

Canberra's Drains

are just for the rain



Improve and care for the water
in Lake Burley Griffin



Australian Government

National Capital Authority

Canberra's stormwater drains carry water to an extensive network of streams, wetlands, ponds and lakes – including Lake Burley Griffin. These provide habitat for fish, frogs and birds while improving the liveability of the city.

How can you prevent pollutants from entering the waterways?

Car Wash



Wash your car on the grass. Do not let the soap enter the drains, or use a water-recycling car wash facility. Phosphates from detergents encourage algal growth.



Do not flush chemicals or paint into stormwater drains. This means fresher water for fish, birds, frogs and for everyone else.

Garden



Prevent leaves and grass clippings from washing down the drain. Use smaller amounts of fertilisers and garden chemicals.

Litter



Put rubbish in bins, paper and plastics in the recycling and do not throw cigarette butts in the gutter. This helps to keep streams and beaches clean.

Waste



Clean up after your dog. Animal waste promotes harmful bacteria in the water.

Compost



Compost garden waste and use it to improve garden soil. Green waste when released into the waterways results in algal blooms.