Our Mission

To be the best in class at providing clean, safe drinking water and dependable wastewater and stormwater services to customers in the greater Columbia area while providing excellent customer service and protecting the environment



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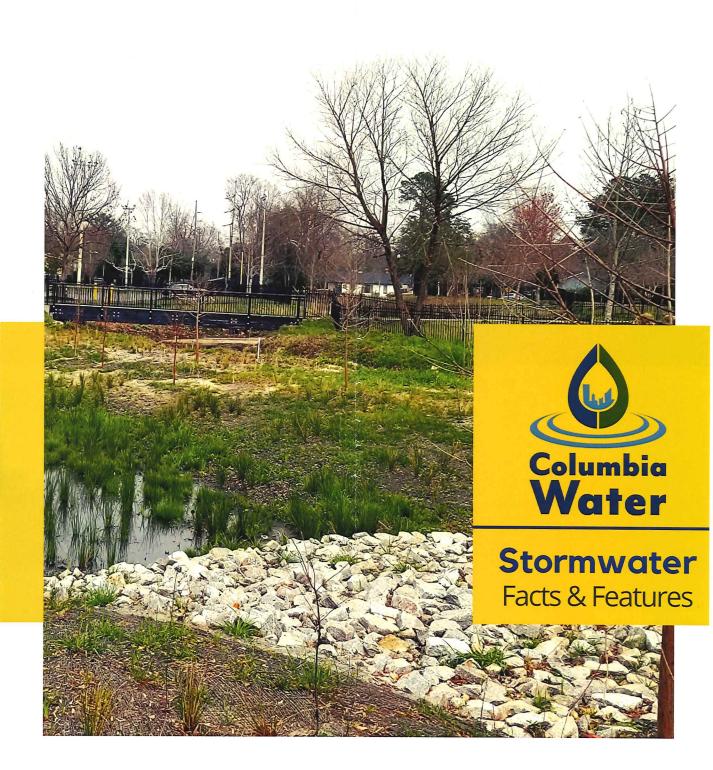
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TOGETHER WE CAN PROTECT OUR WATER SYSTEMS BY KEEPING OUR STORM DRAINS FREE OF PET WASTE AND HARMFUL CHEMICALS.

ABOUT US

The Columbia Water Stormwater
Management Team inspects issues and
works to develop solutions to protect
Columbia's waterways from harmful
pollutants. Our team carefully watches and
monitors the quantity and quality of
stormwater before and after it enters our
surface water. Our recent projects include
redesigning stormwater features at Martin
Luther King Jr. Park and Earlewood Park.

Learn more about our stormwater programs and projects at www.columbiascwater.net.



OUR PROGRAM

WHAT IS STORMWATER

Stormwater runoff occurs when rain or snowmelt flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like sidewalks and streets prevent stormwater from naturally absorbing and settling. When water is carried into our storm drain, it travels directly to our rivers.

THE NPDES PROGRAM

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) to prevent stormwater runoff from washing harmful pollutants like pet waste, fertilizer, and pesticides into local watersheds which include rivers, lakes, and streams.

MS4 & THE PERMIT

The Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) regulates stormwater programs throughout South Carolina. Columbia Water is considered a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). With the MS4 permit, Columbia Water works to monitor stormwater pollution throughout the city limits.

QUALITY & QUANTITY

Columbia Water monitors the quantity and quality of our stormwater runoff to meet the standards set by DHEC and the EPA. These standards help to protect our drinking water sources, reduce contamination, and safeguard the quality of our watersheds.