

Alabama NEMO Partnership

As a coalition of public officials, agencies, organizations and citizens, NEMO Alabama is a voluntary partnership of persons and groups interested in nonpoint source pollution education.

NEMO Alabama seeks to involve the following groups in our partnership:

- Elected Officials
- Education and Outreach Organizations
- Planning Agencies
- Engineers and Technical Professionals
- Developers
- Construction Industries
- Citizens and Community Leaders
- Businesses
- Educational Institutions

How can you obtain more information or become involved?

Contact:

ADEM Education and Outreach
(334) 394-4350 Patti Hurley
adem.alabama.gov

NEMO AL Cooperative Extension System
(334) 844-3927 Eve Brantley
www.aces.edu/waterquality/nemo/intro.htm#NEMO



An Educational Program for Local Officials and Citizens on Water Pollution from Nonpoint Sources (Polluted Runoff)



What is NEMO?



NEMO (Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials) is a national program to help inform elected officials and citizens of the impact of nonpoint source pollution on water quality.

Nonpoint source pollution or polluted runoff from land is now the number one water quality problem in the United States*. The ultimate protection of the nation's water resources will depend upon educating everyone about the link between land use and water quality. NEMO focuses on the impact of land use policies, which are created and enforced by local and elected officials.

Land use policies which negatively affect water quality degrade the quality of life for everyone. Through a three-tiered strategy of natural resource-based planning, protective site design, and responsible land stewardship, water resources can be protected while encouraging economic growth.

*According to the Environmental Protection Agency

So What is Alabama NEMO?

In Alabama, a coalition of public officials, agencies, organizations, and citizens provides leadership and action for this important effort. The purpose of Alabama NEMO is to:

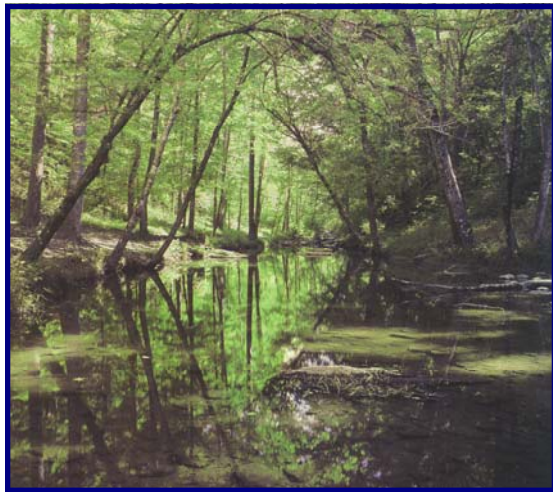
- Increase awareness about nonpoint source pollution.
- Educate local officials and the general public about the linkages between land use and water quality.



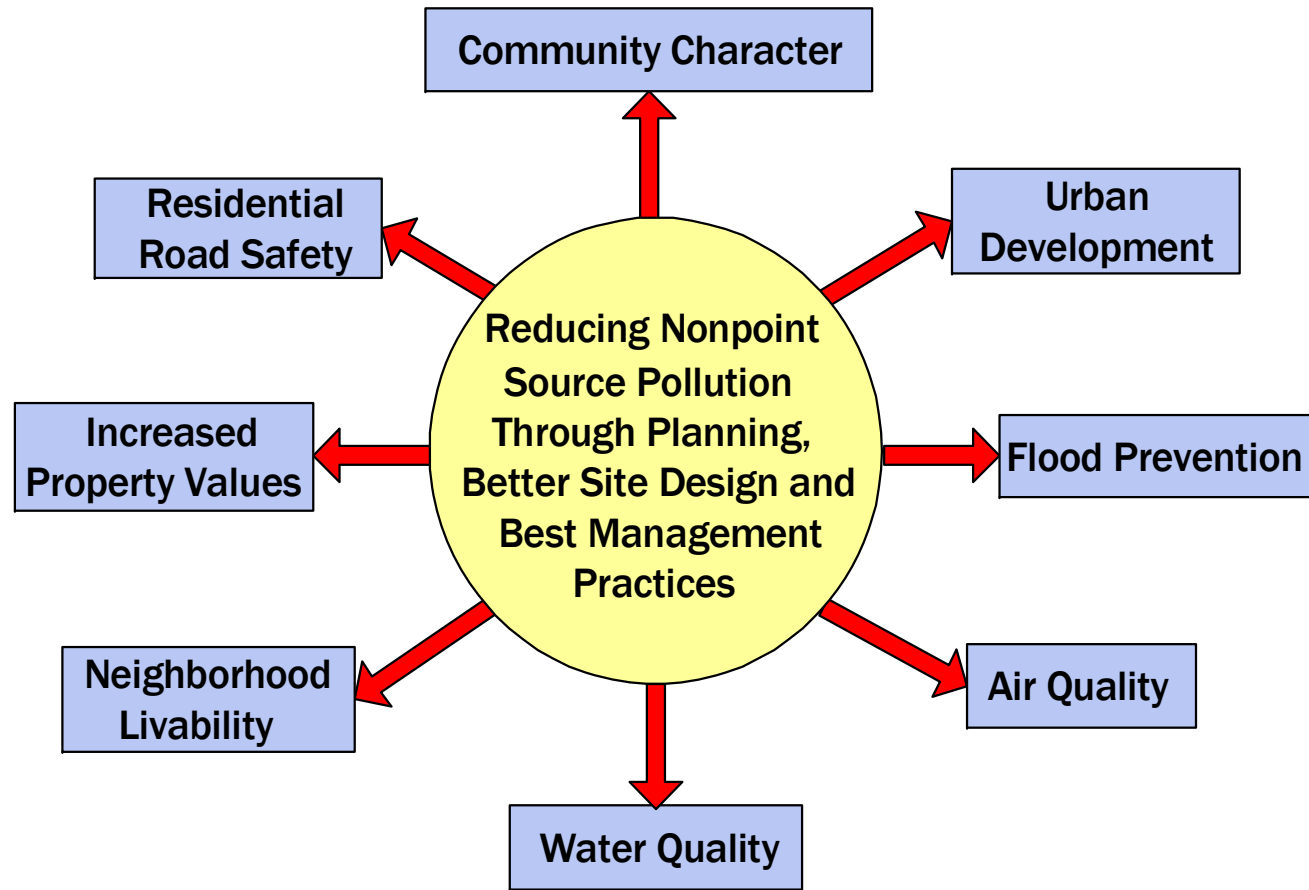
- Provide elected officials, professionals, and citizens alike with the ideas and tools to help them take action at the local level.
- Although NEMO Alabama is a statewide organization, its primary focus is at the local level where the relationship between land use and water quality can be most effectively addressed.
- Short NEMO presentations can be offered at association meetings, city council meetings, county commission meetings or for any group of local decision makers.

Among other efforts, Alabama NEMO will provide information and expertise concerning how the following relate to each other in the improvement of water quality:

- Watershed Protection
- Alabama Clean Water Partnerships
- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)
- Stormwater Phase I & II
- Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)
- Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act
- Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 (Source Water Assessments, Consumer Confidence Reports)
- Local Ordinances and Land Use Plans
- A one-day course for city engineers and Phase I & II permitted cities is offered two times a year.



It's Not Just About Water



It's About Economic Growth and a Better Quality of Life for Everyone!

What is Nonpoint Source Pollution or Polluted Runoff?

Unlike "point source pollution" which can be attributed to one specific point or location, "nonpoint source (NPS) pollution" literally comes from many, non-specific sources.

Nonpoint source pollution, which also may be called polluted runoff or stormwater runoff, occurs when rainwater picks up soil, debris, oil, pesticides, or fertilizers as it flows over land or paved surfaces. This runoff carries pollutants to the nearest creek or stream and ultimately to our rivers and lakes. Studies have demonstrated that the impacts on water quality can be good or bad based upon the way we use the land.

