

You Can Help!

The City of Haverhill Storm Water Management Plan, SWMP would like to inform the citizen easy ways to stop storm drain pollution where it starts- in our back yards.

The City is actively cleaning the City catch basins and spray a storm water decal; "DON'T DUMP DRAINS TO RIVER"

NOTHING BUT RAIN DOWN THE DRAIN DON'T DUMP

You can help keep our waterways clean by monitoring activities in your neighborhood. Only water should enter storm drains. By spreading the word that storm drains are not trashcans, you can keep the rivers clean

Help our City fulfill the SWMP by calling **978-374-2334** to report suspicious activities or look on the City's web site for current storm water information web address:

Stormwater web address

<http://www.ci.haverhill.ma.us/departments/stormwater/index.htm>

Important!!

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is notifying towns that are required to develop a Stormwater education and outreach program under the Clean Water Act Phase II Stormwater regulations. This brochure fulfills those requirements.

Help keep Our Waterways Clean!

Did you know?

Nearly everyone thinks that water pollution is caused by industry. In the past, most of it was. However, today the #1 threat to rivers and ponds is from untreated storm water runoff. Much of this untreated runoff reaches the water through storm drains. Eventually that pollution reaches the Rivers and Ponds in Haverhill.

What are Storm Drains?

Storm drains are found on City's streets along the curb. They are on the side of major roads bridges and highways as well as parking lots. Storm drains are holes or openings, usually with a grater over them, leading to underground pipes which carry water, usually to a stream or pond and channel the run off into a near by water body.



BACKGROUND

The EPA's Storm Water Phase II Final Rule states that this storm water management program must include the following six minimum control measures:

1. Public education and outreach on storm water impacts
2. Public involvement and participation
3. Illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE)
4. Construction site storm water runoff control
5. Post-construction storm water management in new development and redevelopment
6. Pollution prevention and good housekeeping for municipal operations

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

To report a spill any time call the City of Haverhill Emergency Dispatch at **978-373-1212**.

For waste disposal and recycling questions, call Health & Inspectional Services **978-374-2325**.

For General Stormwater program information during normal business hours 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM contact the Storm Water Program Coordinator

978-374-2382

To report suspicious behavior regarding Stormwater related activities Call **Stormwater Hot line** call **978-374-2334** or visit at:

<http://www.ci.haverhill.ma.us/departments/stormwater/index.htm>



The City of Haverhill
4 Summer Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

Haverhill Stormwater
4 Summer Street
Haverhill, MA 01830

2008 Stormwater Brochure

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What is runoff?



When rains falls or snow and ice melt, it either soaks into the ground or evaporates.

When the water meets hard surfaces like roofs or paved parking lots, streets and driveways, it flows as runoff, traveling down streets and gutters into storm drains-which carry into nearby rivers or ponds.

How does runoff become polluted?

As water flows down streets and across parking lots and lawns, it picks up pollutants such as

- Yard trash like pet waste and grass clippings.
- Fluids that leak from cars and trucks like oil, gas, and antifreeze;
- Litter of all kinds, including waste paper, bottles and cans;
- Fertilizers and pesticides; and
- Sand, salt, and soil from roads, unpaved driveways, or construction sites.



How can polluted runoff harm rivers and ponds?

Runoff is not treated. It carries pollution directly into storm drains and rivers and ponds. Hundreds of storm drains through the City of Haverhill carry thousand gallons of runoff with motor oil, gasoline, pet waste, pesticides, fertilizers, paints and detergents straight into our rivers, ponds and wetlands. Some people even dump trash and pollution right into storm drains. These contaminates destroy the water's ecosystem, killing fish, frogs and plant life and making the water unsafe for us as well.



10 Easy Ways You Can Help

1. Use Less fertilizer on your lawn

You can use less fertilizer, reduce pollution and still keep your lawn green and healthy. Many lawns Need as little as one-Half of the fertilizer recommended On the fertilizer bags. Too much fertilizer makes your lawn more susceptible to disease and pests.

2. Use fewer toxic pesticides less often

All pesticides, even natural ones, are poisons. Some even that seem safe to use in your home or garden can be lethal in the environment. For example, rotenone is a natural pesticide that is extremely toxic to fish. Use pesticides sparingly. Prepare and use only the amount that is necessary. Follow label directions exactly.



3. Compost yard Waste Grass

Grass clippings, leaves and garden trimmings can block storm drains. They use up oxygen from water, leaving less for fish and other aquatic life. Instead, compost grass clippings, leaves and pull garden weeds.

4. Don't Litter

Garbage that washes down storm drains fouls our waterways and can harm or kill wildlife. Some litter, such as plastics, break down so slowly they can remain in the river for centuries.



5. Properly dispose of pet waste

Pet waste is raw sewage. Dispose of it far from all water sources and storm drains.

6. **Recycle use motor oil and antifreeze** to the **Highway Garage, 500 Primrose the last Saturday of the month between 9: 00 AM to 1:00 PM. September to June.** Promptly repair fluid leaks in cars, trucks and other motorized equipment.



Storm Drain Pollution

7. Take hazardous household materials to authorized collection sites

Contact **Wastewater Division 978-374-2382** to find out where to take leftover paint, pesticides, cleaners such as drain openers and other hazardous household materials for disposal.



8. Wash you car on the lawn and use vegetable soap

Wash your car on the lawn so the water is absorbed into the soil rather than running off your driveway. A mild vegetable soap also benefits your lawn by washing away pollutants from grass blades and inhibiting many law pests and diseases.



9. Limit sand and salt

When it comes to using sand and salt on your driveway and steps, you shouldn't compromise your safety-but don't overdo it. Salt can poison your drinking water supply and sand can fill in rivers and streams, destroying fish habitat.

10 Spread the word

Most storm drain pollution is caused by action of uninformed people. . Share what you know and help protect our rivers and ponds.



Stormwater Utility

The City of Haverhill is exploring the concept of establishing a **Storm Water Utility**. A stormwater utility is an organization that provides for stormwater system operations and maintenance including collection, disposal, and treatment; provides capital improvements including both new construction and reconstruction of facilities; and provides a dedicated revenue source to finance the utility.

The Stormwater utility collects, treats, and disposes of stormwater while at the same time maintaining the current and future collection systems. Additionally, it would allow the City to address new issues such as new environmental mandates that arise with respect to stormwater in the future.

A **Storm Water Utility** would encompass a funding mechanism to enable the City to comply with our NPDES Permit requirements for such items as operations, maintenance and capital improvements to control flooding and improve water quality.

Typical projects might include new installation, enlargement, and/or replacement of large and small stormwater collection piping systems, ditches, and channels necessary to make streets passable during rain events and to keep homes dry during large rainstorms. Other projects include repairing damaged pipes and catch basins, which will minimize street and yard flooding.

The NPDES Permit, issued to the City is essentially an unfunded mandate for Haverhill and other cities and towns throughout New England to control water quality (or pollution) and quantity (or flooding). A **Storm Water Utility** assists in funding this new and expensive regulation.

