

City of Defiance 2010 Stormwater Survey Results

Thank you for your participation and feedback! Please contact Jennifer English with any questions by email: jenglish@defiance-county.com or by phone at the City Engineering Division: 419.784.2249.

How much of a problem do you think polluted stormwater is in Defiance?

23%	Not a problem
54%	Somewhat of a problem
17%	Major problem
6%	n/a

The Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) elimination project is creating separate underground pipes for stormwater. The untreated stormwater flows directly into the rivers creating more potential pollution from trash, oil, gasoline and other debris entering the City's MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System).

How much of a problem do you think flooding is in Defiance?

10%	Not a problem
68%	Somewhat of a problem
21%	Major problem
1%	n/a

The problem of flooding in Defiance is different depending on where your home is located. Floodplains are designed to act as a holding area for flood waters during times of heavy rainfall and snow melt.

Which of the following best describes what happens during a heavy rain at your residence?

24%	Almost all of the water soaks in and does not leave the property
11%	Almost all of the water stays on the property and causes flooding problems
21%	Some may soak in but most flows to a ditch or onto the road and then into local waters
15%	Some may soak in but most flows to a storm drain and is then treated
18%	Some may soak in but most flows to a storm drain and then into local waters untreated
11%	I don't know where the rain water goes

This is going to depend on where your home is located. Ideally stormwater 1) soaks into the ground and 2) then runs off into ditches or storm drains and 3) then flows into local waters - eventually it will all be untreated.

What do you think is the biggest problem with the rivers in Defiance?

22%	Trash or litter along banks
11%	Erosion
6%	Lack of access
42%	Water quality (odors, sedimentation)
11%	Flooding
6%	Other
2%	n/a

All of these issues have been identified as problems, but water quality, trash and erosion are all specifically targeted in the City's MS4 Pollution Prevention Goals.

All stormwater in Defiance eventually drains to:

5%	Ohio River
61%	Lake Erie
9%	Into the ground
14%	Water treatment plant
11%	n/a

Most stormwater goes into Lake Erie via the Maumee River, although some does soak into the ground and some goes into the combined sewer system for treatment. One important way to reduce pollution is to increase the amount of stormwater that soaks into the ground, reducing the amount of runoff.

Water quality in the rivers and streams in and around Defiance is:

32%	Improving
46%	Staying the same
15%	Declining
7%	n/a

The current MS4 and CSO programs are being implemented by the City in order to comply with the EPA mandates which are in place to improve the water quality in Defiance and throughout the state of Ohio.

The largest source of pollution in Defiance is from:

16%	Industrial discharge
12%	Untreated sewage/bacteria from sewage overflows
10%	Sediment (soil particles)
2%	Oil & grease
29%	Use of fertilizer, pesticides & herbicides
11%	Polluted stormwater runoff
14%	Agricultural fields
6%	n/a

Industrial discharge is "point-source" pollution, which is now heavily regulated and sewage overflows are being reduced by the CSO project, so these are both becoming less of a problem than in the past. Although agricultural runoff is a major source of pollution, it is not regulated by the EPA. The requirements of the MS4 program will reduce urban stormwater runoff and the associated pollution such as trash, debris, fuel, sediment and the fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides that are used in residential/urban applications.

Do you think that individual actions can improve water quality/reduce stormwater pollution?

72%	Yes
21%	No
7%	n/a

Anything that enters the storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the local rivers we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water. Everyone's individual actions do make a difference!!

Do you participate in the following pollution prevention and recycling programs?

45%	Curbside recycling program
8%	Drop off of recycling at Werlor
22%	City-operated compost site at WPC
12%	Drop off of used motor oil at select auto body/auto parts stores
10%	Household Hazardous Waste Collection
2%	Other
1%	n/a

For more information, check out Defiance County Landfill and Environmental Services website at: <http://www.defiance-county.com/esl/index.html> or contact their office at: (419) 784.5442. They partner with the City to host the annual "Clean Up Your Parks Day" event and they host the Hazardous Waste Collection.

If you had more information about recycling programs, would you participate?

2%	Not at all
49%	About the same as I do now
32%	A little more than I do now
17%	A lot more than I do now

What is the best way for you to get information about stormwater?

60%	Newspaper articles
3%	Community meetings
8%	Ads on local radio stations
7%	Ads on local TV stations (DCTV)
1%	Preview at the movies
13%	Online
7%	Other
1%	n/a

Would you support local programs to reduce water pollution and improve water quality?

41%	Yes
4%	No
20%	Maybe
30%	Need more information
5%	n/a

Demographic Questions:				
Are You Male or Female?	M		F	
n/a 3%	50%		47%	
Do You Own or Rent Your Home?	Own		Rent	
n/a 1%	93%		6%	
Are You a Resident of the City of Defiance?	Y		N	
	95%		5%	
If Yes, How Long Have You Been a Resident?	< 1 year	2-5 yrs	6-10 yrs	> 10 years
n/a 5%	2%	12%	7%	74%
What is Your Age Category?	< 21	22 – 41	42 – 61	> 62
	0%	16%	36%	48%
Total Surveys Completed 602	Total Surveys Distributed 5714			11%