb.