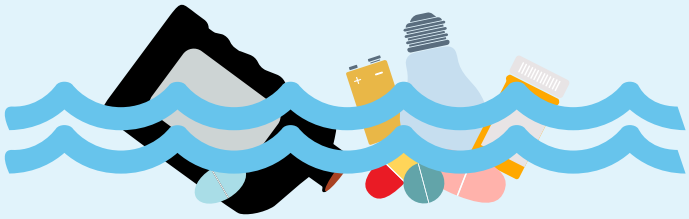
KEEP YOUR JUNK OUT OF OUR WATER



DON'T THROW THAT IN THE GARBAGE!

Household chemicals...

Take motor oil, paint, pesticides and other household hazardous waste to your county drop-off site or a licensed local business.

Find your drop-off site:

www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/find-your-household-hazardous-waste-collection-site

Old and unused medications...

Drop off old and unused medicines at a drug take-back event or collection site.

Find an unwanted medications disposal site:

www.pca.state.mn.us/living-green/managing-unwanted-medications

If there is no drug take-back program...

We need your help to keep our waters clean!

Learn more about Minnesota water at www.pca.state.mn.us/waste

IF IT'S WINDY... OR YOU'VE GOT BEARS

Keep your garbage cans inside until collection time.

PUT A LID ON IT!

Be sure to keep lids closed on dumpsters and garbage cans!
Also, don't fill dumpsters with liquid waste or try to hose them out.

USE YOUR UTILITY SINK, NOT YOUR LOCAL STORM DRAIN!

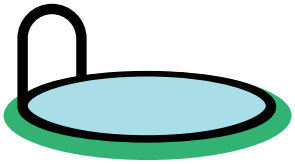
Dumping chemicals into a storm sewer or ditch is called an "illicit discharge" and is ILLEGAL.

Take your car to the car wash or...

Or wash your car over the grass, not the street or your driveway, so that soapy water doesn't end up in our lakes and streams.

If you have a pool or hot tub...

Don't dump chlorinated water into the street or pond! Before you empty it in stop adding chlorine and leave the water uncovered for 3-5 days.



Use your utility sink!

Use your utility sink to wash off paint brushes and solvent soaked rags, to dump soapy water, and to empty swimming pools and spas.

If you see illegal dumping or see water that is cloudy, colored, or has an oil sheen report it to:

[Insert local contact here]

Thanks for doing your part to protect Minnesota water!

www.pca.state.mn.us/waste

Small-scale Construction

Prevent erosion and protect Minnesota's water during construction, remodeling and landscaping projects.

Bare soil can erode easily during construction and landscaping projects. Though soil is natural, it can pollute lakes, rivers and streams by smothering habitat and making the water cloudy and unsafe for swimming.

Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Building a new home?

Refer to the diagram on the back of this page for guidance on preventing erosion and stormwater pollution.

When construction is in progress, verify that your builder has installed silt fence or other sediment control measures along the down slope perimeter of your property and near curbs, gutters, ditches, streams, lakes and wetlands. All bare soil must be covered and soil piles must be stabilized as well.

As a homeowner, you are responsible for inspecting and maintaining temporary stabilization measures until permanent ground cover is established on your yard. Reinstall or replace ripped, collapsed, or decomposed silt fence and remove sediment if deposits reach 1/3 of the silt fence height. Use downspout extenders to protect temporarily stabilized areas from roof runoff until permanent vegetation is established.

Establishing a new lawn?

Cover bare soil with erosion control fabric, mulch, or quick-growing annual grasses such as annual rye, oats or winter wheat until you are able to lay sod or seed your lawn. Erosion control fabric can also help to protect hilly areas until new grass is fully established.

Beginning a landscaping project?

Schedule large landscaping projects for dry weather. Cover bare soil with mulch and avoid disturbing the soil along stream banks and lakeshores. Study how water flows across your property and use trees, shrubs, deep-rooted native plants, and raingardens to slow down runoff and prevent erosion.

We need your help to keep our waters clean!

Learn more about Minnesota water at www.pca.state.mn.us/water/construction-stormwater

10 Steps to Stormwater Pollution Prevention on Small Residential Construction Sites

Note: this graphic does not address post-construction stormwater treatment permit requirements.

1 Protect Any Areas Reserved for Vegetation or Infiltration and Preserve Existing Trees

If you will be installing infiltration-based features such as rain gardens or bioswales, make sure these areas are designated as off limits to avoid compaction.

Save time and money by preserving existing mature trees during construction. Preserving mature trees minimizes the amount of soil that needs to be stabilized once construction is complete, and minimizes the amount of runoff during and after construction activity.

2 Stockpile Your Soil

MPCA's CGP requires operators to preserve native topsoil on site unless infeasible and protect all soil storage piles from run-on and runoff. For smaller stockpiles, covering the entire pile with a tarp may be sufficient.

3 Protect Construction Materials from Run-On and Runoff

At the end of every workday and during precipitation events, provide cover for materials that could leach pollutants.

4 Designate Waste Disposal Areas

Clearly identify separate waste disposal areas on site for hazardous waste, construction waste, and domestic waste by designating with signage, and protect from run-on and runoff.

5 Install Perimeter Controls on Downhill Lot Line

Install perimeter controls such as sediment filter logs or silt fences around the downhill boundaries of your site. Make sure to remove accumulated sediment whenever it has reached halfway up the control.

6 Install Inlet Controls

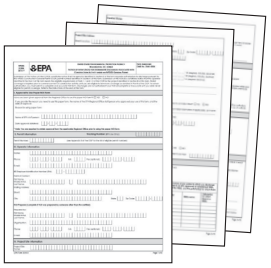
Designate a leak-proof basin lined with plastic for washing out used concrete and stucco containers. Never wash excess stucco or concrete residue down a storm drain or into a stream!

7 Install a Concrete/Stucco Washout Basin

Designate a leak-proof basin lined with plastic for washing out used concrete and stucco containers. Never wash excess stucco or concrete residue down a storm drain or into a stream!

8 Maintain a Stabilized Exit Pad

Minimize sediment track out from vehicles exiting your site by maintaining an exit pad made of crushed rock spread over geotextile fabric, a shaker rack, or a wash rack at the construction site exit. If sediment track-out occurs, remove deposited sediment within 24 hours of discovery.



9 Keep an Up-to-Date Copy of Your SWPPP on Site

Keep a copy of your complete and up-to-date SWPPP, including site maps showing where each BMP is or will be installed, and records of the site inspections completed by a trained inspector on site and easily accessible.

10 Site Stabilization

Immediately stabilize exposed portions of the site whenever construction work will stop for 14 or more days, even if work is only temporarily stopped. Remember, final stabilization is required prior to terminating permit coverage.

Keep in mind that temporary or permanent stabilization must be completed within 7 days if your project is within 1 mile of a special or impaired water.

Small-scale Construction Considerations

Thanks for doing your part to protect Minnesota water!

www.pca.state.mn.us/water/construction-stormwater

For more information, contact:
[Insert local contact here]

Stormwater Management

Policies that protect water in your community

From city streets to lakes and streams–following the journey of urban water pollution

In urban areas, storm sewers drain rain and melting snow off of roads quickly to prevent flooding. From there, the runoff water travels away safely through underground stormwater pipes.

In most communities built before the late 1970's, stormwater pipes carried runoff directly to nearby wetlands, lakes, streams and rivers without treatment.

Storm sewer systems help to protect communities against flooding, but they also carry pesticides, fertilizers, oils, metals, bacteria, salt, sediment, litter, and other debris into our waterways.

Stormwater is the largest source of water pollution in urban areas.

A regulatory program to address the problem – The Clean Water Act & the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit program

The Clean Water Act establishes a structure for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state agencies to regulate water pollution and set water quality standards for rivers, lakes and streams.

Within this structure, the **Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit program** regulates cities and other entities that manage storm sewer systems. In Minnesota, it is administered by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

MS4 permit holders include cities, watershed districts, counties, and townships, as well as large campuses such as universities, hospitals and prison complexes that operate their own private roads and drainage systems.

MS4 entities are required to develop stormwater pollution prevention programs, educate the public about stormwater pollution, and engage citizens in solving local water pollution problems. The permit also requires MS4s to identify and stop illegal dumping (called illicit discharges), take steps to reduce runoff from construction and development, and practice "good housekeeping" to avoid polluting waterways during routine road and park maintenance. In addition, there are separate permit programs to regulate industrial sites and construction sites.

We need your help to keep our waters clean!

Learn more about stormwater in Minnesota at www.pca.state.mn.us/water/municipal-stormwater-ms4

TOOLS to MANAGE STORMWATER in YOUR COMMUNITY

Stormwater ponds

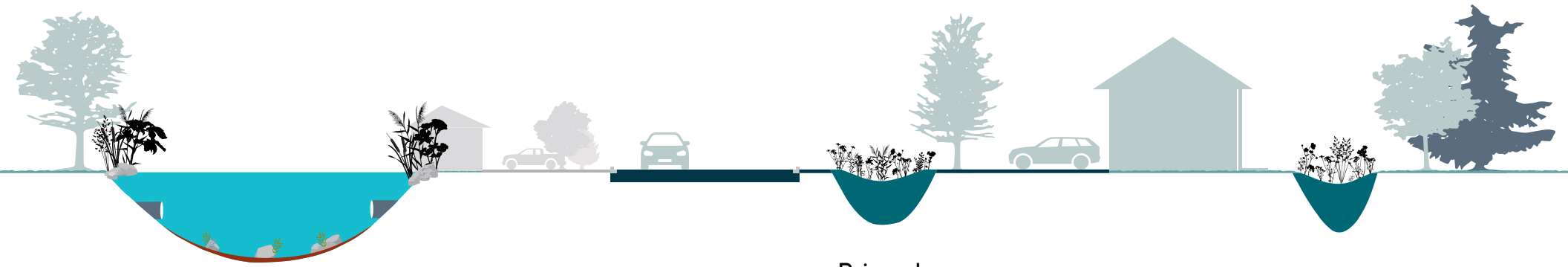
Most commercial and residential developments built since the 1980's utilize stormwater ponds to reduce flooding and partially treat stormwater runoff. Though these ponds may look natural, they are actually highly engineered systems, designed to control the rate of runoff and hold water back until sediment and other solids can settle out. Stormwater ponds have inlet and outlet pipes and need to be dredged periodically to remove the accumulated sediment.

Because stormwater ponds are designed to capture sediment and nutrients, they frequently turn green with algae in the summer. This is normal. Though you might see ducks and geese landing in these ponds, they are NOT safe for fishing or swimming.

Low Impact Development

Minnesota communities also use low impact development to reduce stormwater pollution. Common strategies include building narrower roads and smaller parking lots; protecting trees and buffer areas during development; and using raingardens and other practices that help water soak into the ground instead of running off into storm sewer systems.

TIP: If you are considering a building or remodeling project, talk to your city to get ideas for Low Impact Development strategies to avoid harming nearby water resources.



Protect stormwater ponds and buffers

Never dump leaves or grass clippings into wetlands or stormwater ponds – doing so is illegal and harms the ecosystem. In addition, most stormwater ponds are surrounded by a buffer of un-mowed native vegetation. These buffers are often identified on plat maps as drainage and utility easements and sometimes are marked with a sign. Avoid placing fences and permanent structures in these locations.

Raingardens

Raingardens are bowl-shaped gardens designed to capture runoff from rain and melting snow before it flows into storm sewer systems or nearby lakes and streams. Water in a raingarden evaporates or soaks into the ground within two days.

Homeowners can create small raingardens to catch stormwater runoff from rooftops and driveways. On commercial sites, larger raingardens called infiltration basins are often used to treat runoff from parking lots. In addition, many Minnesota communities install raingardens along streets during construction and re-construction projects.

Thanks for doing your part to protect Minnesota water!

www.pca.state.mn.us/water/municipal-stormwater-ms4

For more information, contact:

[Insert local contact here]