

NEW FEDERAL STORMWATER REGULATIONS WILL EFFECT COLTS NECK

PROTECTION OF UNDERGROUND AQUIFERS - UPDATES FORTHCOMING -

Towns throughout the Country are now obligated to develop plans and enact laws that will help prevent water pollution by carefully controlling stormwater flows from private property and public roadways. Here is some basic information.

HELP PREVENT WATER POLLUTION

STORMWATER SEWERS

In the first rush of water from a rainstorm, much of the debris and other pollutants that had settled on the land surface in the stormwater sewer since the last storm will be picked up and carried into the local stream. This can significantly add to water quality problems. It is therefore important to protect the stormwater system from sources of pollution.

The following should never be dumped down storm drains, road gutters or catch basins: motor oil, pet waste, grass trimmings, leaves, debris and hazardous chemicals of any kind. Anything dumped in our stormwater collection systems will be carried into our streams.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD

Managing stormwater in your own backyard is important. As an integral part of the watershed you live in, what you do in your backyard makes a difference. Here are some examples of what you can do at home:

1. Reduce impervious surfaces by using pavers or bricks rather than concrete for a driveway or sidewalk.
2. Divert rain from paved surfaces onto grass to permit gradual infiltration.
3. Landscape with the environment in mind. Choose the appropriate plants, shrubs and trees for the soil in your yard; don't select plants that need lots of watering (which increases surface runoff), fertilizers or pesticides.
4. Maintain your car properly so that motor oil, brake linings, exhaust and other fluids don't contribute to water pollution.
5. Keep stormwater clean. Never dump litter, motor oil, animal waste, or leaves into storm drains or catch basins.