

SOLUTIONS TO STORMWATER POLLUTION

Easy Things You Can Do Every Day To Protect Our Water

A Guide To Healthy Habits For Cleaner Water

- Rain washes pollution on streets, parking lots, and lawns into storm drains, then into our drinking water supplies, and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings etc., all ends up in our water. Stormwater pollution is one of NJ's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that is why we are all doing something about it.
- By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cost of cleaning up once it is dirty.
- As part of NJ's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful, and to meet Federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies including colleges and military bases must adopt rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties. As a member of the New Jersey community, it is important to know these easy things that you can do every day to protect our water.

Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides.

- Do a soil test to see if you need a fertilizer.
- Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.
- Look into alternatives for pesticides.
- Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer.
- Follow application instructions on labels of fertilizers and pesticides properly.
- Make sure you properly store or discard any unused portions.

Properly use and dispose of hazardous products.

- Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products; lawn and garden care products; motor oil; antifreeze; and paints.
- Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local waterbodies and the water is not treated.
- If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure that you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance.
- Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible.
- Recycle used motor oil.
- Contact your municipality, county, or facility management office for the location of hazardous waste disposal facilities. Salem County Utilities Authority hosts a *Household Hazardous Waste Day* every April and October.

Keep pollution out of storm drains

- Municipalities and other public agencies are required to mark certain storm drain inlets to remind people that storm drains are connected to local waterbodies.
- Do not let sewage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system
- Limit use of detergents when washing vehicles and other equipment outside.
- Use biodegradable or all natural products.
- Dispose of unused medications properly. For details, visit : www.state.nj.us/dep/dshw/rntp/disposal.pdf.

Clean up after your pet

- All pet owners or their keepers are required to immediately and properly dispose of their pet's solid waste deposited on public or other people's property.
- Remember to use newspaper, bags, or pooper scoopers to pick up pet waste.
- Remember to dispose of the wrapped waste in the trash or unwrapped in a toilet.
- Remember to never discard pet waste in a storm drain.

Do not feed wildlife

- Do not feed wildlife, such as ducks and geese in public areas.
- Many municipalities and other public agencies must enact and enforce a rule that prohibits wildlife feeding in these areas.

Do not litter

- REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE.
- Place litter in trash receptacles and participate in community clean-ups.

Dispose of yard waste properly

- Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains, or use them for composting.
- Follow yard waste collection rules.
- Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn.

Contact information:

For more information, visit www.njstormwater.org or www.nonpointsource.org.
More information is available at: www.pittsgrovetownship.com/codebookonline.htm.
Search for "stormwater" and "recycling".

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection — (609) 633-7021

Division of Water Quality

Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control

Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program



Wondering What's Going On? Join us at one of our many Meetings!

Township Committee - Planning Board - Recreation - Environmental Commission - Agriculture - More!

Dates & Times are listed here in this calendar.

Get Agendas & Minutes at www.PittsgroveTownship.com. Click on **AGENDAS & MINUTES**.