

# WATER QUALITY SAVVY SHOPPERS

***Where you spend your money makes a difference and can even influence our local water quality!***

These days, people are becoming more interested in knowing how the things they buy are made. Something to keep in mind as a consumer is how our local water quality is impacted by the products or services you purchase, and the companies you support. Almost all companies use water as part of their business, from manufacturing their product down to keeping their business clean. *So ask yourself....*



***..are the places you support doing a good job of keeping our local water clean?***

**Here are a few things to look for...**

- Are parking lots kept litter-free so that nothing floats into the storm drain or blows into the ditch?
- Do your local restaurants and grocery stores keep the lids closed on their dumpsters if they are visible in the parking lot? And are their dumpsters leak-free?
- Do the garbage trucks of your waste disposal company leak any fluids on your street when they are picking up your garbage?
- Does your mechanic's shop put drip pans under outside parked vehicles to catch oil and antifreeze, if they are waiting to be fixed? Do they mention if they recycle old tires, batteries and used motor oil?
- Do you ever see your lawn care company applying their chemicals or fertilizer before it rains?
- Do the ponds at your golf course often have algae floating in them. This is a sign of over fertilizing.
- Do the places you shop at display any "green certifications" or mention their environmental efforts at their store or on their website? For example, a restaurant might mention they recycle their used cooking oil as part of their stormwater protection program.
- Does your dry cleaner offer wet cleaning options, or mention that they use non-toxic products, or advertise that they have a "dry to dry closed loop system"?



## **More Resources**

Automobile services: <http://bit.ly/2d2cLqL>  
Grocery Stores: <http://bit.ly/2d2chAQ>  
Restaurants: <http://bit.ly/2cZLBng>  
Golf Courses: <http://bit.ly/2cmzJpH>

Dumpsters: <http://bit.ly/2djVsnq>  
Landscapers: <http://bit.ly/2dhumKx>  
Contractors: <http://bit.ly/2cmAQGd>  
Dry Cleaners: <http://tinyurl.com/jhshop9>