

A hand-drawn diagram of a leaf, oriented vertically. A thick black diagonal line runs from the upper left towards the lower right, dividing the leaf into two sections. The word "FERTILIZERS" is written in bold, uppercase letters in the upper right section. In the lower left section, the text "Can cause algal blooms when it get into water." is written in a smaller font, following the curve of the leaf's edge.

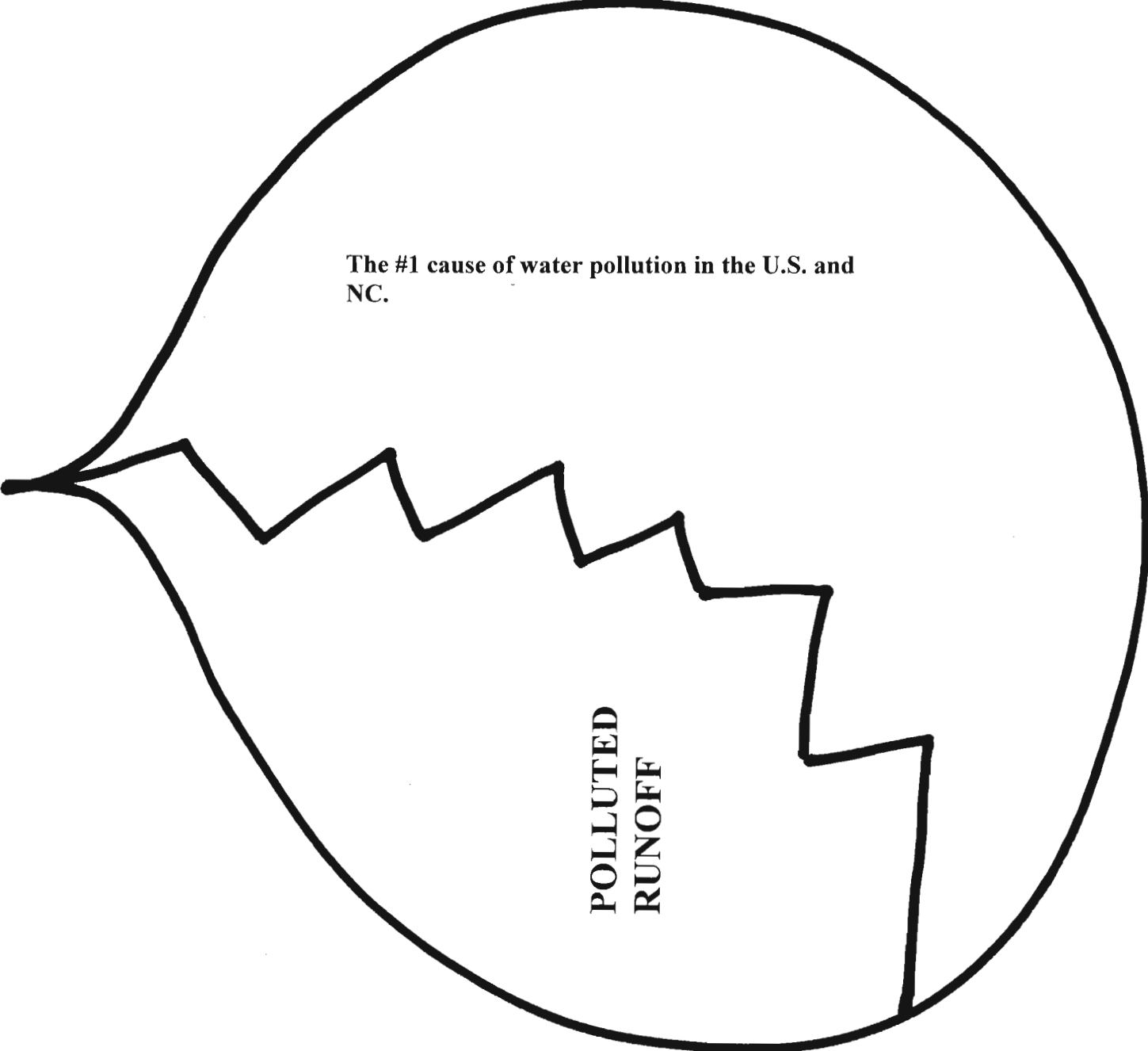
**FERTILIZERS**

Can cause algal blooms when it get into water.



**EVERYONE**

*Contributes to nonpoint source pollution and has the ability to decrease their impact.*



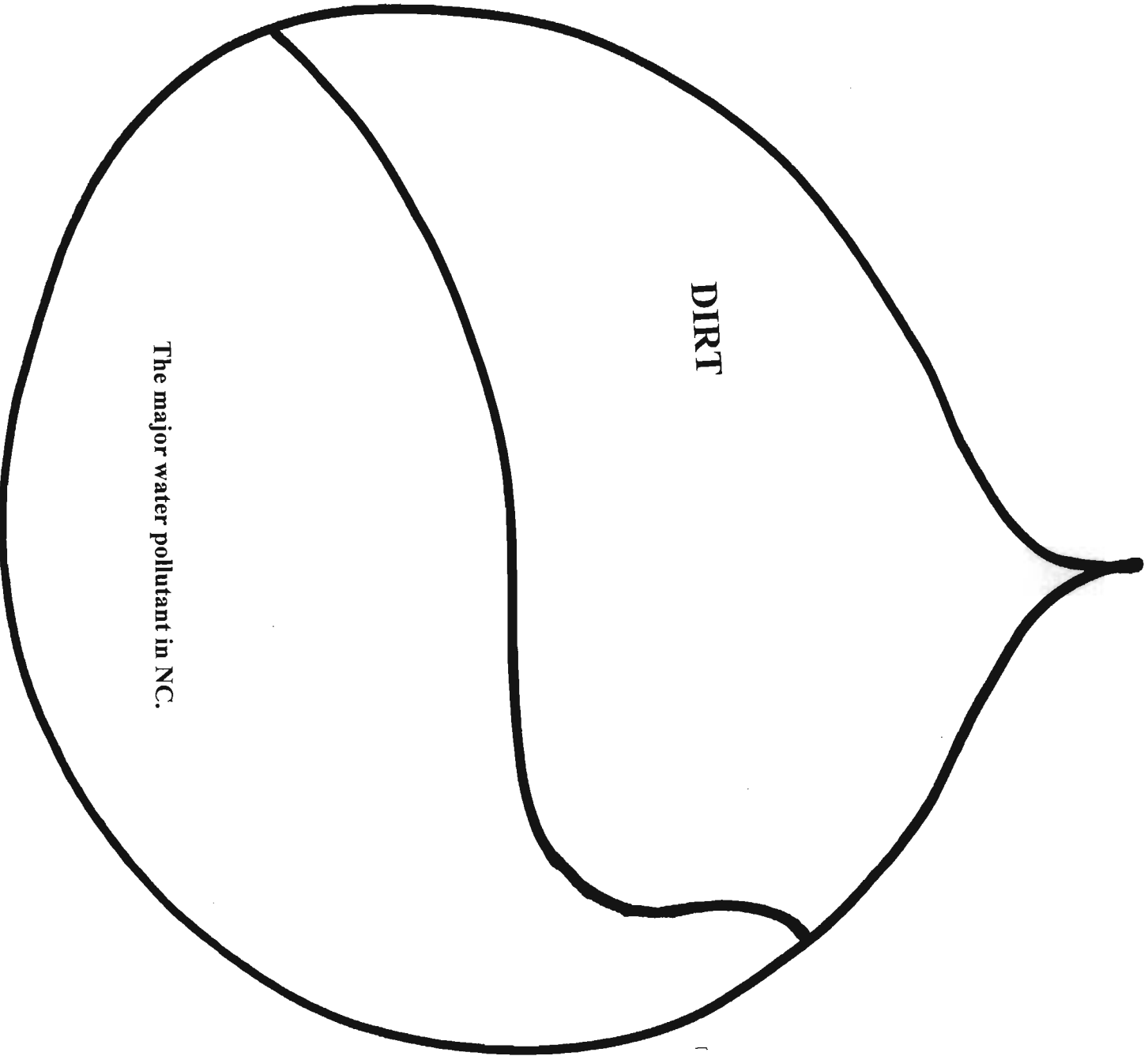
The #1 cause of water pollution in the U.S. and NC.

**POLLUTED  
RUNOFF**



**PET WASTE**

*Because it contains harmful bacteria and can pollute waterways, it is important to pick it up.*

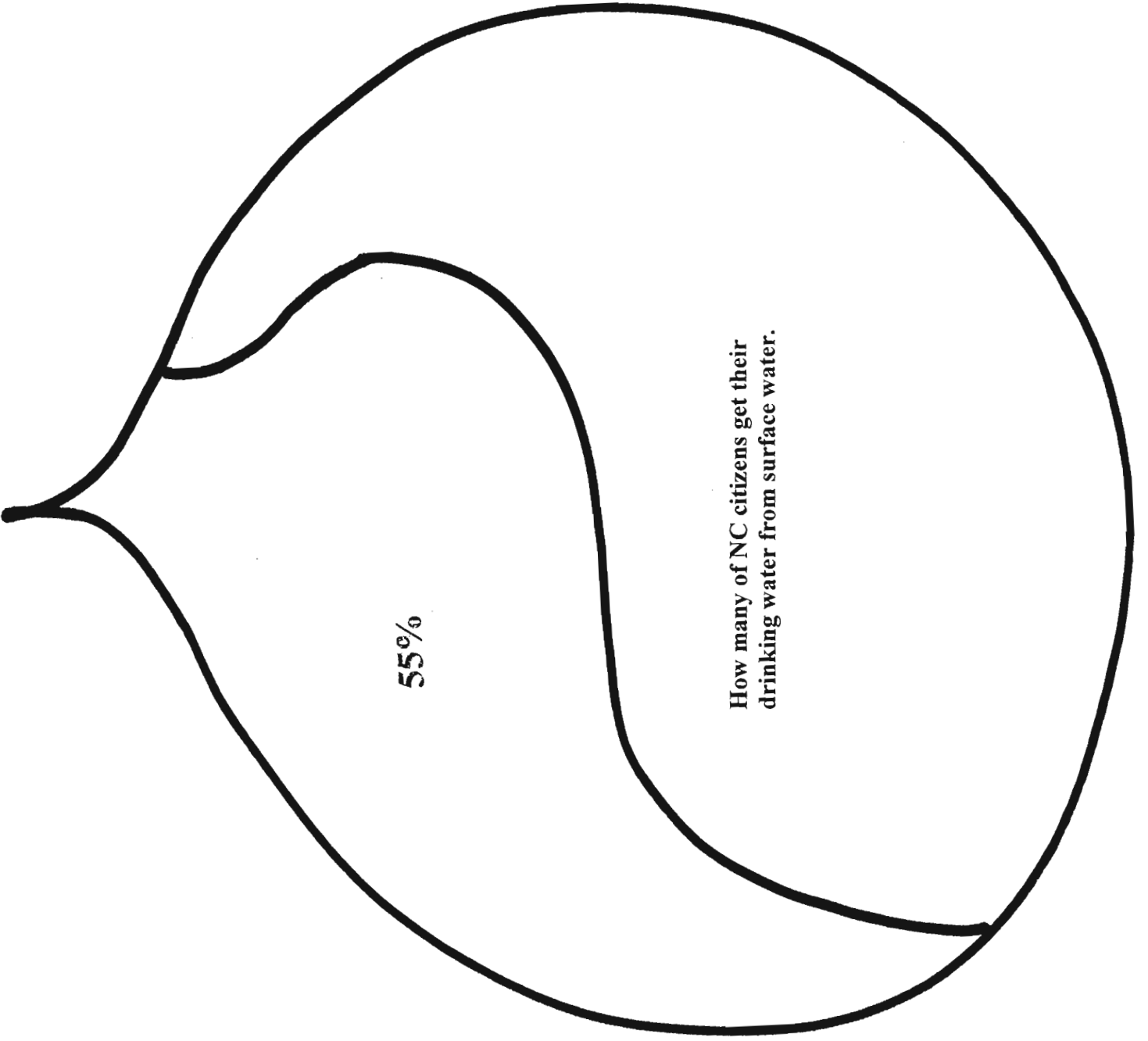


**DIRT**

**The major water pollutant in NC.**

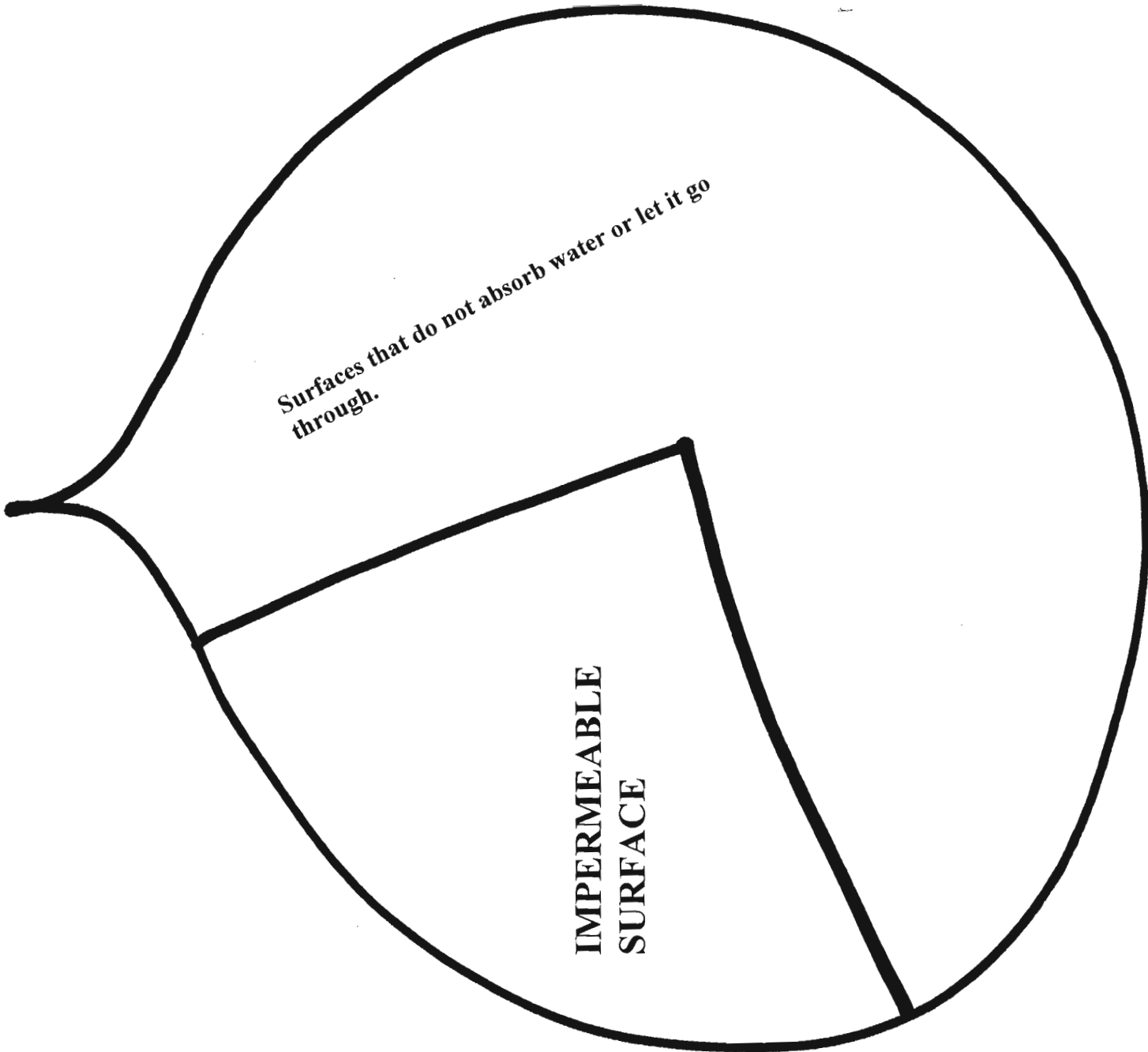
**RIVER BASIN**

*The land that water flows across  
on its way to a river.*



55%

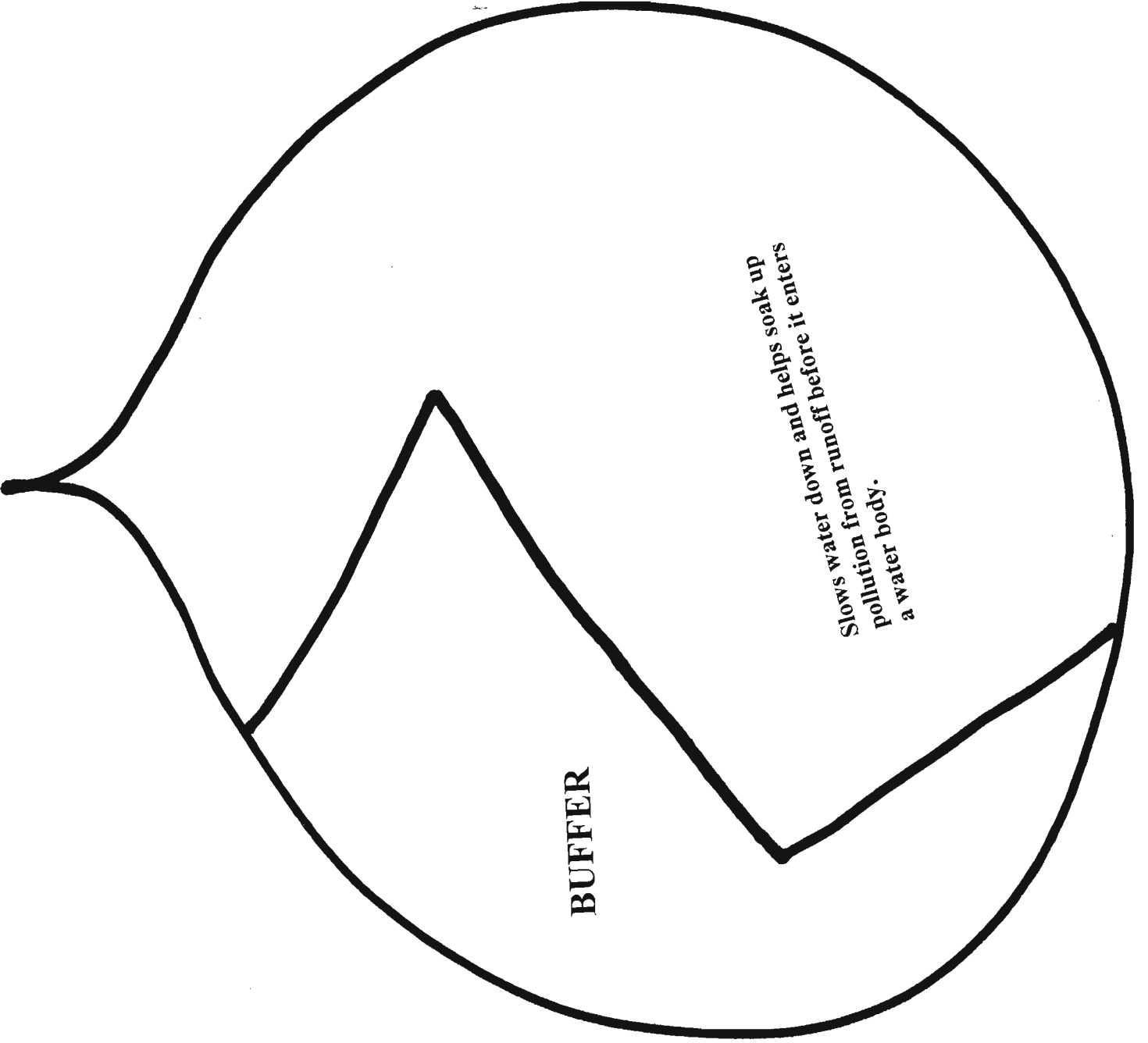
How many of NC citizens get their drinking water from surface water.



*Surfaces that do not absorb water or let it go through.*

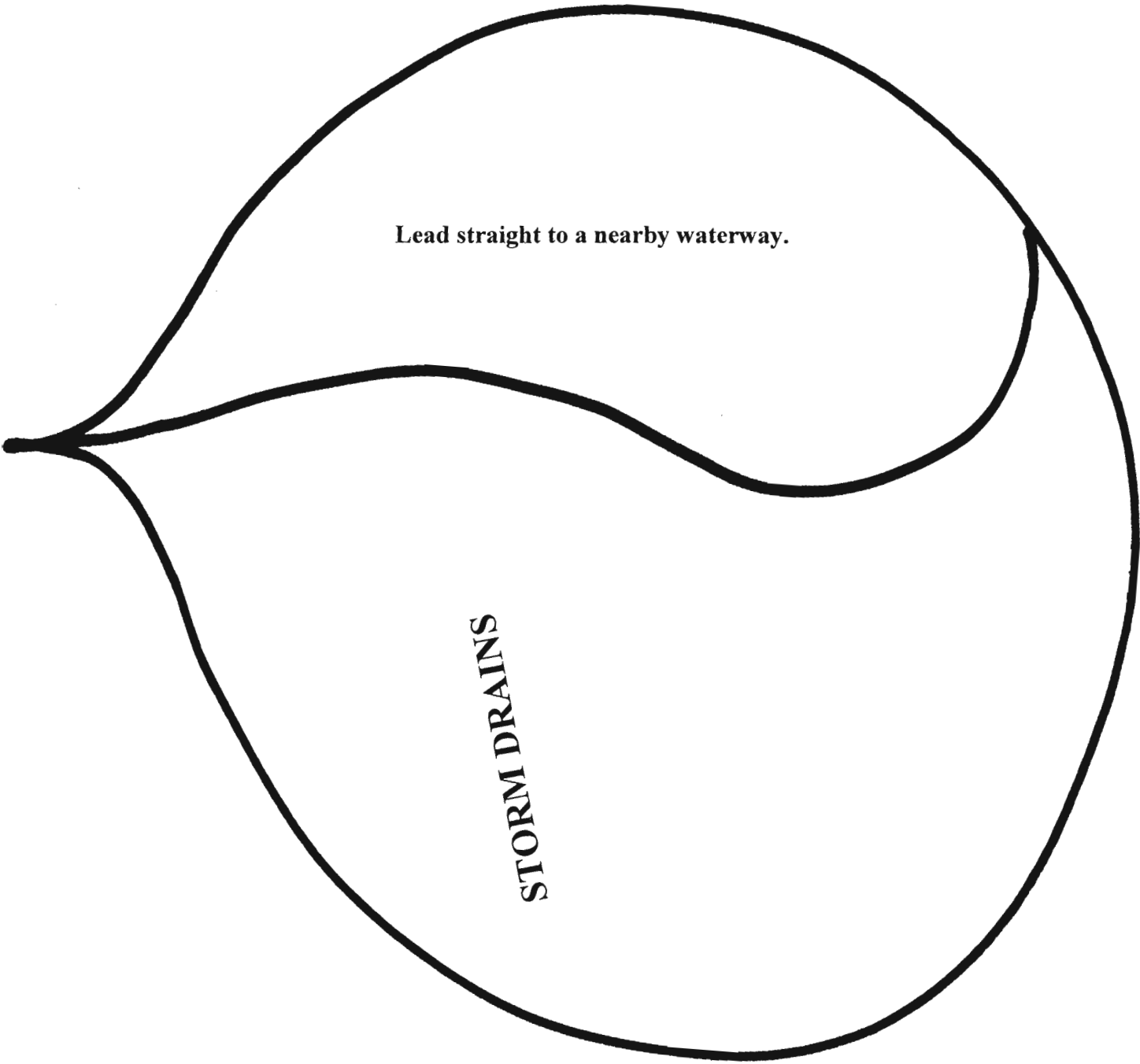
**IMPERMEABLE  
SURFACE**





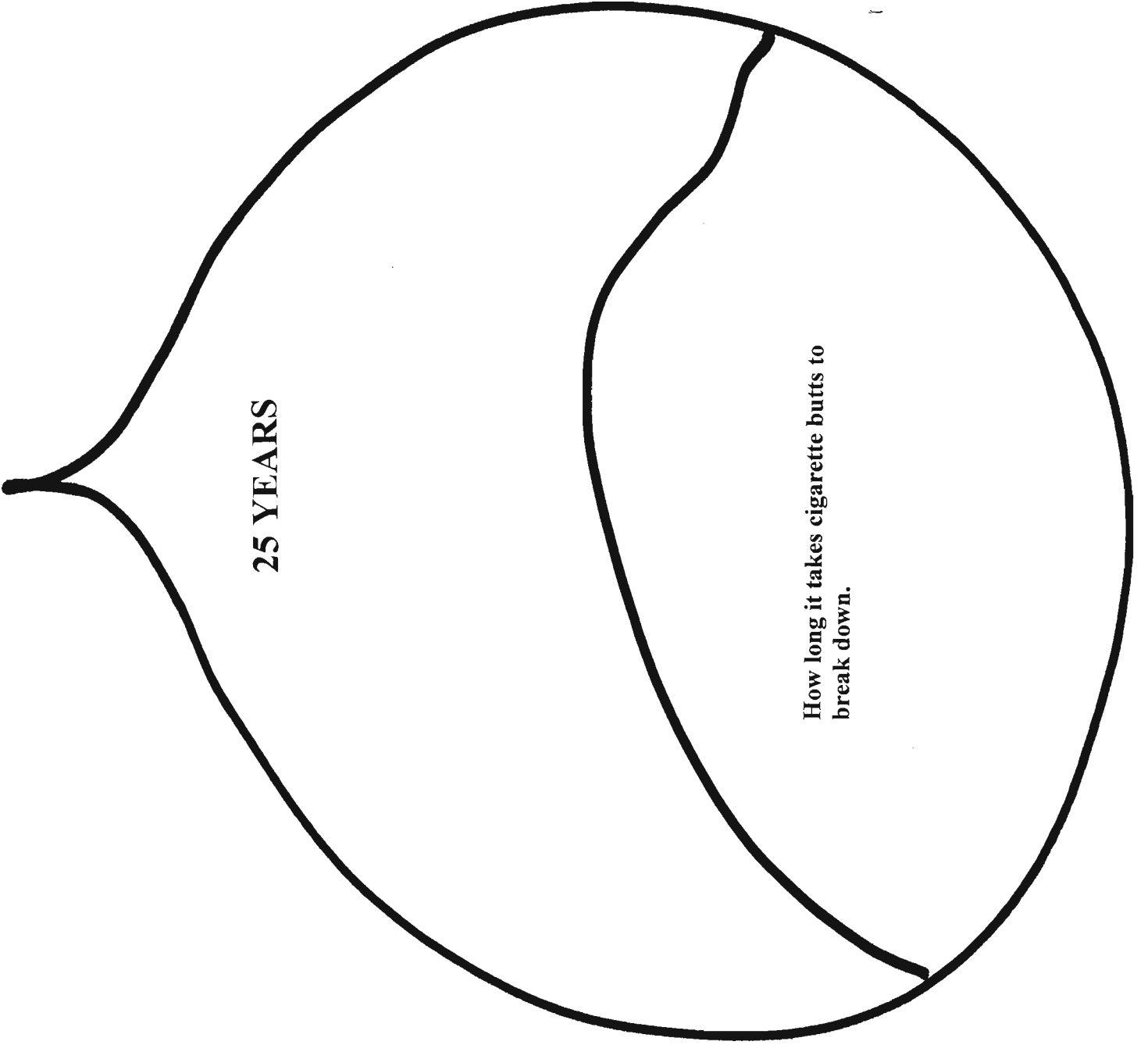
**BUFFER**

Slows water down and helps soak up pollution from runoff before it enters a water body.



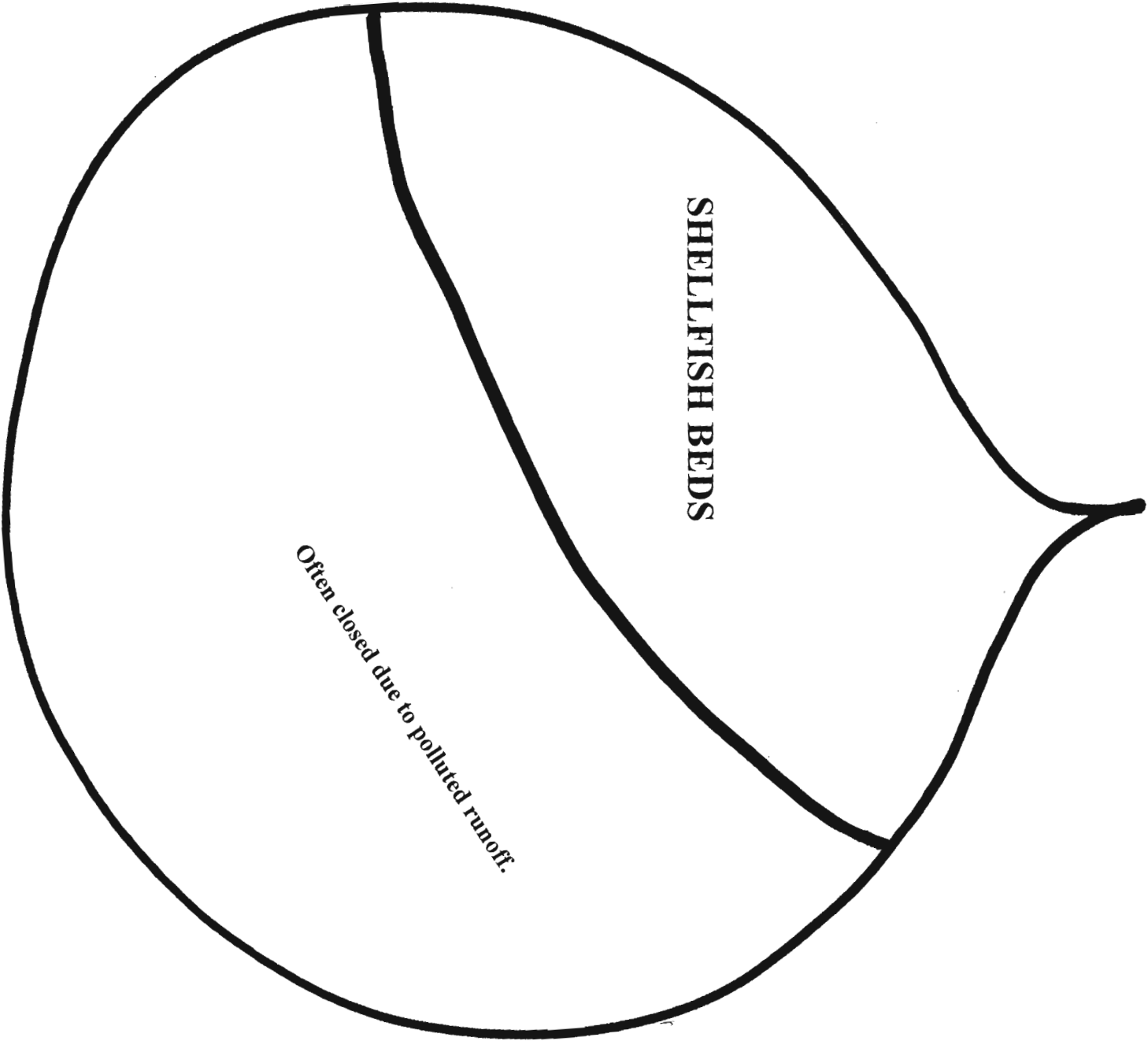
Lead straight to a nearby waterway.

STORM DRAINS



**25 YEARS**

**How long it takes cigarette butts to  
break down.**

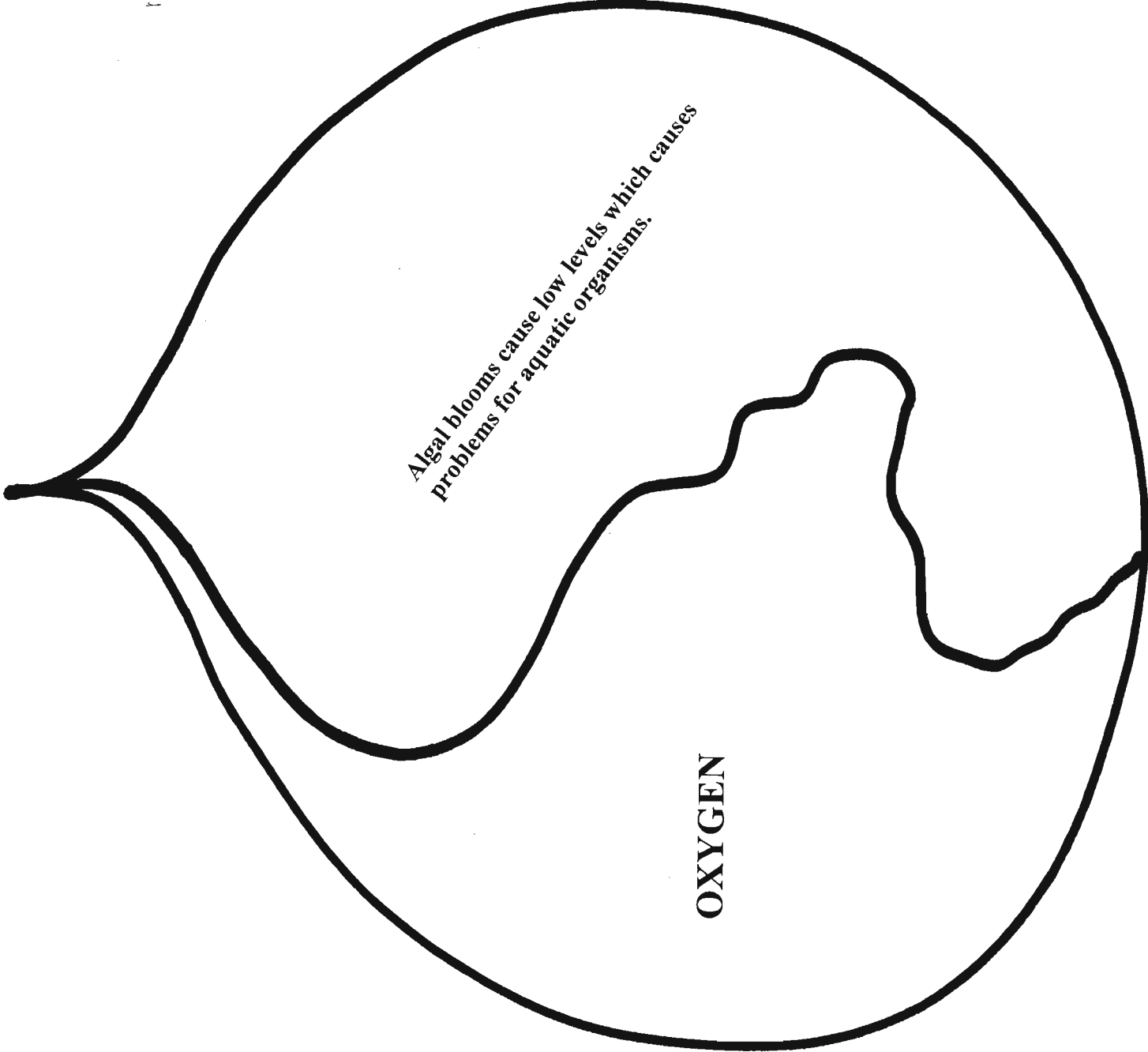


**SHELLFISH BEDS**

*Often closed due to polluted runoff.*

*Algal blooms cause low levels which causes  
problems for aquatic organisms.*

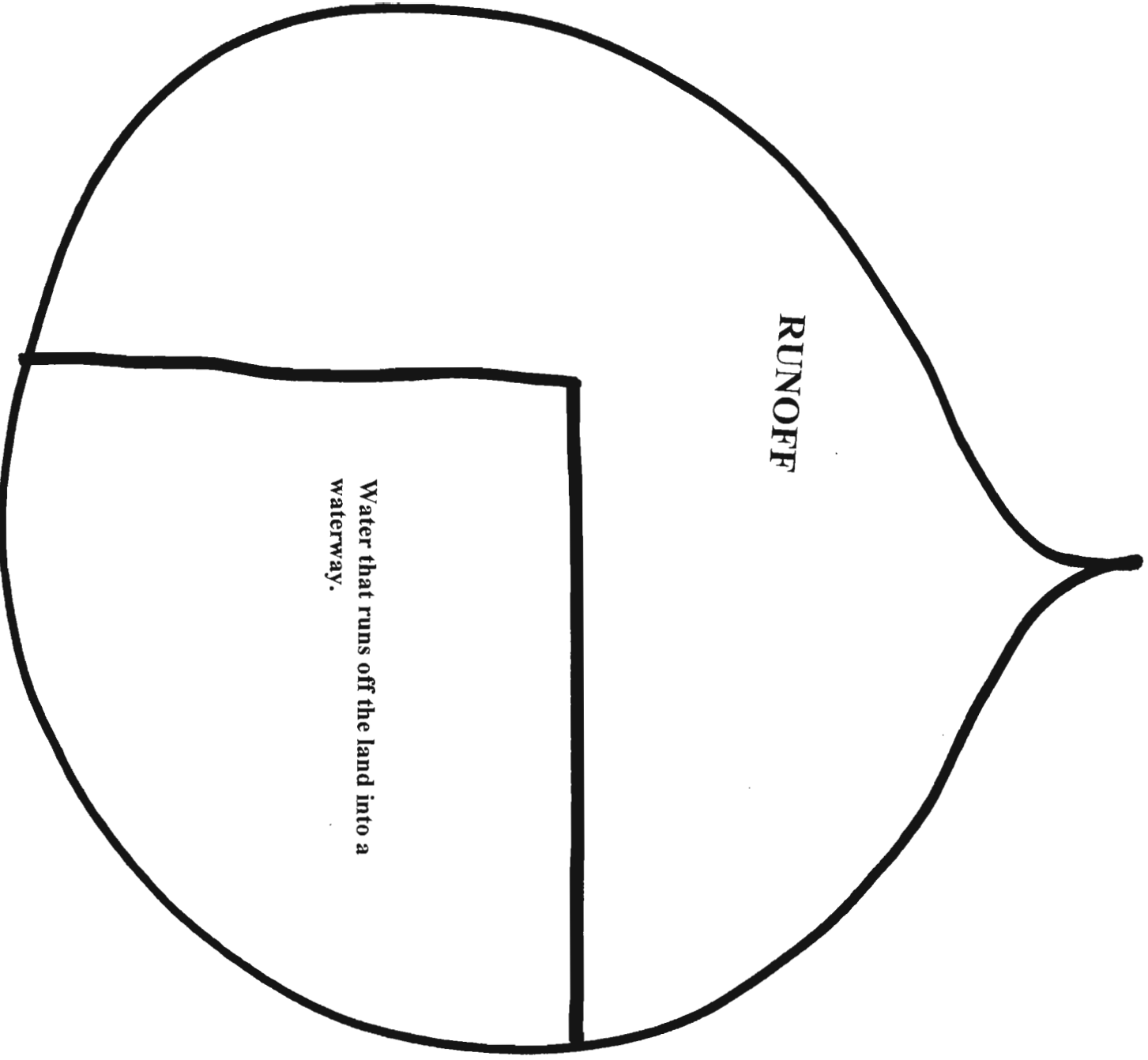
**OXYGEN**





**EROSION**

*When water washes away land and  
stream banks.*



**RUNOFF**

Water that runs off the land into a waterway.