



TOWN OF OSSINING

The Volunteer Spirited Town

16 CROTON AVENUE
OSSINING, N.Y. 10562

PHONE: 914-762-6000 FAX: 914-762-0833

www.townofossining.com

Stormwater Management Bulletin from the Town of Ossining

In response to Federal and State water quality regulations and requirements, the Town has implemented a Stormwater Management Program.

The goal is to control discharges of pollutants to municipal storm drainage systems including, lakes, streams, and the Hudson River. The Town encourages using BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP's) to effectively eliminate illegal discharges and connections

The Storm Drain System was built to collect and transport rain to prevent flooding in urban areas. Anything that flows or is discharged into the storm drain system goes into local lakes, streams and the Hudson River without any treatment.

The Sanitary Sewer System collects and transports sanitary wastes from interior building plumbing systems to the wastewater treatment plant where the waste is treated.

Best Management Practices (BMP's) are methods and practices such as good housekeeping, spill prevention or treatment measures to prevent or minimize pollutant discharges to municipal storm drain systems.

Illicit Discharges or Illicit Connections Discharges non-storm water to municipal storm drain systems and contributes to water pollution.

Urban Runoff is rain and other water that passes through and out of developed areas (streets, parking lots, roof tops, etc.) into the storm drain system and eventually into local lakes, streams and the Hudson River.

Pet Waste

Pet waste left to decay on the sidewalk, or on grass near the street, may be washed into storm drains by rain and snow melt. Water entering storm drains does not receive treatment before it goes to our water resources. All stormwater in the Town eventually flows to the Hudson River. Many substances deposited on the land cause pollution of our waters including; pesticides, fertilizers, pet waste, household chemicals, oil and antifreeze. When pet waste is washed into storm drains, the waste decays, using up oxygen and sometimes releasing ammonia. Pet waste also contains nutrients that encourage weed and algae growth. Most importantly, pet waste may carry disease causing organisms, which make water unsafe. When pet waste is disposed of improperly, not only does water quality suffer, your health may be at risk to. Pets, children playing outside, and adults gardening are most at risk for infection from some of the bacteria found in pet waste.

You can make a difference by cleaning up after your pet using a plastic bag or pooper scooper. Double wrap the pet waste in a second plastic bag, securing it tightly and put it in either a street waste receptacle or your garbage can at home.

For further information, or to assist the Town in its efforts, contact **Stormwater Management Coordinator** John Hamilton at (914) 941-8419 or visit the following websites:

<http://www.epa.gov/npdes>

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8468.html>

<http://www.townofossining.com>

<http://www.cwp.org>