



Stormwater Pollution Prevention



Stormwater

What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow that does not soak into the ground. It flows from rooftops, paved areas, bare soil, and sloped lawns. As it flows, Stormwater runoff collects and transports soil, animal waste, salt, pesticides, fertilizers, oil and grease, debris and other potential pollutants.

What is the Problem?

Rain and snowmelt wash pollutants from streets, construction sites, and land into storm sewers and ditches. Eventually, the storm sewer and ditches empty the polluted stormwater directly into streams and rivers with no treatment. This is known as stormwater pollution. Polluted stormwater degrades our lakes, rivers, wetlands and other waterways. Nutrients such as phosphorous and nitrogen can cause the overgrowth of algae, resulting in oxygen depletion in waterways. Toxic substances from motor vehicles, careless application of pesticides and fertilizers threaten water quality and can kill fish and other aquatic life. Bacteria from animal wastes and improper connections to storm sewer systems can make lakes and

waterways unsafe for wading, swimming and fish consumption. Eroded soil is a pollutant as well, it clouds waterways and interferes with the habitat of fish and plant life.

Fortunately, stormwater pollution can be prevented or minimized by implementing Best Management Practices, which are procedures or activities that reduce or eliminate pollutants in stormwater.

How does PCCC help protect our stormwater ?

- We have a storm drain maker program.
- Through employee training.
- Established Board Policies.
- Storm drain cleaning.
- Litter patrols.
- Through the use of mulching mowers.
- Through proper waste disposal.



www.cleanwaternj.org

How can we help protect our water ?

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's dirty.

Don't litter

- Place litter in trash receptacles.
- Recycle. Recycle. Recycle.
- Participate in community cleanups

Clean up after your pet

- Use newspaper, bags or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes.
- Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.

Dispose of yard waste properly

- Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains.
- Use leaves and grass clippings as a resource for compost
- Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn.

Properly use and dispose of hazardous products

- Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain.
- Recycle used motor oil.