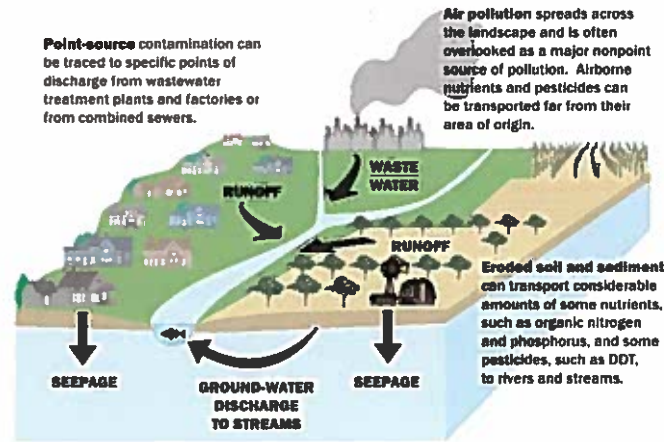


## TOP 10 POLLUTION PREVENTION AND ZERO WASTE TIPS

1. Use reusable containers, shopping bags, water bottles, coffee mugs, silverware, and cloth napkins for meals and snacks.
2. Install Energy Star appliances and WaterSense products (faucets, shower heads, irrigation controllers, etc.).
3. Purchase products containing recycled content.
4. Purchase products with less packaging or purchase items in bulk to reduce packaging.
5. Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly and according to the instructions, if they must be used at all.
6. Purchase only the amount of a chemical (paints, cleaners, thinners, etc.) that you need.
7. Dispose of unused household chemicals and chemical waste at authorized collection centers.
8. Recycle electronics, scrap metal, and batteries at authorized collection centers.
9. Plan to run all errands or site visits in one trip, and don't idle your vehicle when parked.
10. Carpool, ride the bus or train, walk, or ride a bike.



## DYESS AIR FORCE BASE POLLUTION PREVENTION

### DYESS AIR FORCE BASE ENVIRONMENTAL SECTION

7 CES/CEIE  
 710 Third Street  
 Dyess AFB, Texas 79607  
 Phone: 325-696-5619  
 Fax: 325-696-2889

eDASH web page:  
<https://cs1.eis.af.mil/sites/edash-ins3/Dyess/SitePages/Home.aspx>



U.S. AIR FORCE



## WHY PREVENT AIR POLLUTION?

Air pollution can cause long-term and short-term health effects locally, as well as globally. Air pollution contributes to the depletion of the ozone layer, which protects the Earth from the sun's UV rays. Carbon dioxide, a product of combustion, provides a "greenhouse" effect, which affects our global climate. Some air pollutants mix with water to form acid rain, which harms trees, soil, rivers, wildlife, buildings, vehicles, and monuments.

## WHY PREVENT SOIL POLLUTION?

Healthy soils are important for crops, which feed the world. Soil pollution can cause human health impacts for children who play outside and can contribute to the contamination of groundwater aquifers, which are often used for drinking water. Soil pollution prevents plant growth, which can lead to erosion and desertification of our soils. The eroded soil makes our creeks, rivers, lakes, and ponds unhealthy for fish and wildlife.

## WHY PREVENT WATER POLLUTION?

Stormwater can pick up debris such as chemicals, dirt, and oils that can flow through a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, river, wetland, or coastal water. Anything that enters a storm sewer is discharged, untreated, into the water we use for swimming, fishing, and/or drinking. Polluted groundwater can cause hazards to public health and wildlife through the movement of pollution into drinking water supply wells and into surface water such as seeps and springs.

## TIPS FOR: HOMES, BUILDINGS AND AT THE OFFICE



- Use natural lighting, if possible, replace incandescent bulbs with LEDs, and turn the lights off when you leave an empty room.
- Use a power strip for your electronics, and turn it off at the end of the day. Many electronics still consume energy when turned off.
- Select the energy saver setting on your computer and printer.
- Use a programmable thermostat to control the temperature to reduce the use of heating and cooling equipment when a building is typically not occupied.
- Use cleaners and paints conservatively to reduce the emission of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that contribute to ground-level ozone.
- Consider using low-VOC paints and carpets with low VOC adhesives.
- Do not pour grease or oil down drains.



## TIPS FOR: AT THE STORE AND PURCHASING

- Purchase cleaners that are less toxic. Note that just because it says "green" doesn't necessarily mean it is completely non-toxic, although it could be a step in the right direction. Read the label or Safety Data Sheet to make sure.
- Purchase items made of recycled material and that can be reused or recycled.
- Consider fuel efficiency, alternative fuel capability, electric vehicles, or hybrid vehicles when purchasing a new vehicle.

## TIPS FOR: YARDS AND GROUNDS

- Consider electric-powered mowers, push mowers, or hand-powered yard tools. Lawn mowers and trimmers can emit as much pollution in one hour as driving a car up to 50 miles.
- Mulch or compost yard waste instead of putting it in the trash or burning it.
- Cover areas of exposed soil to reduce runoff.
- Install barriers such as silt fences to prevent soil runoff.



- Eliminate excessive use of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides. Do not apply these materials when heavy rains are forecasted and do not use in proximity to stormwater drains or surface waters.
- Keep fertilizers off paved areas.
- Pick up pet waste. Pet waste can be a source of pollution by releasing ammonia, bacteria, and parasites into stormwater systems.
- Wash vehicles at designated car wash facilities where wash water will be routed away from stormwater systems.
- Never put yard waste such as leaves or grass clippings in the street or storm drains.
- Keep dumpster lids closed when not in use to keep rainwater out and trash in.
- Sweep driveways, porches, and sidewalks instead of hosing them down with water.

