

Wake County Stormwater Management Task Force

Stormwater Survey Results

SURVEY OF STORMWATER OPINIONS, PERCEPTIONS AND KNOWLEDGE

1. Based on your current knowledge and opinion, please rate the overall water quality of the rivers, streams and lakes in your area of Wake County.

Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
0%	34%	61%	5%

2. How significant do you think each of the following items is as a potential source of water pollution to rivers, streams, and lakes within Wake County?

- a. Wastewater discharges from manufacturing plants

Very Significant	Significant	Not Significant
21%	51%	28%

- b. Wastewater discharges from sewage treatment plants

Very Significant	Significant	Not Significant
31%	51%	18%

- c. Pollutants that are deposited from the atmosphere, like acid rain

Very Significant	Significant	Not Significant
18%	62%	21%

- d. Rainfall runoff from parking lots, streets, and other vehicular traffic areas

Very Significant	Significant	Not Significant
62%	33%	5%

- e. Rainfall runoff from farms and agricultural operations

Very Significant	Significant	Not Significant
41%	54%	5%

- f. Rainfall runoff from forested or undeveloped land areas

Very Significant	Significant	Not Significant
3%	13%	85%

- g. Rainfall runoff from developed residential land areas

Very Significant	Significant	Not Significant
38%	54%	8%

Wake County Stormwater Management Task Force

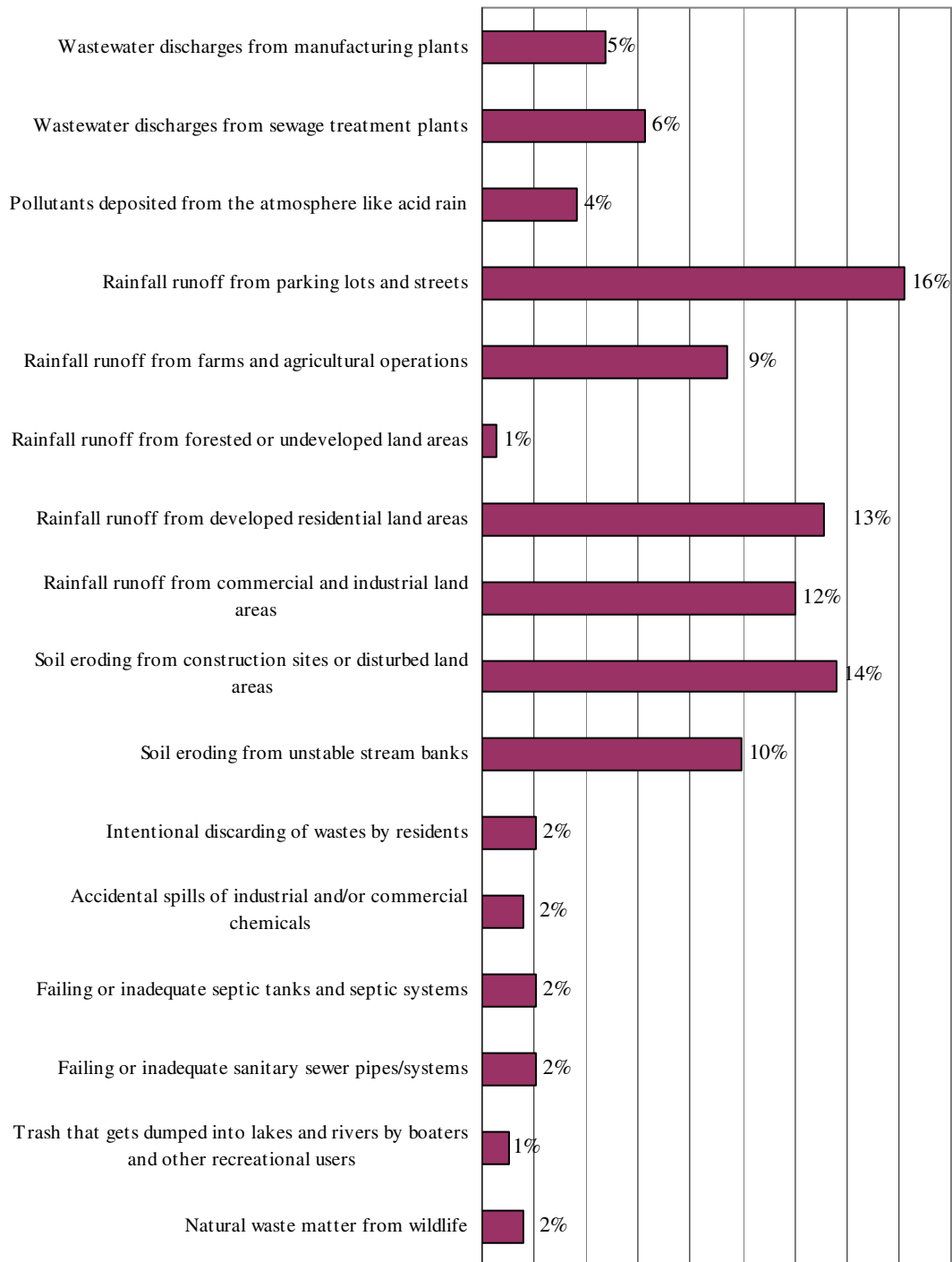
Stormwater Survey Results

h. Rainfall runoff from commercial and industrial land areas	Very Significant 51%	Significant 46%	Not Significant 3%
i. Soil eroding from construction sites or disturbed land areas	Very Significant 66%	Significant 32%	Not Significant 3%
j. Soil eroding from unstable stream banks	Very Significant 62%	Significant 31%	Not Significant 8%
k. Intentional discarding by residents of oil, grease, household chemicals, and other wastes into the environment	Very Significant 46%	Significant 44%	Not Significant 10%
l. Accidental spills into the environment of industrial and/or commercial chemicals	Very Significant 32%	Significant 45%	Not Significant 24%
m. Discharges from failing or inadequate septic tanks or septic systems	Very Significant 31%	Significant 49%	Not Significant 21%
n. Discharges from failing or inadequate sanitary sewer pipes/systems	Very Significant 26%	Significant 62%	Not Significant 13%
o. Trash that gets dumped into lakes and rivers by boaters and other recreational users	Very Significant 13%	Significant 42%	Not Significant 45%
p. Natural waste matter discharged in or near streams and lakes by wildlife	Very Significant 3%	Significant 41%	Not Significant 56%

Wake County Stormwater Management Task Force

Stormwater Survey Results

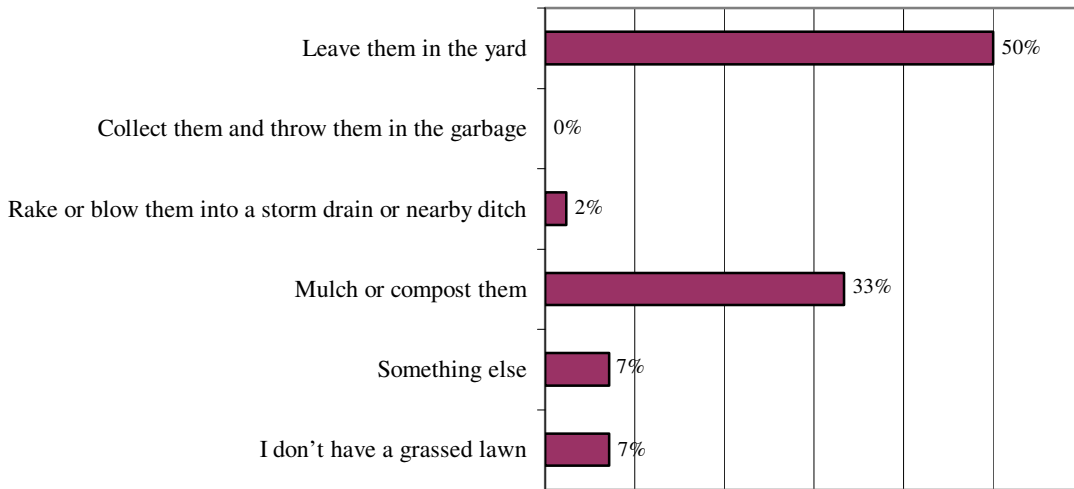
3. Of all the above possible sources of water pollution, please select and rank those which you think are the five largest sources of pollution within Wake County.



Wake County Stormwater Management Task Force

Stormwater Survey Results

4. If you have a lawn and mow your grass, what do you do with the grass clippings?



5. Do you ever put fertilizer on your lawn?

YES	NO
78%	22%

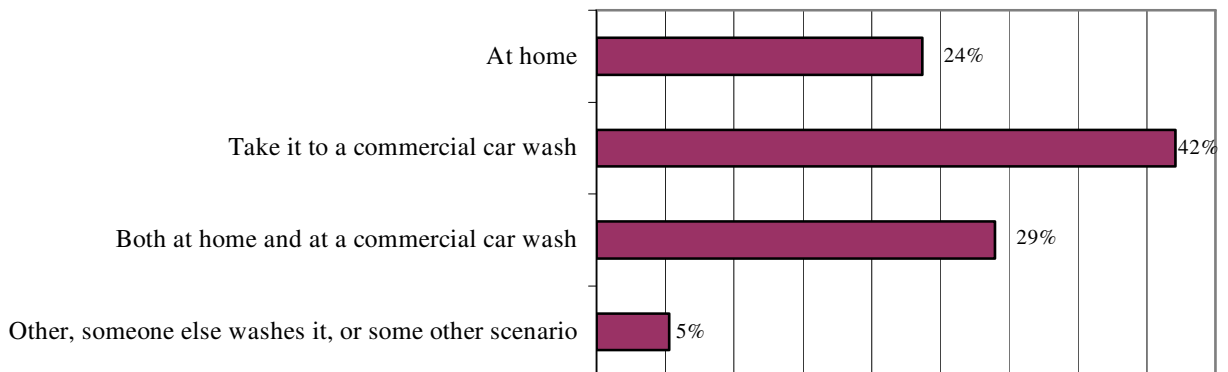
6. About how often do you put fertilizer on your lawn?

Monthly	Two or three times a year	Once a year or less
6%	53%	41%

7. Does anyone ever test the soil on your lawn to determine how much fertilizer is needed?

YES	NO
44%	56%

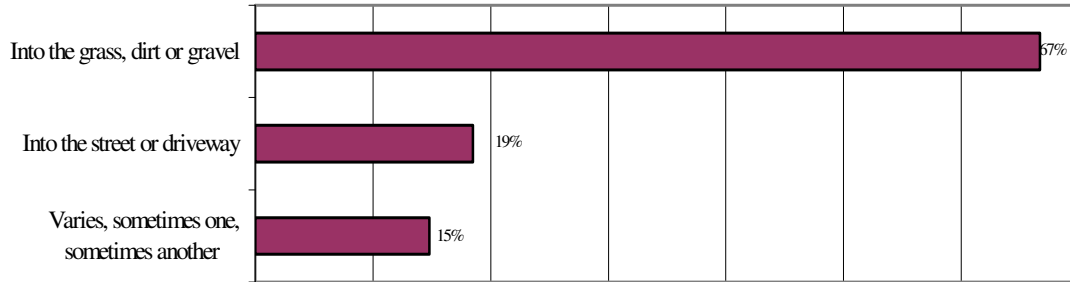
8. Where do you wash your personal vehicle(s)?



Wake County Stormwater Management Task Force

Stormwater Survey Results

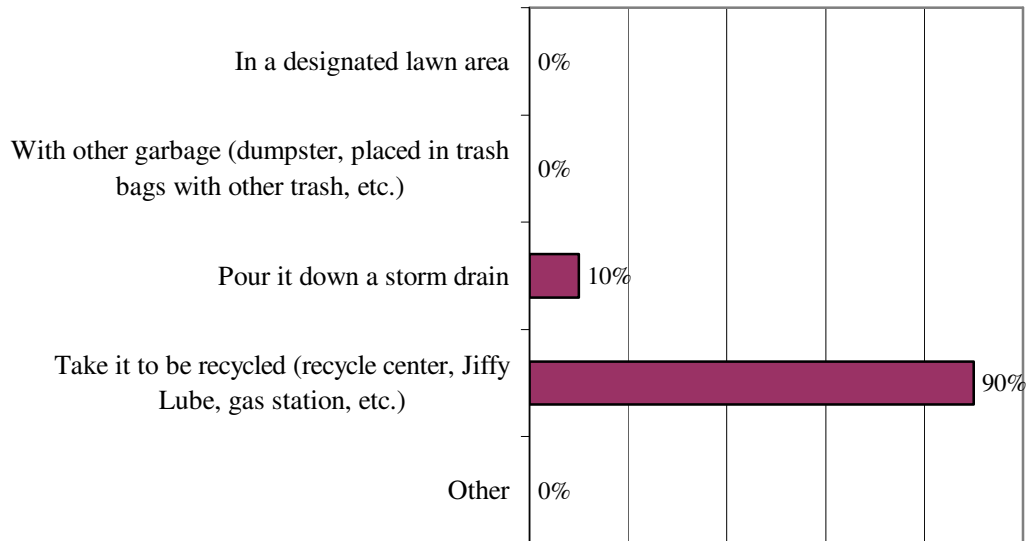
9. If you wash your vehicle at home, does the soapy water flow into the grass or onto the street?



10. Do you change your own oil?

YES	NO
18%	82%

11. If you change your oil, how do you dispose of the used oil?



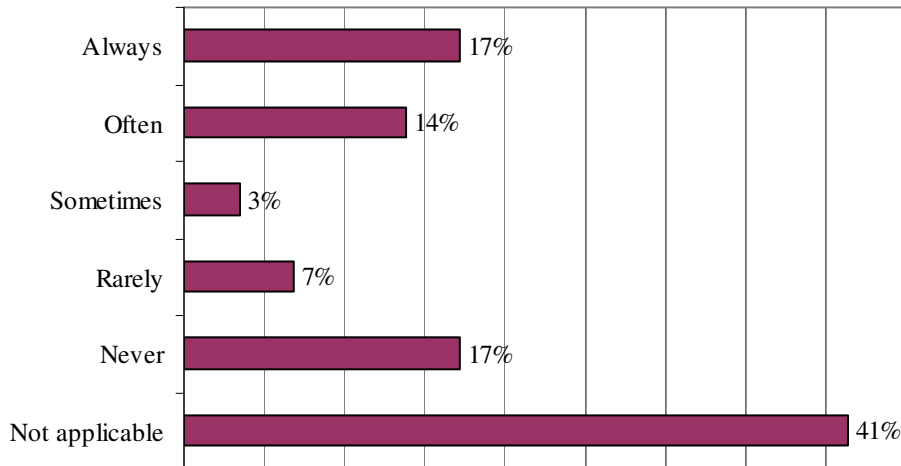
12. If you have one, do you walk your pet?

YES	NO	DO NOT HAVE PET
36%	26%	38%

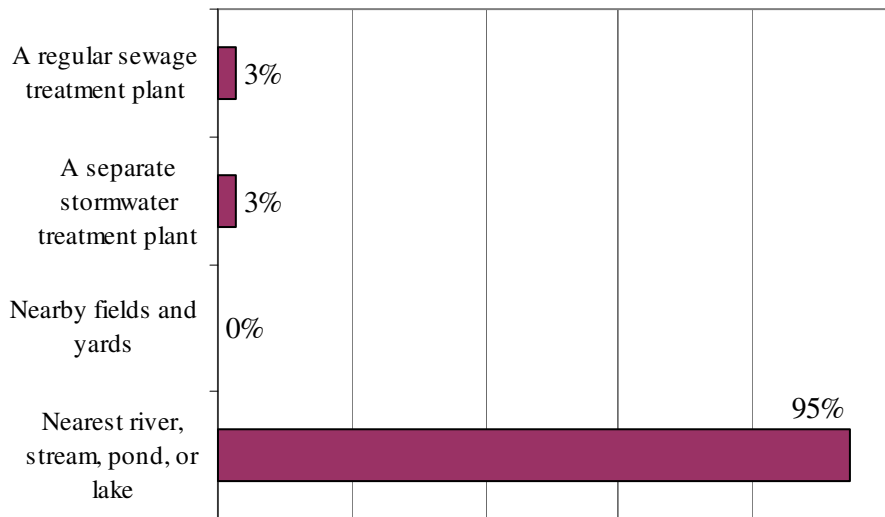
Wake County Stormwater Management Task Force

Stormwater Survey Results

13. If applicable, how often do you pick up their pet waste (either during your walk or in your yard)?



14. Where does stormwater runoff go once it enters a storm drain?



15. Are you aware of any storm drainage or flooding problems in Wake County?

YES	NO
97%	3%

Wake County Stormwater Management Task Force

Stormwater Survey Results

16. If YES to Question 15, where have you experienced drainage or flooding problems?

- | | |
|---|-----|
| a. I have experienced drainage/flooding problems that have directly affected my house (example: water flooding my crawl space or into my living space). | 8% |
| b. I have experienced drainage/flooding problems that have affected some portion of my property (example: backyard), but not my house. | 13% |
| c. I have experienced drainage/flooding problems within my neighborhood but not at my house or property. | 29% |
| d. I am aware of drainage/flooding problems within Wake County but am not aware of any problems within my neighborhood. | 50% |

17. Have you ever contacted the County and/or your local Municipal government about drainage, flooding, or water quality issues?

YES	NO
29%	71%

18. If YES to Question 17, were you satisfied with the response and services by the County and/or your local Municipal government?

YES	NO
92%	8%

19. How well are erosion and sedimentation controlled during site construction activity in Wake County?

- | | |
|--|-----|
| a. Construction sites are always well-protected with very little silt or mud leaving the sites. | 0% |
| b. Construction sites are usually well-protected with only minor amounts of silt or mud leaving the sites. | 34% |
| c. Construction sites are sometimes unprotected with large amounts of silt or mud leaving the sites. | 50% |
| d. Construction sites are frequently unprotected with large amounts of silt or mud leaving the sites. | 24% |
| e. Unsure or have not observed | 0% |

20. How well does the storm drainage system (catch basins, drainage pipes, drainage culverts under roadways, drainage ditches, etc.) generally work within your jurisdiction?

- | | |
|--|-----|
| a. The storm drainage system works perfectly and handles rainfall with no problems. | 3% |
| b. The storm drainage system seems to work ok in most storms. | 53% |
| c. The storm drainage system occasionally backs up water, floods some streets, and can cause either a short-term nuisance or potentially dangerous flooding. | 42% |
| d. The storm drainage system often fails to work well and is a major public safety concern. | 0% |
| e. Unsure or have not observed | 0% |

Wake County Stormwater Management Task Force

Stormwater Survey Results

21. How would you generally rate the maintenance of the storm drainage system (includes catch basins, drainage pipes, drainage culverts under roadways, drainage ditches, etc.) within your jurisdiction?

- | | |
|--|-----|
| a. The storm drainage system is very clean and very well maintained. | 3% |
| b. The storm drainage system is adequately maintained in most cases. | 50% |
| c. The storm drainage system needs more frequent maintenance. | 39% |
| d. Unsure or have not observed. | 5% |

22. Are you aware of any water pollution problems in local streams, ponds, lakes, or rivers?

YES	NO
74%	26%

23. Do you think it would be beneficial to regularly sample and test water quality in local streams and lakes to identify and help track down any potential sources of water pollution?

YES	NO	UNSURE
86%	9%	6%

24. Would you support enhanced stormwater runoff controls or practices if they further protected water quality and/or reduced flooding hazards within your community and Wake County?

YES	NO	UNSURE
89%	0%	11%

25. Do you think the natural environment adds to the quality of living and working in Wake County?

YES	NO	UNSURE
100%	0%	0%

26. Over the past five to ten years, would you say that stormwater-related problems (drainage, flooding, water quality, other) in your area have:

Increased	Decreased	Stayed Same	Unsure / Don't Know
68%	5%	16%	11%

27. Over the past five to ten years, would you say that the general health of watersheds in your area have:

Improved	Declined	Stayed Same	Unsure / Don't Know
8%	73%	14%	5%

28. Do you think current public stormwater management programs and levels of service are generally adequate to maintain the desired quality of life as Wake County continues to rapidly grow?

YES	NO	UNSURE
16%	76%	8%

Wake County Stormwater Management Task Force

Stormwater Survey Results

29. Would you be willing to volunteer a portion of your time to help with projects and initiatives that monitor and protect the health and quality of water and natural resources within the community?

YES	NO	UNSURE
78%	5%	16%

30. Do you think reducing existing or preventing future problems associated with drainage, flooding, or water pollution would make Wake County an even better place to live?

YES	NO	UNSURE
100%	0%	0%

31. Would you be willing to pay for programs and services designed to help minimize drainage, flooding, and water pollution concerns within your neighborhood, your community, and across Wake County?

YES	NO	UNSURE
81%	0%	19%