

How does stormwater affect water quality in Milford?

Precipitation onto the ground surface which doesn't soak in becomes stormwater runoff. As stormwater flows over parking lots, lawns, sidewalks, and roads, it collects dirt, debris, trash, chemicals, and other pollutants. This stormwater can flow directly into a waterbody or be carried to one through a piped stormwater system leading from catch basins in the streets.



These discharges are untreated. Therefore, it is important that we all take steps to keep stormwater clean.



Inside this brochure, you will find steps you can take to help. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Town or review EPA's website at www.epa.gov/npcdes/stormwater for more information.

SUMMARY:

All types of businesses can help prevent water pollution by adhering to the following practices:

- NEVER DUMP ANYTHING DOWN A STORM DRAIN!
- Know where stormwater runoff and where catch basins in your parking lot drain.
- Avoid using toxic materials as much as possible and store all materials in a manner that will prevent spills and leaks.
- Keep dumpsters and other containers securely closed; store containers under cover.
- Cover stockpiled materials such as gravel, wood chips, and building materials.
- Avoid washing pollutants into the storm drainage system by picking up litter and disposing of sweepings in the garbage.

**YOU CAN HELP THE
TOWN OF MILFORD
PROTECT AND
IMPROVE WATER
QUALITY:**

**A GUIDE TO
RESPONSIBLE
STORMWATER
POLLUTION
PREVENTION**



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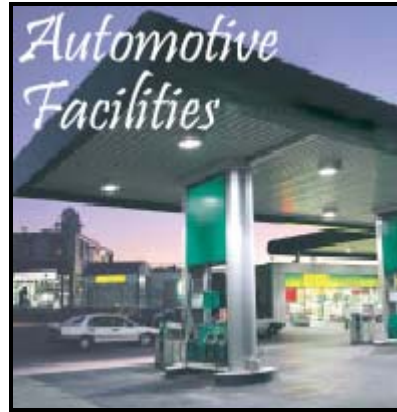
This brochure is partially based on EPA's "After the Storm"
brochure (January 2003).

SIMPLE STEPS TO REDUCE STORMWATER POLLUTION



Dirt, oil, and debris that collect in parking lots and paved areas can be washed into the storm sewer system and eventually enter local waterbodies.

- Sweep up litter and debris from sidewalks, driveways and parking lots, especially around storm drains.
- Cover grease storage and dumpsters and keep them clean to avoid leaks.
- Report any chemical spill to the appropriate hazardous waste cleanup team.



Uncovered fueling stations allow spills to be washed into storm drains. Cars waiting to be repaired can leak fuel, oil, and other harmful fluids that can be picked up by stormwater.

- Clean up spills immediately and properly dispose of cleanup materials.
- Provide cover over fueling stations and design or retrofit facilities for spill containment.
- Properly maintain fleet vehicles to prevent oil, gas, and other discharges from being washed into local waterbodies.
- Install and maintain oil/water separators.
- Provide employee training in proper waste disposal practices.



Decaying organic materials associated with food waste consume dissolved oxygen in water bodies, harming or killing aquatic life. Cleaning products, disinfectants, pesticides, and other chemicals sometimes used by the food handling industry may also be harmful to aquatic life.

- Save grease, oils, and meat fat in sealed containers for recycling or disposal. Never pour into a sink, floor drain, or storm drain.
- When landscaping, keep yard waste out of the street and away from storm drains. Use landscaping chemicals sparingly and never during wet weather.
- Cover grease storage and dumpsters and keep them clean to avoid leaks.
- Clean equipment in a designated indoor area with a drain to the sanitary sewer. If cleaning outdoors, use a designated area surrounded by a berm or other barrier to prevent cleaning waste from entering the storm drain system. Pour mop and wash water into the sink or floor drain, not into gutters, alleys, or parking lots.