

Every Day Tips to Reduce Storm Water Runoff Pollution

- Never put anything in a storm drain inlet that you would not want to drink or swim in;
 - Watch for unusual discharges from storm drainage swales and piping during dry weather conditions, and report any dry weather discharges to the Municipal Secretary at 570-288-4576;
 - Service your car regularly and fix leaks to prevent gasoline, oil, brake and transmission fluids, and anti-freeze from leaking onto the pavement and washing into our streams;
 - Use absorbent materials like kitty litter or toweling to soak up any spills, then sweep up and dispose of these items properly. Never dilute spills with water;
 - Wash your car at a carwash, or on grass or gravel instead of in the driveway or on the street;
 - Use fertilizers and herbicides only when necessary, and follow the directions carefully. Use natural, organic fertilizer and avoid applying any fertilizer before heavy rainfalls;
 - Set your mower's height at 3 inches. Taller grass establishes deeper roots and healthier lawns absorb more storm water;
 - Compost leaves and grass clippings, and use it to enhance your garden's soil next year. Carefully bag any garden waste that you do not compost to keep it out of the storm drains;
 - Place dog waste in the toilet or a trash can. Do not leave it on the yard, in the street or dispose of it in a storm drain. Pet waste introduces disease-causing bacteria into our water supply;
 - Keep all litter off the street and place it in receptacles so that it does not get washed or blown down storm drains;
 - Recycle products made of paper, glass, plastic and aluminum;
 - Choose water based paints and wash your brushes in the sink with water. Water from your plumbing goes to a pollution control plant before ultimately going back to the Susquehanna River;
 - Reuse and recycle paint thinner. Don't pour it down the sink or drain. Take it to a local household hazardous waste disposal center.
 - Use the Municipality of Kingston's Petroleum Drop Off Days (refer to Recycling Calendar for dates) to dispose of your household hazardous waste and used computers.
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