

Always Remember to...
Recycle or properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals, such as pesticides, paint, solvents, and used motor oil and other auto fluids.

Please don't pour anything into storm drains!



To you, it's the side of a road - to us, it's our home!

**Photo provided by Mn/DOT employee Derrick Dasenbrock*

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For more information:

Many communities within Minnesota are required to have a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program – to gather more information about what your community is doing, please with check your local city, county or watershed!

Much of the information presented in this brochure was obtained from the EPA publication website.

Please check the **EPA website** to learn more about stormwater runoff and what you can do to keep it clean.

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/>

For more information on the Minnesota Stormwater Program check out the **Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's website** at:

<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/stormwater/index.html>

To learn more about the **Mn/DOT Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program** check out our website at:

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/environment/ms4.html>

Also try the **Clean Water Minnesota website** for more information:

<http://www.cleanwatermn.org/>

Contact information:

Mn/DOT State MS4 Coordinator

Office of Environmental Services
395 John Ireland Boulevard.
Saint Paul, MN 55155
651-366-3601

Mn/DOT Metro District MS4 Coordinator

(Metro District Boundaries are the counties of Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington)

Water Resource Engineering Department

Water's Edge Building

1500 West County Road B2

Roseville, MN 55113

651-234-7500

How can I keep Minnesota's waters clean?



Stormwater Pollution Prevention Information



What is stormwater runoff?

Stormwater runoff occurs when rain or snowmelt flows over land, pavement, rooftops and other surfaces and is prevented from naturally soaking into the ground.

What can I do while on the road?

Don't Litter

Trash and debris collect in storm drains and can eventually end up in nearby lakes and rivers. Litter can also plug up storm drains which can cause flooding.



Don't Dump

Don't dump materials (household wastes, camper/RV sewage waste, auto fluids, etc.) onto the road side or into rest area ditches, storm drains or storm pipes.



Cover Exposed Materials

Take the time to cover exposed materials (mulch, rock, soil, sand, wood and other items) when hauling them on the road. Not only will this protect the people behind you, it will reduce the amount being spilled on the road.



Pick Up Your Pet's Waste

Clean up after your pet at rest areas! Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into storm drains and eventually into local bodies of water.



Why should I care?

- In 2006, there were 284 rivers/streams and 1013 lakes in Minnesota that were designated as impaired for one or more pollutants



- Mn/DOT spends \$5.4 million and has 3200 Adopt-A-Highway volunteers to pick up roadside litter each year! Let's all do our part to reduce litter.



- Approximately 26,000 tons of litter is picked up each year by Adopt-A-Highway volunteers. That is approximately 812,000 bags of trash!



- 45% of roadside litter occurs unintentionally when trash blows out of uncovered trucks or falls off of unsecured loads.

What can I do at home?

Lawn and Garden Care

Your lawn and garden can be a significant source of nutrients, chemicals and sediment which can cause water pollution. To avoid this:

- Don't over water your lawn. Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- Use pesticides and fertilizers when needed and sparingly.
- Don't leave lawn clippings in the street or sweep them into storm drains.
- Cover piles of dirt or mulch.



Swimming Pools & Hot Tubs

Chlorinated water is harmful to the environment – so draining your pool or hot tub water into a storm drain or your lawn is not a good idea!

- Dechlorinate pool water before draining onto your yard.
- Contact your city for more information.



Auto Care

Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system.

- Repair leaks and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations.
- Use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles its wastewater, or wash your car on your lawn so the water infiltrates into the ground.

