

MS4 Corner: Protecting Our Watershed

The Township's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)-regulated Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) collects stormwater runoff, conveys the water through a system of pipes and swales, and then discharges it to surface waters. As a Township resident there are simple steps you can take to protect the local watershed by preventing pollutants from entering the MS4.

Protecting Our Watershed: Pet Waste Disposal

Pet waste is more than smelly and unsightly – it is a health risk to pets and people, and our local waterways.

When it rains, pet waste left on sidewalks and grassy areas can be washed into the stormwater inlets that discharge to local streams and rivers. The bacteria, parasites and viruses in pet waste degrade water quality and can cause people who unknowingly swim or fish in a contaminated waterway to become sick.

Additionally, the nutrients in pet waste cause harmful algae and aquatic weeds to grow. Not only does the excess algae growth make the water green and unsightly, it also decreases the oxygen needed for aquatic life.



Do your part to keep our waterways clean and healthy:

- ❖ **Always** carry a plastic bag while walking your dog.
- ❖ Dispose of pet waste bags **in the trash**.
- ❖ **Never dispose of pet waste in a storm drain** as they drain directly to our streams and rivers.