

# Western New York Stormwater Coalition

*A partnership to protect water quality*

A number of communities, government agencies and consultants in Western New York have joined together to develop a stormwater management program to protect our waterways and enhance our quality of life. The goal of the Coalition is to utilize regional collaboration to identify existing resources and develop programs to reduce the negative impacts of stormwater pollution.

The Coalition meets every month to work collectively on developing and implementing a stormwater management program that complies with New York State's Phase II Stormwater regulations.

## WNY Stormwater Coalition Members

### Erie County

Alden (V)  
Alden (T)  
Amherst (T)  
Angola (V)  
Aurora (T)  
Blasdell (V)  
Boston (T)  
Buffalo Sewer Authority  
Cheektowaga (T)  
Clarence (T)  
Depew (V)  
East Aurora (V)  
Eden (T)  
Elma (T)  
Evans (T)  
Grand Island (T)  
Hamburg (V)  
Hamburg (T)  
Kenmore (V)  
Lackawanna (C)  
Lancaster (V)  
Lancaster (T)  
Orchard Park (V)  
Orchard Park (T)  
Sloan (V)  
Tonawanda (C)  
Tonawanda (T)  
West Seneca (T)  
Williamsville (V)

### Niagara County

Cambria (T)  
Lewiston (V)  
Lewiston (T)  
Niagara (T)  
Niagara Falls Water Board  
North Tonawanda (C)  
Pendleton (T)  
Porter (T)  
Wheatfield (T)  
Youngstown (V)

### Agencies and Consultants

Erie County DEP/DPW/DSM  
Niagara County DPW  
Peace Bridge Authority  
SUNY at Buffalo  
Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper  
Erie County Soil & Water Conservation District  
Niagara County Soil & Water Conservation District  
Connie D. Miner & Co., Grant Consultant  
CRA Infrastructure & Engineering  
Environmental Design & Research, PC  
Foit Albert  
Malcolm Pirnie  
Marquis Engineering  
Metzger Civil Engineering  
Nussbaumer & Clarke, Inc.  
Parsons  
Stearns & Wheeler  
TVGA Consultants  
Wm. Schutt & Associates  
Wendel Duchscherer

For information on the Coalition and how it is working to address the requirements of the Phase II Stormwater Rule, contact the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning at (716) 858-6370.

  
Western New York Stormwater Coalition  
c/o Erie County DEP  
Room 1077  
95 Franklin Street  
Buffalo, New York 14202

## Concrete & Mortar Operations... How to Prevent Water & Storm Sewer Pollution

### Best Management Practices for:

- Masons & Bricklayers
- Home Builders
- General Contractors
- Developers
- Concrete Providers
- Sidewalk Construction Crews
- Patio
- Construction Crews



WNY Stormwater Coalition

# Stormwater Pollution

## What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow that does not soak into the ground. It flows from rooftops, over paved areas, bare soil, and sloped lawns. As it flows, stormwater runoff collects and transports soil, animal waste, salt, pesticides, fertilizers, oil and grease, debris and other potential pollutants.

## What is the Problem?

Rain and snowmelt wash pollutants from streets, construction sites, and land into storm sewers and ditches. Eventually, the storm sewers and ditches empty the polluted stormwater directly into streams and rivers with no treatment. This is known as *stormwater pollution*.

Polluted stormwater degrades our lakes, rivers, wetlands and other waterways. Nutrients such as phosphorous and nitrogen can cause the overgrowth of algae resulting in oxygen depletion in waterways. Toxic substances from motor vehicles, and careless application of pesticides and fertilizers threaten water quality and can kill fish and other aquatic life. Bacteria from animal wastes and improper connections to storm sewer systems can make lakes and waterways unsafe for wading, swimming and fish consumption. Eroded soil is a pollutant as well. It clouds the waterway and interferes with the habitat of fish and plant life.

Fortunately, stormwater pollution can be prevented or minimized by implementing Best Management Practices which are procedures or activities that reduce or eliminate pollutants in stormwater.

# How to Prevent Pollution from Concrete & Mortar Work

Fresh concrete and mortar that washes into lakes and streams via stormwater are toxic to fish and the aquatic environment.

## Best Management Practices

### *General Practices*

- Identify concrete mixer washout areas in your yard , away from storm sewers, ditches and waterways. Allow washwater to flow into a temporary waste pit; dispose/recycle hardened concrete.
- Do not use diesel fuel as a lubricant on concrete forms, tools or trailers.
- Secure open bags of cement and keep cement powder away from streets, gutters, storm sewers, rainfall and runoff.
- Protect both dry and wet materials from rainfall and runoff by storing under cover. Avoid storing materials near storm sewers , ditches and waterways.

# Best Management Practices

## *Operational Practices*

- Mix only enough concrete or mortar for a two hour period.
- Use tarps or heavy plastic under mixers.
- Protect fresh applications from rainfall and runoff until material is dry.
- When cleaning, sweep or wash fines onto a dirt area, not a street, gutter or storm sewers.
- Never dispose or washout into the street, gutter, storm sewers, ditch or waterways.
- Wash chutes onto dirt areas to prevent contaminated water from flowing into streets, gutters, storm sewers or ditches.
- Block nearby storm sewers with sandbags if necessary.

