



# HORSHAM TOWNSHIP

## Business Stormwater Management

*Only Rain...Down the Storm Drain*

### BUSINESS GUIDE FOR CLEAN STORMWATER DO'S & DON'TS

#### WHAT IS STORMWATER?

Stormwater is water runoff from precipitation that flows across the ground and pavement when it rains or when snow and ice melt. The water seeps into the ground or drains into what we call storm sewers. These are the drains you see at street corners or at low points on the sides of streets. Collectively, the draining water is called stormwater runoff.

#### BUSINESS SOLUTIONS TO STORMWATER POLLUTION

Businesses need to be aware that things they do or products they use in their daily operations can enter the stormwater system and effect 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 storm sewer system.

Vehicle wastes are among the many common stormwater pollutants that can degrade water quality. Stormwater runoff from vehicle maintenance and repair wastes has been found to contain high concentrations of metals, organics, oil and grease. When these wastes wash into our waters they can kill aquatic organisms. Metals such as chromium, cadmium, lead, and zinc have the potential to contaminate drinking water supplies as well as bioaccumulation in aquatic life. Organics such as engine degreasers, cleaners, and other solvents can also degrade water quality.

To report spills, dumping or discharges of pollutants into the street, stormwater system or streams, contact the following:  
Horsham Police at (215) 643-8284  
Mark Hudson at (215) 643-3131  
Email us at: [stormwater@horsham.org](mailto:stormwater@horsham.org)

For more information, visit our stormwater management web page:  
[www.horsham.org/information/stormwater](http://www.horsham.org/information/stormwater)

Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us)

#### All Businesses

- ◆ Implement a recycling program to reduce the amount of litter that may end up in the nearby creeks.
- ◆ Regularly service your business vehicles to prevent oil leaks and take your business vehicles to the car wash instead of washing in the lot.

#### Construction/Landscape Activities (see reverse side)

- ◆ Use filter fabric or hay to block sediment or other construction runoff from entering into the storm drain. Do not rinse or clean cement or heavily soiled trucks near a storm drain.
- ◆ Sweep up the grass clippings after mowing the lawn. Do not leave them in the street. Do not blow leaves in the street that may eventually clog storm drains.
- ◆ Use Pesticides and fertilizers sparingly, avoid excess to prevent polluted runoff.

#### Automotive Repair & Service

- ◆ Use drip pans or buckets to contain or catch oil leaks.
- ◆ Properly label all hazardous waste containers and dispose of hazardous waste properly.
- ◆ Regularly inspect, maintain and service your containment units to prevent leakage.

#### Food Service/Restaurant

- ◆ Regularly inspect, maintain and service your grease traps. Do not clean filters or traps on pavement where the grease and detergents may runoff to a storm drain.
- ◆ Sweep up litter and debris from the sidewalk and curb to prevent litter build-up in front of storm drains.

#### Office/Retail/Child Care/Other Services

- ◆ Sweep up litter and debris from the sidewalk and curb to prevent litter build up in front of storm drains.

#### Public/Private Facilities with Swimming Pool and/or Underground Detention Basins

- ◆ Discharge chlorinated pool water on pervious surfaces at a rate allowable for infiltration that does not cause erosion. Do not discharge chlorinated pool water down storm drains or directly into the creek.
- ◆ Use due diligence in inspecting and maintaining your underground detention basins.



#### STORM DRAIN MARKERS

These markers educate and discourage anyone who may be looking to dump into the storm drain. Horsham Township has put storm drain markers on many of our storm drains.

If you know of any storm drains that are missing markers please email us their locations at: [stormwater@horsham.org](mailto:stormwater@horsham.org)