

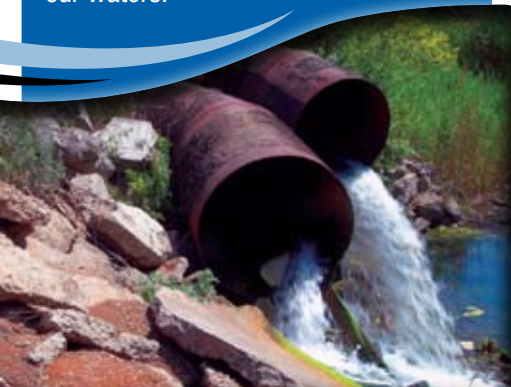
## what is **STORMWATER?**

When it rains, water runs across parking lots, roofs, streets, etc. and collects in the City's storm sewers. Most of this water then travels directly into rivers and streams.

Occasionally, excess rainwater overwhelms the storm sewers and these facilities fail to function as designed. The water then floods into homes, businesses and streets. In some locations, rainwater may overflow out of the storm sewer system and into an adjacent sanitary sewer system. These excess flows may then be discharged directly into the watershed.

## water **RUNOFF**

Stormwater runoff involves water not absorbed by the ground when it rains. Some of the most common household activities can have an unhealthy impact on our water quality, from washing the car to killing weeds. Each time it rains, water not absorbed by the ground, carries pollutants into our waters.



# STORMWATER

## **STORMWATER** tips

- Clean oil or antifreeze spills from your car by sprinkling with sawdust, cornmeal or cat litter. Once the spill is absorbed, sweep it up and dispose with your regular trash.
- Don't spill gasoline while refueling your car. When the pump shuts off, stop refueling. Oil and water don't mix. Take your used motor oil to a recycling location.
- Properly dispose of antifreeze, paint and other chemicals. Never dump them on the street or in a storm drain. Contact your waste hauler for more information.
- The city does have a recycling center so that residents can drop off newspaper, office paper, aluminum, and used motor oil.
- Storm drains are not dumping sites. Anything that is poured into a storm drain flows directly into a stream or river untreated.
- Illegal dumpers could be polluting your drinking water. If you see someone dumping something down the storm drain, contact the City of Hurricane immediately.
- Use your scoop when walking your pet to prevent pollution. Flush them or bag them. Remember ditches and culverts are not the place for them to do their business.
- Consider using rain barrels to collect rain water from your roof. All natural rain water is better for your garden, and saves you money.

## **CONTACT** us

### city of hurricane **WATER AND SEWER**

3255 Teays Valley Road  
P. O. Box 1086 • Hurricane, WV 25526  
**(304) 562-9906 • (866) HURR-WVA**  
info@hurricanewv.com • www.hurricanewv.com



Since the passage of the **Clean Water Act**, America has done much to clean up its streams, lakes and rivers. However, because of polluted stormwater runoff from city streets, construction sites, and farms, some of our waters are still not fishable or swimmable.

There are many things you as an individual or that a community group can do to help. **Learn the facts** about stormwater pollution. We all live in a watershed. We need to be aware of what affects the waters around us.



**Install a rain barrel to conserve water** for your gardening and outdoor needs. We all live in a watershed, we can all do something to help out. Contact the City of Hurricane for information on **Rain Barrel Workshops**.

## Stormwater [Do's & Dont's]

**DO** take the following steps to better your community and help you save money:



**Help Stabilization • rip rap for stream banks**  
seed/straw • matting  
hydroseeding



**Put in a Rain Garden**



**Install Permeable Pavement**



**Best Management Practices**  
silt fence • check dam  
drop inlet protection

**DON'T** allow the following practices that harm your environment:



**Allow Discharge**  
pipe to creek from  
gutters • downspouts  
or sewer



**Leave out Yard Waste**



**Leave Spills**



**Pollute the environment**  
Tire Dumps • Household  
Garbage • Chemicals

### What are the benefits of stormwater management?

By enacting stormwater management, the City will comply with Federal requirements. This also means improvement of the water quality in our local watershed. Other benefits may include **flood control**, a significant reduction in **pollution** caused by surcharged sanitary sewers, and **expansion** of our stormwater collection system.

### Am I required to pay the stormwater utility?

In accordance with West Virginia law 16-13-22, all properties discharging water into the City watershed are required to participate in the stormwater utility, regardless of whether the property is within or outside the City limits. In other words, a service fee is charged based upon the amount of stormwater that runs off a property and into our watershed. These standards differ from residential to commercial use.

### What are we required to do with the stormwater?

The Federal EPA has designated Hurricane as a "Small MS4" stormwater community. This means that the City must actively manage stormwater to the new EPA and West Virginia DEP standards. Hurricane is subject to significant penalties for failure to comply with the Federal requirements.

