

Bayou Vermilion Watershed

Our Watershed, Our Bayou

A watershed is the area of land where the water drains when it rains. A watershed is made up of our storm drains, ditches, coulees, and smaller bayous. Lafayette is part of the **Bayou Vermilion Watershed**. Lafayette is unique for our culture, heritage, food, and our watershed. We have a bayou that runs through our parish! We must protect our waterways.

Watershed Protection

- Involves the whole community!
- Storm drains do not lead to the sanitary sewer. All storm drains lead to our waterways. Storm drains are not your trash can!
- Water that enters a curbside drain (storm drain), ditch, coulee, or smaller bayou is not treated before it enters a waterway. Only rain should go down a storm drain, ditch, coulee, or bayou.
- Litter (water bottles, cigarette butts, etc.) is unsightly and a form of water pollution
- Soil runoff on sites reduces water flow to the river, which can add to flooding
- Improperly maintained home septic systems can pollute our watershed with harmful bacteria



**Environmental Quality
Regulatory Compliance
1515 E. University Ave.
Lafayette, LA 70501
Phone: 337-291-8529
Fax: 337-291-5620**



Look!
You may
have seen
this sign!

Bayou Vermilion Watershed

The Bayou Vermilion Watershed is made up of our storm drains, ditches, coulees, and smaller bayous that lead directly to Bayou Vermilion.

Lafayette Consolidated Government wants citizens to take pride in our waterways and our community, which are directly connected to water. LCG is required by state regulation to educate the public on stormwater pollution.

How can you help protect your watershed?

- Never dump anything that you wouldn't want to drink or swim in on the ground, onto the street, down a storm drain or into a drainage ditch
- Throw litter in a trash can, not in a storm drain, ditch, or on the ground
- Clean up after your pet – even in your own yard
- Minimize the amount of hazardous wastes (like excess paint, bleach, fertilizer) at home
- Don't sweep or blow yard clippings or leaves into the street, ditch, or storm drain
- Use fertilizer and pesticide appropriately and NEVER before a rain event
- Wash your vehicle on your lawn rather than on pavement

Watershed Sign Locations

These signs are going up near our waterways to further enforce the knowledge of our watershed:

1. South College Road at Coulee Mine
 2. General Mouton Avenue at Bayou Vermillion
 3. Johnston Street at Lewis Street Coulee
 4. Pinhook Road at Bayou Vermilion
 5. Ambassador Caffery Pkwy at Bayou Vermilion
 6. Surrey Street at Bayou Vermilion
- ...more to come!

If you have any questions or witness watershed pollution, please call

291-8529

or email

bforet@lafayettela.gov

We Want Your Input!

Go online to:

www.lafayettela.gov/stormwater

Below the phrase

Please ... only *rain*

Down the *drain!*

Click on and fill out the

Local Water Quality Questionnaire

Stormwater Ordinance

Chapter 34. ENVIRONMENT

Article 5. STORMWATER

Division 4 Sec. 34-452

The purpose of this ordinance is to provide for the health, safety, and general welfare of Lafayette Parish citizens by regulating, to the maximum extent practicable as required by state and federal law, discharges of unacceptable materials (example: oil, dirt, debris) into the storm drainage system.

REMEMBER
ONLY RAIN
down the
Storm Drain!

