



What is stormwater?

Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow that does not soak into the ground but runs off into waterways. It flows from rooftops, over paved areas and bare soil, and over lawns while picking up a variety of contaminants on its way. Polluted runoff degrades our lakes, rivers, wetlands and other waterways. Polluted stormwater can harm fish and wildlife populations, kill native vegetation, foul drinking water, and make recreational areas unsafe and unpleasant.



Best Management Practices

BMPs, or Best Management Practices are ways in which we can get involved to reduce stormwater pollution and to manage stormwater runoff.

Slow it down, Spread it out, Soak it in.

Get involved in conserving our water. Chemung County has clean water, but it is up to us to keep it that way! *Keep our clean waters, clean!*

Find out more at:

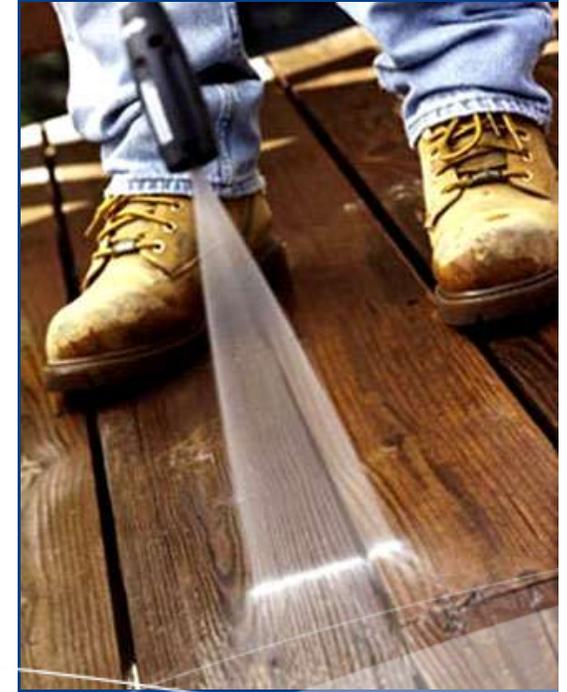
<http://www.chemungstormwater.org>
www.facebook.com/chemungstormwater

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Chemung County Stormwater Coalition
Upper Susquehanna Coalition

Stormwater and the Workplace



Outdoor Work

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WATCH THE WATER

If your outdoor activities at the workplace include washing loading docks, hosing down parking lots, driveways or sidewalks, cleaning equipment outdoors or any similar outdoor washing activities, it is important that the dirty water does not flow into the storm drain. Water that flows into the drain goes directly into the rivers, streams and lakes without being treated.



Stormwater BMPs and Outdoor Washing

When working outside, practice these BMPs:

Use drip pans and protective drop cloths to minimize any spills that could occur.

When a spill does occur, clean it up promptly, but do not hose the spill down.

Use dry cleanup methods like sweeping up granular materials or using absorbents for liquid spills.

Working under a cover will minimize the number of contaminants entering stormwater runoff.

Check with your local municipality to find out if it is necessary to have a permit to wash your storefront, siding or windows.

Sweep sidewalks and discard the debris in the trash. This keeps pollutants out of stormwater runoff.

It is important to protect our stormwater systems. This means if you are washing outdoors, you may need to direct the water away from the nearest storm drain or block off that drain so the water does not enter it.