

Bridgewater Stormwater Management Program

The Town of Bridgewater Stormwater Management System is a community wide effort to protect the quality of our local watershed. The Environmental Protection Agency began Phase II of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System in 1999, in which small MS4s outside an urbanized area are designated by the permitting authority, to obtain NPDES permit coverage for their stormwater discharges. Through community education, outreach, and participation, the Town of Bridgewater can achieve better stormwater management which will result in a cleaner water supply and environment.



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TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER

Stormwater Management Program

Program Objectives

The Stormwater Management System for the Town of Bridgewater consists of six minimum control measures.

1. Public Education and Outreach
2. Public Participation/Involvement
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
4. Construction Site Runoff Control
5. Post-Construction Runoff Control in New Development and Redevelopment
6. Pollution Prevention/Good House keeping

In order to better manage stormwater, the Town of Bridgewater annually commits itself to complying with all six measures.

Program Future

The future success of the Bridgewater Stormwater Management System is dependent upon the education of the community and public involvement. Business workshops and public information sessions will be held throughout the year to better inform the community about stormwater management. Check out the Town of Bridgewater website for updates on upcoming workshops, sessions, and meetings.

As a community, we can help the environment and keep our water source clean!

Stormwater Facts

- Storm Drains do NOT remove any pollutants but were designed for the specific purpose of draining water from sidewalks and streets.
- Stormwater runoff will flow through the storm drain system and into the water source untreated.
- Soil and silt in the water increase water temperature and murkiness, which harm fish and their food supply.
- Decaying leaves and organic materials in the storm drain increase bacteria and mosquito production and decrease oxygen essential for fish life.
- Fertilizer from lawn care can cause excessive algae growth that leads to oxygen depletion.
- One gallon of oil in the storm drain can pollute up to one million gallons of stormwater.
- The three largest sources of stormwater pollution are: herbicides and pesticides from agriculture, urban runoff, and sediment from construction sites.

Steps to Help with Stormwater Pollution Prevention

- Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up drive-ways, sidewalks and roads.
- Watch for soil erosion around your home, and re-vegetate or mulch disturbed areas as soon as possible.
- Direct roof drains away from paved surfaces and bare soil.
- Investigate stormwater management products such as rain barrels.
- Minimize pesticide use and learn more about Integrated Pest Management.