## VILLAGE CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT STORMWATER RUNOFF POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRAM

Storm drains are designed to prevent flooding, and water that enters the storm drains is not treated before it enters into our ponds, lakes, and wetlands. For this reason, The Villages is required by the Federal Clean Water Act to comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. This program is administered by the State of Florida, and its goal is to reduce the amount of pollution that enters storm drain systems. VCCDD has a policy that prohibits unauthorized discharges of any kind to the storm drain system and prohibits illicit connections to the storm drain system.

A pollutant is almost anything that isn't water that enters the storm drain. As described in the VCCDD policy, pollutants may include but are not limited to:

## **STORMWATER POLLUTANTS**

- Paints, Stains & Varnishes
- Oil and Other Automotive Fluids
- Refuse, Rubbish & Garbage
- Pesticides & Herbicides
- Sewage
- Hazardous Substances and Wastes
- Wastes from Constructing a Building or Structure
- Solvents & Fuels
- Yard Waste
- Litter
- Fertilizers
- Animal Wastes
- Discarded or Abandoned Objects
- Liquid and Solid Wastes

The following residential related discharges are exempt from discharge prohibitions established by the policy: air conditioning condensation, irrigation water, individual residential car washing and de-chlorinated swimming pool discharges.

## There are things that you can do to prevent Stormwater Runoff Pollution. Examples of Best Management Practices include:

- Use fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides sparingly, and sweep up driveways, sidewalks and roads.
- Never discharge anything other than water to the storm drains.
- Collect and dispose of turf and plant clippings in solid waste containers.
- Never blow clippings into the storm drains.
- Compost yard waste.
- Follow Integrated Pest Management (IPM).
- Eliminate or minimize chemical application near water bodies.
- Wash vehicles at a carwash (or wash vehicles on the grass instead of the driveway).
- Don't direct vehicle wash water to the storm drain.
- Check for and repair vehicle leaks and recycle motor oil.
- Collect and properly dispose of pet waste.

## If you observe a violation of the policy or if pollution is found in a nearby storm drain, ditch, swale, or outfall:

1. Notify the violator to cease the improper activity.

- 2. If the pollutant can be safely and easily removed, remove the pollutant materials and properly dispose.
- 3. If the pollutant cannot be safely and easily removed; notify/coordinate with VCCDD personnel by contacting District Property Management at 352-753-4022.

Any questions regarding the Stormwater Runoff Pollution Prevention Program can also be directed to the Water Resources Division at 352-753-4022 or DPMWaterResources@districtgov.org.