

INFORMATION SHEET

OKLAHOMA CITY AIR LOGISTICS CENTER

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE, OKLAHOMA



STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

**DON'T DUMP — PROTECT
TINKER'S WATER QUALITY**

YOU CAN STOP POLLUTION!

Protect your streams, lakes, and drinking water from:

- Household cleaners
- Pesticides
- Fertilizers
- Motor oil and grease
- Paint
- Soil erosion

FOUR WAYS TO KEEP OUR WATER CLEAN

1. **Fertilizers and Pesticides.** Read the directions when applying fertilizers and pesticides. Use only the recommended amount, and avoid using these products less than 2 days before rain.
2. **Cars.** Maintain your car for good performance and to protect the environment.
3. **House Paints.** Because storm drain water is not treated before reaching a stream or lake, always wash paintbrushes in your sink. Save or recycle leftover paint.
4. **Trees and Plants.** Trees and plants act as an anchor to hold down soil. Whenever you disturb soil, leave a natural green space, called a *riparian zone*, on both sides of a stream. These plants will keep the stream banks from eroding.



Contaminated storm water runoff is the biggest threat to the base's waterways. Storm water at Tinker drains into three creek systems — Crutcho, Soldier, and Kuhlman. These creeks are the homes of several fish, turtles, frogs, snails, and other biodiverse species. Dumping of chemicals, such as fertilizers, used oil, floor cleaners, and antifreeze, harms water quality and the homes of these fresh water animals.



Construction dirt and debris are also a problem. When discharged in large quantities, these contaminants can smother aquatic life, block visibility, and deplete oxygen.

Adopt a Storm Drain is a program designed to reduce dumping on the Base. Storm drains are labeled with markers that say DON'T DUMP. So, do your part: Adopt a drain and don't dump!



PRESERVING OUR BASE

- The average person needs 50 gallons of clean water per day.
- 42 percent of people polled thought (incorrectly) that water going down storm drains is treated at water treatment plants (*National Geographic Society Poll*).



The Environmental Management (EM) Directorate, created in 1985, manages environmental issues at Tinker.

For more information, contact:

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<http://www-ext.tinker.af.mil/em>

Tinker has placed labels on storm drains throughout the base to make employees, contractors, and residents aware of restrictions on releases to the storm drains.



Newly purchased vacuum equipment collects the deicing fluids that would otherwise enter the storm drains and contaminate creeks — killing fish and violating Tinker's storm water permit.

Tinker's three creek systems are monitored weekly to ensure compliance with water quality standards.

