

Illinois River Nonpoint vs. Point Source Pollution

Can you determine if these activities contribute to point source water pollution or nonpoint source pollution in the Illinois River watershed? A **point source** pollutant comes from a specific place where you can “point” to a pipe or other item as the source of a pollutant. A **nonpoint source** pollutant comes from many different land activities and places across the watershed and flows into creeks, streams and lakes through a process called **runoff**.

Draw lines from images to the type of watershed pollution.

Source of Pollution



Type of Pollution

Point
Source

Non-Point
Source

Extension activity: Create a chart and list all of the potential watershed pollutants that might result from activities in and around your home. What can you do to reduce the risk of these pollutants entering the watershed? Discuss your ideas with your peers and take action to reduce your impact on regional water resources.