

### Stormwater Tip:

The most common indicators of surface water pollution have decreased substantially since the 1970s. For example, between 1972 and 2014, fecal coliforms (a measure of bacteria associated with human and animal wastes) fell by about two-thirds. Total suspended solids (a measure of the total particles suspended in water), which reflects a wide range of pollutants, fell by about a third over the same period (Keiser and Shapiro). There has been a similar declining trend in the share of waters that are unsafe for fishing, which is a common measure of water quality that aggregates data for these and other pollutants.