

Dear Local Business Owner:

In 1999 the Environmental Protection Agency (US-EPA) enacted the National Pollution Detection Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Stormwater Management program (Phase II). The purpose of this program is to reduce and ultimately eliminate contaminants from entering the Town's rivers, ponds, wells, etc. Stormwater is the water that runs off during rain events and snow melt. It travels into the Town's drainage system and is conveyed to local water bodies or wetlands. Because Stormwater typically travels overland for any given amount of time, it picks up pollutants such as salt, sand, oils and grease from parking lots and roads, fertilizers from lawn areas, sediment from construction sites and improperly discarded trash. These pollutants have negative impacts to aquatic systems, drinking water supplies, and hinder recreational use of Concord's water bodies.

A portion of the Phase II requires public outreach and community involvement to tackle the issues regarding stormwater. Much like recycling, keeping stormwater clean is a task that every member of the community can contribute to with little effort, and still make a great difference.

Please read the following information, and learn what you, as a business owner, can do to help the Town of Concord keep our waters clean, safe and enjoyable for future generations. If you would like to learn more about the NPDES Stormwater Phase II program and stormwater please visit us at:

<http://www.concordma.gov/175/stormwater-management> or if you have any questions, please call 978-318-3210.

Sincerely,



Christopher Olbrot, P.E.
Town Engineer

STORMWATER MATTERS!



As a business owner, The Town of Concord needs your help! All types of businesses- whether industrial, commercial, or service- have a significant role in practicing environmentally sensitive activities to protect Concord's waters and its residents' health.

WHAT'S STORMWATER AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Stormwater is the runoff of water after a rain or snow melt. Stormwater can become polluted with a variety of harmful things such as sand, litter, oils, and salt, as it flows over parking lots, lawns and sidewalks before flowing into the Town's Storm Sewer System. Many people don't know that the storm drains are NOT connected to sanitary sewers, and therefore usually empty directly into nearby receiving waters such as a river or pond and usually without any treatment or cleaning at all.



WHAT CAN YOUR BUSINESS DO TO HELP?

Follow these easy pollution prevention guidelines to keep our waters clean and safe.

- Sweep sidewalks and parking lots regularly and dispose of sand and litter in the trash. Provide appropriate receptacles for trash and cigarettes.
- Make sure you NEVER pour anything down the storm drain. When cleaning use biodegradable chemicals whenever possible. DON'T pour wash water down the storm drain. If a spill occurs, contact Concord Public Works (CPW) at the number below and DO NOT hose it down into the street or a catchbasin.
- Maintain all your vehicles to prevent fluid leaks, and wash at a commercial carwash.
- NEVER put leaking containers in the dumpster. NEVER hose down the inside of the dumpster. This should be done off-site by your collection contractor.
- Reduce the use of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides as much as possible. Urge your landscaper to do the same.
- Collect rooftop water in rain barrels for watering.
- Inspect your facility for undesirable connections. If you have a question about a connection, please call CPW at the number below
- If you apply sand and salt in winter, sweep it up as soon as possible.
- If you see something that concerns you or you have other questions on Stormwater please call **CPW-Engineering at (978) 318-3210**.