

General Best Management Practices for Storm Water Pollution-Residential, Industrial and Construction Setting

Residential

- Pet waste left on the ground gets carried away by storm water, contributing harmful bacteria, parasites and viruses to our streams. Please clean up after your pet.
- Vehicle fluids such as oil, gas, and antifreeze are the #1 surface water quality problems nationwide. Recycle used oil in a clean, sealed, plastic container.
- SWEEP! Hosing off pavements washes pollutants into storm drains leading straight to our streams and wetlands.
- Deliver old paint, pesticides, solvents and batteries to our semiannual hazardous waste collection dropoff. Call the Town's Environmental Engineer at 781-270-1656 for more information.
- Street litter such as styrofoam, plastic, and paper can be prevented from blowing into inlets by keeping trash bins covered and by not littering.



**Leaves don't
belong in the
stormdrain**



- Yard waste such as grass clippings, tree trimmings, and leaves can be composted and used for fertilizer around the yard.

Industrial

At industrial sites, chemical spills that contain toxic substances and uncovered or unprotected outdoor storage or waste areas can contribute pollutants to storm water runoff. Best management practices include:

- Washing vehicles or equipment in wash bays. Don't wash off detergents, oils, and greases into streets or storm drains.
- Divert rainfall runoff from fueling islands by building a canopy or cover over them.
- In compliance with Fire Code, any barrels containing potentially hazardous liquids should be in a sealed container, stored inside a building or under cover, and propped up on pallets with secondary containment in case of a spill. Call the



Fire Department code specifics.

- Waste and processed water of any type must be discharged to the sanitary sewer. Discharge of wastewater to the ground or storm drains is prohibited.
- SWEEP ! Hosing off pavements can wash pollutants into storm drains leading straight to our water resources.
- Be sure to know spill cleanup procedures. Have cleanup materials nearby with a spill prevention plan prepared and procedures known by all employees.

Construction

Waste from chemicals and materials used in construction can wash into storm drains leading to our streams during rainy weather. Soil that erodes from construction sites can contribute to environmental degradation. Listed below are other harmful contributors from the construction site:



- Sediments and other debris damage fish habitat and block the light needed for the plants to survive.
- Wash waters from concrete mixers should be disposed of back at the contractors' site or a large hole, big enough to contain all the wash waters. Never rinse out concrete truck chutes with a hose and allow to run down the street gutter into the storm drains.
- Waste storage for used oils, solvents and other hazardous fluids must be under cover with secondary containment in case of a spill and to prevent rainfall from contact which would wash hazardous fluids into nearby waterways.
- Landscaping and earthmoving pollutants include planting, excavation, tilling, masonry and concrete, solid wastes such as trees and shrubs, soil additives and revegetation of graded areas, all contribute to soil erosion. Silt fences to hold back loose soil and sand when it gets windy allows sand and soils to stay out of street gutters where rainwater can wash it into storm drains.

Vehicle and equipment maintenance becomes a significant factor when engine repairs or preventive maintenance such as changing oil and other fluids occurs at the construction site. Maintain a "dry site" by using off site facilities, performing work in designated areas only, providing cover for materials stored outside, containing and cleaning up spills immediately, and training employees and subcontractors

