

Stormwater Management

Stormwater Pollution Hotline

908-359-8211 ext. 2295

The Solution to Stormwater Pollution

As stormwater flows over driveways, lawns, and sidewalks, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. Stormwater can flow into a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland, or coastal water. Anything that enters a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) is discharged untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and providing drinking water. Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water. By practicing healthy household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids off the ground and out of stormwater. Adopt these healthy household habits and help protect lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, and coastal waters. Remember to share the habits with your neighbors.

Visit [Clean Water NJ](#) for best practice guidelines.

Stormwater management is not only critical to our environment, it is critical to our own health and well-being. It is also a complicated matter involving all levels of government, new development and private citizens. In short, it is the responsibility of all of us. People have learned not to simply capture stormwater from rainfalls and to discharge it into our streams. This is detrimental to us and our environment in a number of ways. This out-dated method of stormwater management creates the following damage:

- Fails to recharge our aquifers
- Causes downstream flooding
- Erodes the stream banks and scours the stream bed
- Dumps sediment and pollutants into our streams

The township is required to not only regulate the activities of developers, but to manage its own storm water facilities in such a way as not to pollute our streams. We must also have an active public participation and education component in the program. As you may have noticed storm sewer inlets have been labeled to let everyone know that they drain directly to our waterways. The water that reaches inlets is not treated at a wastewater treatment plant, like sanitary sewer flow is before it is released into the waterways.

[Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan](#)

Please help all of us keep our waterways clean by refraining from placing any litter, garbage, leaves, motor oil, anti-freeze, or any other waste into storm sewer inlets or letting it reach them. Please properly follow all waste disposal rules. Remember if it is on your lawn, driveway, or in the street, it will eventually make its way into our waterways.

Below are a few of the ordinances that have been adopted by the township to help maintain clean waterways.

[Pet Waste Regulations](#)

[These regulations are designed to keep pet feces or droppings from being washed into the municipal separate storm sewer system \(MS4\), where it would cause pollution of our waterways.](#)

[Read More](#)

[Litter Regulations](#)

[These regulations are designed to keep litter from being washed into the municipal separate storm sewer system \(MS4\), where it would cause pollution of our waterways.](#)

[Read More](#)

[Wildlife Regulations](#)

[These regulations against feeding wildlife are in part designed to keep wildlife from concentrating in small areas and their feces from causing pollution of our waterways.](#)

[Read More](#)

[Illicit Connection / Improper Disposal of Waste Regulations](#)

[These regulations are designed to keep non-stormwater flows from discharging into the municipal separate storm sewer system \(MS4\), where it would cause pollution of our waterways. This includes both residential and non-residential areas. Examples of prohibited materials include domestic sewage...](#)

[Read More](#)

[Tree Preservation Ordinance](#)

[This ordinance establishes requirements for tree removal and replacement in Montgomery Township. An application to the Township is required prior to removal of any trees from any property \(residential, commercial, homeowners associations\), and replanting of new trees is required in some...](#)

[Read More](#)

[Privately Owned Salt Storage](#)

This ordinance establishes requirements for storing and securing salt and other de-icing materials on private properties to prevent spillover into the surrounding environment.

Ordinance Purpose: adopted by Montgomery Township per requirements of the NJ Department of Environmental...

[Read More](#)

For more information about these regulations, please see the on-line version of [The Code of Montgomery Township](#) or contact the Township Clerk's Office. The Stormwater Management and Grading code can be found in [Chapter 16-5.2](#).

[What You Can Do to Protect Our Waterways](#)

Businesses also need to be aware that things they do or products they use in their daily operations can enter the stormwater system and affect our water sources. Runoff from construction sites, spills at fueling areas, and chemicals used to keep outdoor areas clean can be picked up by rainwater and whisked into the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4).

Please contact the township at 908-359-8211 ext. 2295 to report any pollution incident that is impacting municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4), surface water, or any township waterways.

Special thanks to the Township of Bensalem and Township of Middletown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for the development of this information!

Related Links

- [NJ Municipal Stormwater Management Regulation Program](#)