

## Helpful Information

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

*Stormwater Management:*

[www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2721&q=325702&d&eNav\\_GID=1654](http://www.ct.gov/dep/cwp/view.asp?a=2721&q=325702&d&eNav_GID=1654)

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Greening EPA

*Stormwater Management:*

[www.epa.gov/oaintmnt/stormwater/index.htm](http://www.epa.gov/oaintmnt/stormwater/index.htm)

US EPA National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)

*Stormwater Program:*

[http://cfpun.epa.gov/npdes/home.cfm?program\\_id=6](http://cfpun.epa.gov/npdes/home.cfm?program_id=6)

City of Stamford Stormwater Management:

<http://www.stamfordct.gov/stormwater-management>

The Connecticut Agriculture Experiment Station:

<http://www.ct.gov/caes/cwp/view.asp?a=2815&q=376936>



*This informational pamphlet provided to you by:*

## The City of Stamford

**David Martin, Mayor**

**Ernie Orgera, Director of Operations**

[Eorgera@StamfordCT.gov](mailto:Eorgera@StamfordCT.gov)

**Thomas Turk, MS4 Permitting**

[Tturk@StamfordCT.gov](mailto:Tturk@StamfordCT.gov)

**Tyler Theder, MS4 Permitting**

[Ttheder@StamfordCT.gov](mailto:Ttheder@StamfordCT.gov)

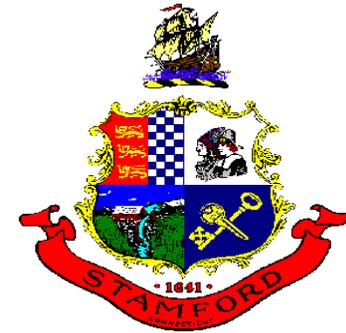
**888 Washington Boulevard**

**Stamford, Connecticut**

**Phone: 203.977.4140**

[www.stamfordct.gov](http://www.stamfordct.gov)

*The City That Works!*



## Preventing Stormwater Pollution



# Preventing Stormwater Pollution



City of Stamford has a separate storm and sanitary system. This means that what goes in the catch basins goes directly, untreated into Stamford's waterways.

Stormwater is the result of precipitation from rain, snowmelt, and other weather events that eventually makes its way into our surface waters, including the water we drink. As it flows across impervious surfaces such as roads, sidewalks, parking lots, and driveways, stormwater runoff eventually makes its way into the City's stormwater system.

Stormwater carries pollutants such as oil, bacteria from pet waste, sediment, and **all** lawn chemicals to our local water-ways.

Since the inlets to the stormwater system are located all around the City, stormwater runoff can sometimes pick up substances such as:

- Fertilizers, pesticides, and lawn chemicals
- Water contamination, leading to reduced water quality
- Erosion and increased sedimentation in water bodies
- Sediment from construction sites
- Trash and debris
- Micro-organisms and bacteria
- Gasoline, oil and other hydrocarbons



## Ideas to Help Manage & Reduce Stormwater Pollution

**Cistern** is a large tank that collects rain water from your roof. Cisterns are most appropriate when you have significant out door water needs.

**Conservation Landscapes** are designed to benefit local streams by using native plants as a low-cost alternative to traditional landscapes.

**Downspout Redirection** is a slow runoff and help water soak into the ground.

**Drywell** is gravel-filled areas that store rainwater underground.

**Green Roof** is a roof made up of layers of soil and plants on its surface. As a result, less rainwater – and accompanying pollutants run off the roof and into nearby storm drains and streams.

**Pavement Removal** increases the amount of permeable ground on the property.

**Pervious Surfaces** can be used for driveways, walkways and patios, and are as functional as traditional materials.

**Rain Barrels** are containers connected to your downspouts to collect runoff from your roof.

**Rain Gardens** are a cost effective option to solve drainage problems and reduce runoff from your yard.

**Tree Planting** provides many benefits to a community. Among other benefits, tree roots stabilize stream banks and absorb rainwater.



## Lawn Care

- Minimize use of pesticides and lawn chemicals
- Do not blow or rake leaves, grass clippings, brush and tree branches in the streets

The City of Stamford recommends a minimal maintenance program for liming and lawn fertilization, which includes only one application per year. The best time to make the application is in late summer. The Connecticut Agricultural Experimental Station recommends an approximate fertilizer ratio of 3 parts nitrogen, 1 part phosphorus and 2 parts potassium (3:1:2). Do not over apply fertilizers!

Liming should be done in either spring or fall. If large amounts are suggested, it is best to apply half in the spring and the other half in the fall. Limestone should not be applied within 2 weeks of applying fertilizer. This avoids a chemical reaction between the two which could result in the loss of some of the fertilizer nitrogen to the atmosphere.

Pesticides, including insecticides and herbicides, are intentionally toxic substances. Studies of major rivers and streams have documented that 100 percent of all surface water samples contained one or more pesticides at detectable levels.

For Pesticide Best Management Practices, please refer to the City of Stamford website.