



Maintaining Natural Water Quality

The Town of Miami Lakes is located within the C-8 (Biscayne) Canal Drainage Basin. The streets within the Town have grass swales (low areas) or storm water inlets (drains) that collect the water and keep it from flooding pavement and properties during average rains. The streets, swales, inlets, canals, and lakes are all part of the storm water collection network. Once water enters the network, it will either soak into the ground ending up in the underground drinking water aquifer or conveyed through the pipe and canal network to one of our many lakes or the C-8 Canal. The C-8 Canal is operated and maintained by the South Florida Water Management District and flows east from Miami Lakes to Biscayne Bay. This is why it is important to avoid polluting rainwater runoff with chemicals such as pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers. Please follow these guidelines to keep our natural waters clean:



Drainage outfall

- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions when applying pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers and use them as little as possible.
- Properly store and dispose of oils, antifreeze, paints, and other chemicals. Leftover paints in good condition can be donated to neighbors or nonprofit organizations that help families in need, such as, Habitat for Humanity. Other chemicals should be taken to the Miami-Dade County Home Chemical Collection Center located at 8831 NW 58th Street. The Center is available to Miami Lakes residents and is open Wednesday through Sunday from 9 am to 5 pm.
- Dispose of litter and yard waste in a trash can. After sweeping sidewalks, gutters and other paved surfaces, dispose of the waste in a trash can.

To report dumping of any liquid or materials into storm drains, canal or lakes in the Town, please call the Miami-Dade County 24-hour telephone number, at 311, or the Town of Miami Lakes Public Works Department at 305-364-6100 during regular business hours.

Drainage Maintenance

The grass swales along the sides of the roads allow water to be held for a short period of time before it soaks into the ground. Paving or filling swales can result in flooding in surrounding areas. Blockage and accumulation of sediment and debris in the drainage system are the leading cause of flooding in the Town of Miami Lakes. Grass clipping, leaves, debris, and excessive lawn care products are blown or swept into the stormwater inlets by lawn care services or by the residents. These materials not only clog the drainage system causing unnecessary flooding, but they are discharged into adjacent lakes, groundwater, and canals contributing to a deterioration of our water quality.

To report flooding, please call the Town of Miami Lakes Public Works Department at 305-364-6100.