PREVENTING STORMWATER POLLUTION

TIPS FOR COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL BUSINESSES

WHAT IS A MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4)?

An MS4 is a system of conveyances that is designed to collect and convey stormwater. Polluted stormwater runoff is transported through the MS4 and discharged, **untreated**, into local water bodies.

To own and operate an MS4, York Township has a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit from the PA Dept. of Environmental Protection, and must incorporate its regulations into the Township's stormwater program.

WHAT IS AN ILLICIT DISCHARGE?

An Illicit Discharge is "any discharge to a storm sewer system that is not comprised entirely of stormwater."

Examples of illicit discharges include:

⇒ Pesticides & Fertilizers

⇒ Pool Discharge

⇒ Detergents

⇒ Waste oil & grease, etc.

If you observe an illicit discharge, call the Illicit Discharge Hotline immediately and leave a detailed message.

ILLICIT DISCHARGE HOTLINE:

(717) 741-3861 X115

FOR MORE QUESTIONS ON THE MS4 PROGRAM, CONTACT (717) 741-3861 X115, M.CASSEL@YORKTOWNSHIPPA.GOV, OR VISIT WWW.YORKTOWNSHIPPA.GOV

GENERAL PRACTICES

⇒ Regularly sweep and collect debris around your site, **do not hose down sidewalks or parking lots**

⇒ Train employees to recognize the impact they have on water quality

⇒ NEVER dump anything down a storm drain

⇒ Report any illegal dumping to a storm drain (Call the Illicit Discharge Hotline)

LANDSCAPING

⇒ Only irrigate during early morning to avoid evaporation (it's also better for your plants)

⇒ Get your soil tested prior to applying fertilizers. Save money by using only what's needed

⇒ Minimize pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer use and always follow the manufacturer's instructions

OUTDOOR MATERIAL STORAGE

⇒ Store all potential pollutants indoors or under a covered area

⇒ **Clean up all spills immediately!** Use dry absorbents as necessary and dispose of waste materials properly. Protect the storm drains closest to the spill

⇒ Keep lids on all storage containers & label all containers

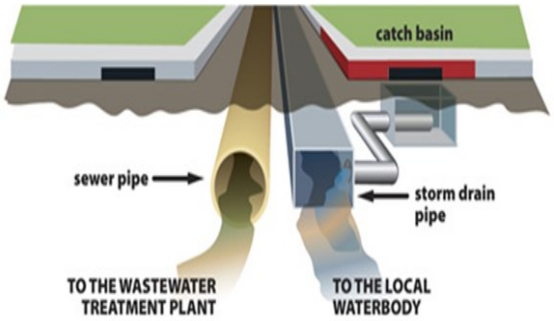
WASTE MANAGEMENT

⇒ Keep the ground around all outdoor garbage and dumpster areas free of trash, sediment, and debris

⇒ **Close the lids on dumpsters and trash cans after every use**

⇒ Do not use dumpsters for liquid waste, they are rarely leak-proof

⇒ Clean up all spills immediately!



VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE & WASHING

⇒ Perform all maintenance indoors when possible

⇒ Use drip-pans to collect leaking fluid

⇒ Clean up all spills immediately

⇒ Wash vehicles at a commercial car wash when possible

⇒ If must wash onsite, wash vehicle over a pervious (absorbent) area such as dirt, gravel, or grass to prevent runoff. **Do not allow water to enter storm sewer!**

⇒ Minimize the use of soaps and water while washing. **Use biodegradable soap**