

What's in it for me—and for everyone else?

Stormwater Management has become a pressing issue in many areas of New York.

Pollution carried in runoff is promoting algae and water weed growth in lakes and rivers used for drinking water. The cost and complexity of treating water to make it safe for consumption increases.

Flooding becomes more common as more land is covered with impervious buildings, parking lots, driveways, roads and structures that do not allow stormwater to infiltrate into the ground.

Damage to roads, culverts and municipal buildings due to flooding increases costs to taxpayers.



Stream bank erosion occurs when stormwater flows into streams at high volumes and speeds. Eroding banks can eat away at streamside property, create dangerous situations, and damage natural habitat for fish and other aquatic life.

Stormwater drainage problems can not be solved by diverting runoff to another resident's property. Good stormwater management makes good water resources and good neighbors.

Ontario-Wayne Stormwater Coalition Members

Town of Victor
Town of Farmington
Town of Macedon
Town of Ontario
Town of Walworth
Village of Victor
Wayne County Highway Department
Ontario County Highway Department
Ontario County Soil and Water Conservation District
Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District



www.owsc.org

Ontario-Wayne
Stormwater Coalition
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Our Home, Our Stormwater



*Protecting Water
Reducing Pollution*

Your stormwater may become someone's drinking water, or possibly your own. Reducing the quantity and improving the quality of stormwater runoff can begin at your home.

During Planning and Construction:

- Minimize excavation.
- Minimize paving. Porous pavements are sturdy and allow for infiltration.



- Use low areas for rain gardens, or bio-swales to slow runoff.
- Avoid excessive soil compaction and disturbance to the lot. Compaction impedes infiltration and greatly delays plant coverage of the soil.
- Mulch and seed bare soil as soon as possible to prevent soil from eroding into the storm sewer.
- Leave the trees and/or quickly replant deep rooted vegetation to hold the soil.
- If near a water body, plant buffer strips of native species to slow runoff.
- Native plants adapted to local soils, climate and pests and require much less fertilizer, chemicals and care.

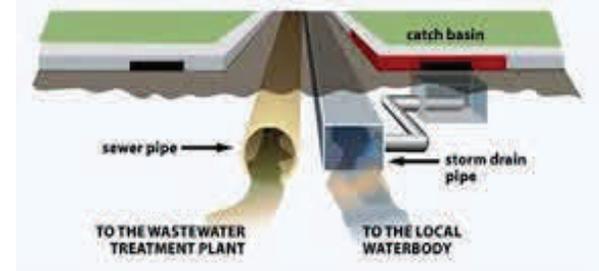
Lawn, Pool and Spas

- Apply fertilizer and pesticides only onto target areas. Don't spread fertilizer onto paved surfaces that drain to the storm sewer.
- Follow recommended watering practices. Avoid excess watering and don't sprinkle water onto pavement or other areas that drain into the storm sewer.
- Don't allow pet waste to be dumped or washed into the storm sewer. Properly bury or dispose of waste in the trash.
- Mulch grass clippings and leave these on the lawn for natural fertility or use the clippings for composting.
- Keep grass clippings and leaves from washing into the storm sewer.
- Drain downspouts onto grassy areas. Collect water from downspouts for use around the home.
- Safely drain pools and spas by eliminating chlorine before emptying the water into a sanitary sewer. This can be done chemically or by allowing the chlorine to evaporate over time.
- Do not discharge sump-pump water onto paved surfaces that drain to the storm sewer.



If your home has an onsite wastewater treatment (septic) system, maintain it properly and pump the tank regularly every 3-5 years.

Storm Drain Systems are Separate from Wastewater Systems



Storm drains do not go to a wastewater treatment plant.

Only Rain in the Drain

Car Care

- Clean up hazardous material spills properly and don't wash waste into the storm sewer.
- Store oil, gasoline, antifreeze, and other automotive products properly. Keep these substances tightly sealed and avoid leaky containers.
- Clean up oil or other vehicle fluid drippings. Do not store used vehicle parts on areas that drain to the storm sewer.
- Wash vehicles at a commercial car wash or on a non-paved surface to avoid drainage to the storm sewer.