

## Stormwater and Pollution

Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow that does not soak into the ground. It flows from rooftops, over paved areas, bare soil, and sloped lawns — washing pollutants from streets, construction sites, and land into storm sewers and ditches. Eventually, the storm sewers and ditches empty the polluted stormwater directly into streams and rivers with no treatment. This is known as stormwater pollution.

## You Can Identify a Storm Sewer

by the grated drains found along roadways and within some low-lying and seasonally wet (swale) areas. They collect excess stormwater from rain and snowmelt that does not soak into the ground, and convey it to streams, rivers, and other local waterbodies.

## We See It During Every Storm —

automotive fluids creating a colored sheen mixed with rain or snowmelt on parking lots, trash, cigarette butts, animal waste, and misapplied lawn treatments washed into storm drains.



## The Stormwater Coalition of Monroe County: A partnership to protect water quality

A number of communities and entities within Monroe County have joined together to develop a stormwater management program to protect our waterways and enhance our quality of life. The goal of the Stormwater Coalition of Monroe County is to utilize regional collaboration to identify existing resources and develop programs to reduce the negative impacts of stormwater pollution.

The Coalition meets monthly to work collectively on developing and implementing a stormwater management program that complies with New York State's Phase II Stormwater Regulations.

Brighton  
Brockport  
Chili  
Churchville  
Clarkson  
East Rochester  
Fairport  
Gates  
Greece  
Hamlin  
Henrietta  
Hilton  
Irondequoit  
Mendon  
Monroe County  
Dept. of  
Transportation

Ogden  
Parma  
Penfield  
Perinton  
Pittsford(T)  
Pittsford (V)  
Riga  
Rochester Pure  
Waters District/  
City of  
Rochester  
Spencerport  
SUNY Brockport  
Sweden  
Webster (T)  
Webster (V)



# Lawn Care and Landscaping...

## HOW TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY



**The Stormwater Coalition of  
Monroe County (and You)  
Protecting Water Quality**

Avoid blanket applications of pesticides by treating only affected areas.

Use low or no phosphorus fertilizer and apply in early autumn for best results.

Maintain natural vegetation in filter areas or swales, especially along streams.

Do not overuse or misapply fertilizers onto sidewalks and paved areas.

Use proper herbicide and pesticide notification signs and let your neighbors know. See [www.monroecounty.gov](http://www.monroecounty.gov) (click on Public Health) or call 753-PEST for more information and regulations.

Direct downspouts away from driveways or storm drains.

Compost or mulch leaves and yard debris.

Mow high; mulch grass clippings.

Sweep up litter and debris from driveways and parking lots rather than hosing debris into storm drains.

Plant buffer zones and rain gardens.

