



# VILLAGE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE STORM WATER GUIDE



The Department of Public Works

10 Sunrise Highway, Rockville Centre

516-678-9288

## **What is Storm Water?**

Storm Water comes from precipitation that flows across the ground or pavement when it rains or when snow and ice melt.

The water seeps into the ground and flows into our storm drains. These are the drains that you see at street corners or low points on the sides of your streets.

Storm water runoff is a concern because of the pollutants it may carry as it is conveyed to the nearest body of water, such as a local stream, pond, harbor or the ocean.

## **Why is Storm Water Pollution a Problem?**

Unlike waste water that goes into our sanitary sewers, from our showers and our toilets, storm water, and all that it is carrying, is not treated before being discharged to our surrounding water bodies.

Storm water pollution can harm fish & other aquatic wildlife, kill native vegetation, destroy aquatic habitats, and make recreational areas unsafe and unpleasant. Nutrients carried by storm water may also cause undesirable algae and vegetative growth.

Basins and sumps must be recharged. Some basins don't go anywhere.

Substances carried by storm water that are considered to be pollutants are:

- Sediment, trash, & debris
- Oil grease, and toxic chemicals
- Soap and paint products from outdoor maintenance activities
- Pesticides and fertilizers from lawns and gardens
- Viruses, bacteria, & nutrients from pet waste and failing septic systems



**For more detailed information particular to Nassau County, visit  
<https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/1876/Stormwater-Management-Program>**

# BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

## Landscaping and Gardening

- Do not over-water. If water flows off your yard onto your driveway or sidewalk, your system is over watering. Periodically inspect and fix leaks and misdirected sprinklers.
- Do not rake or blow leaves or clippings into the street, gutter or storm drain. Instead, dispose of waste by composting or bagging it and placing it with your household waste for pickup
- Follow directions on pesticides and fertilizers, (measure, do not estimate amounts). Do not use if rain is predicted within 48 hours

## Pet Care

- Always pick up after your pet. Flush waste down the toilet or dispose of it in the trash. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria to wash into the storm drain and eventually into our waterways
- **NEVER DEPOSIT PET WASTE DIRECTLY IN STORM DRAIN!**

### S.T.O.P Collections

The Town of Hempstead's **Stop Throwing Out Pollutants** program holds waste collections from 8 A.M. to 3 P.M. once a month in various locations in the Town. The Village of Rockville Centre residents may utilize this service by bringing hazardous household products to the collection point for proper disposal at no charge.

- Items **ACCEPTED** by the program: paints, solvents, varnish, waste oil, antifreeze, batteries, fluorescent light bulbs, car tires (off the rim), and photography and pool chemicals.
- Items **NOT ACCEPTED** by the program: commercial or medical waste, ammunition, explosives, propane, tanks over 20 pounds, or unlabeled materials

**For more information call the Town of Hempstead Department of Sanitation at 378-2200 or visit the S.T.O.P. web page <http://toh.li/sanitation-department/stop-throwing-out-pollutants>.**

## Automotive

- Take your vehicle to a commercial car wash whenever possible. If you wash your vehicle at home, choose soaps or detergents labeled non-toxic, phosphate free or biodegradable. Vegetable and citrus-based products are typically safest for the environment. Do not allow wash water from vehicle washing into the street, gutter, or storm drain.

## Pool Maintenance

- Pool and spa water must be de-chlorinated and be free of excess acid, alkali or color.
- When draining your pool all water should be directed to a drywell on your property.

## Household Activities

- Take items such as used batteries, oven cleaners, automotive fluids, painting products, TVs and computer monitors to a household Hazardous Waste Collection center

### E-Cycling

Every first Saturday of the month at DPW between 10 A.M. and 2 P.M. residents may bring their electronics to 10 Sunrise Highway. **E-Cycling** will remain open all year. Assistance will be given for extra large items. Please call (516) 678-9216 to schedule a pickup.

- Acceptable E-Cycling items: Computers/Computer monitors, anything that plugs into a computer
  - VCR\*DVD\*DVR\*IPAD\*Electronic Readers
  - Video Game Systems, Televisions, Cable Boxes, Small Servers
- Email [ewaste@dec.ny.gov](mailto:ewaste@dec.ny.gov) to answer any questions.**











