



Storm Water Management

On December 8, 1999, the U.S. EPA published the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Storm Water Phase II Program, otherwise known as the "Phase II Regulations" or the "Phase II Storm Water Rule."

The goal of Phase II is to preserve, protect, and improve water quality resources by reducing pollutants in storm water runoff. Storm water discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) in urbanized areas are a concern because of the high concentration of pollutants found in these discharges. Separate Storm Sewer Systems are a system of underground pipes, drainage ditches and surface drainage that carry rainwater and snowmelt away from roads and parking lots. Ultimately this untreated water eventually enters into our lakes and rivers. Concentrated developments in urbanized areas increase impervious surfaces on which pollutants from concentrated human activities settle and remain until a storm event washes them into nearby storm drains.

To protect water quality, all regulated small MS4 operators must develop, implement, and enforce a storm water management program designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from their MS4 to the "maximum extent practicable." A permit application that includes the following six minimum control measures has to be submitted to the state agency responsible for enforcing the U.S. EPA regulations:

- Public education and outreach
- Public participation/involvement
- Illicit discharge detection and elimination
- Construction site runoff control
- Post-construction runoff control
- Pollution prevention/good housekeeping

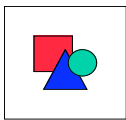
In Illinois, The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency is responsible for overseeing the enforcement of the regulations.

Operators of small MS4s (i.e. most Illinois cities and counties) were required to submit a permit application along with a storm water management plan, by March 10, 2003. The Village of Fox River Grove submitted their application before the

deadline. For more information on these regulations, please visit the following websites. U.S. EPA at: www.epa.gov or EPA at www.epa.state.il.us/ or Lake County Stormwater Management Commission at www.co.lake.il.us/smc/

Help Be the Solution to Storm Water Pollution

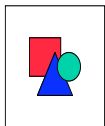
Help protect our valuable water resources by following the tips listed below to reduce water pollution of our creeks, streams, ponds and rivers. It's a simple individual responsibility that makes a positive impact on our family, friends and environment.



Hazardous Help

Contact your local hazardous waste collection site before disposing hazardous materials such as paint, antifreeze, oil or gasoline. Follow these tips when dealing with hazardous materials to help reduce storm water pollution.

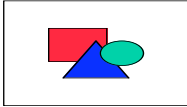
- If you spill fluids, contain it immediately with rags, oil dry or kitty litter.
- Store hazardous materials properly to prevent spills. Store them in the original closed container. Never pour hazardous materials into the street, sewer or the storm drain!
- Shop for non-hazardous household cleaning products.
- If you use water based paints, rinse paintbrushes in the sink. For oil based paints, filter and reuse paint thinner. Dispose of thinner through a household hazardous waste program in your area.
- Use hazardous substances such as paints, solvents and cleaners sparingly and according to the directions.
- If you're working on a home improvement project, dispose of drywall, concrete and mortar in the trash. Don't rinse concrete or mortar into the street.



Every Litter Bit Hurts

Don't litter! Litter washes down storm sewers with rain or melted snow and ends up in creeks, streams, ponds and rivers, posing a threat for fish and other wildlife that may mistake our trash for food. Litter reduces water quality and the beauty and recreational value of water. Did you know that cigarette butts take 25 years to break down? Plastic six-pack rings take 100 years and a glass bottle takes 1,000 years to break down. Keep litter in its place by following these guidelines:

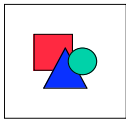
- Keep your garbage can and recycling bins clean and closed properly to prevent animals from scattering trash.
- Participate in local recycling programs.
- Don't toss cigarette butts, wrappers or any litter out of cars.
- Pick up trash and litter around your yard.
- Sweep driveways, porches and sidewalks instead of hosing them down, which sends pollutants straight to our streams, creeks, ponds and rivers.



Grungy Garages

Did you know that one-quart of oil can contaminate up to 2 million gallons of water? Vehicle fluids are a big source of storm water pollution. Be the solution by following these guidelines:

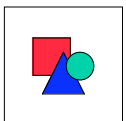
- Put used oil, gas or antifreeze in sealed plastic containers.
- Clean up spilled brake fluid, oil, grease, and antifreeze carefully; contain it immediately with rags, oil dry or kitty litter. Don't hose off into the street.
- Prevent vehicle fluids such as oil, gas, and antifreeze from entering a storm drain by disposing of them properly.
- DO NOT pour used oil down nearby storm sewers.



Scoop Your Pet's Poop

Clean up after your pets! Pet waste left on yards, streets and parks washes into storm sewers and empties untreated into drinking water sources. Coliform bacteria in pet waste are harmful to our health. To keep our drinking water safe and healthy:

- Throw pet waste away in the trash or toilet;
- Carry a plastic bag when you walk your pet to pick up the waste;
- When treating your pet and yard for fleas or ticks, check with your veterinarian for safe substitutes that will minimize impact to the storm drains and your family.
- Dispose flea dip liquid as a household hazardous waste.

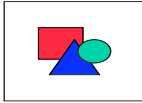


Garden Gunk

Fertilizers, pesticides and over watering can contribute to storm water pollution. These chemicals don't soak into the ground as well as you may think. Take care of your garden in a more environmentally friendly way by following these tips:

- Compost yard waste, grass clippings, tree trimmings, and leaves.
- Apply chemicals to your lawn sparingly.
- Don't over water your lawn. If you do water, do so in the morning or evening to reduce evaporation.

- Pesticides: Identify the pests before spraying pesticides and just buy what you will use.
- Don't spray pesticides when weather calls for rain.
- Create healthy soil by adding compost that contains organic matter and nutrients.
- Use drought resistant native plants that conserve water, which reduces storm water run off. Use mulch instead of herbicides to prevent weeds from growing and to help absorb water.



Fish Don't Like Soap

When you wash your car at home, that soapy water typically goes to backyard creeks, streams, ponds and rivers through storm sewers. Soap is poisonous to fish and can damage their gills. Wash your car at a commercial car wash that empties used water into the sanitary sewer to be treated before being released into streams, creeks, ponds and rivers. If you wash your own car, use a shutoff nozzle on your hose to reduce runoff. Consider pulling your car up onto the lawn to avoid runoff to the storm drain.