You Can Prevent Stormwater Pollution

We all live in a watershed and our activities affect water quality. A watershed is the area of land that drains rain and snowmelt to a body of water such as Long Pond or Irondequoit Bay.

When it rains, water flows over driveways, lawns, roads and parking lots throughout the watershed as it travels to the nearest entrance into the storm sewer system. Along the way, stormwater picks up soil, chemicals, and other pollutants.

In most cases, the stormwater system discharges polluted runoff to the nearest stream with little or no treatment. In our community, stormwater runoff is the most important source of pollution.

- Never dump anything into the storm drain
- Test the soil in your lawn and use fertilizers only as needed
- Practice Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and reduce use of pesticides
- Check your car for leaks and recycle motor oil at a service station
- Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway

- Dispose of household hazardous wastes (pesticides, paints, etc.) at the Monroe County Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Call 753-7600 for an appointment.
- Clean up pet waste & dispose of it in the toilet or trash
- Maintain your septic tank, have it pumped every 2-3 years

For more information:

Stormwater Coalition of Monroe County
www.thestormwatercoalition.org
753-5472

Cornell Cooperative Extension
www.cce.cornell.edu
461-1000

Water Education Collaborative
www.h2ohero.org
753-5441

Monroe Co. Soil & Water Conservation District
www.monroecountyswcd.org
473-2120

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