

Did you know:

Local municipalities like New Hartford, Yorkville, New York Mills, Utica, Whitesboro and Clinton regulate the quality of water that enters the storm drain system?

These communities are called

MS4s: Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems.



MS4s follow state and federal laws to develop Stormwater Management Plans that include:

- Outreach and Education,
- Storm Drain Mapping,
- Construction Site Runoff Control, and
- Good Housekeeping at municipal facilities.



Remember, we all have a stake in clean water!

For more information:

- Oneida County Soil & Water Conservation District at 736-3316 ext. 3
- Herkimer-Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program at 798-5710.
- NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation at 793-2554.

Useful Websites:

- www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8468.html
- <http://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater>
- www.oneidaswcd.org



KEEP IT CLEAN- DRAINS TO STREAM!

Prevent Pollution at
Car Wash Fund-Raisers



A message from the Oneida & Herkimer
Counties Intermunicipal
Stormwater Coalition.

Car Wash Fund-Raisers and Water Quality

What is the Storm Sewer?

Storm sewers collect stormwater: the water that flows over paved surfaces after a storm. Stormwater runoff enters storm sewers via ditches, gutters, and storm drains called catch basins. Anything that lands on the pavement can end up in the storm drain.



Where does it go?

Stormwater isn't treated by a wastewater treatment facility. It flows directly from the storm sewer system into local streams and wetlands.

Why is stormwater a problem?



Stormwater contributes to flooding of homes, businesses and roads. Stormwater is also the leading cause of pollution in our favorite streams. It collects and transports pollutants like litter, fluid from leaky cars, detergents, salt, sand and pet waste into streams and wetlands.



Does Car Washing pollute?

When we wash our cars, soaps & solvents are used to remove sediment, salt, oil, grease and antifreeze. If the resulting wash water enters the storm sewer, pollutants enter our streams & damage habitat and water quality. Pollution also results when we hose down paved areas. When the rinse water enters storm drains it can be contaminated with heavy metals, hydrocarbons and toxic chemicals.

What can be done?

- Wash cars in grassy areas.
- Block off the storm drain.
- Pump water to sanitary sewer. (Check w/ local officials).
- Use commercial car washes.
- Use biodegradable soaps.
- Use hoses with automatic shut-offs.

