



## What is stormwater pollution?

Stormwater is rain or snowmelt which empties into street catch basins and flows via pipes into local water bodies like the Scantic River. Stormwater is not treated. As it flows over roofs, lawns, and paved surfaces like driveways and parking lots, stormwater picks up pollutants such as sediment, pet waste, fertilizer, and pesticide residue and carries them to local rivers and streams.

## EPA's Stormwater Program

Hampden's municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) is regulated by EPA under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program. The 2016 Massachusetts Small MS4 General Permit includes requirements for controlling stormwater runoff from both construction projects and after projects are complete.

## Hampden's Stormwater Management Bylaw

Hampden's Stormwater Bylaw, revised in 2021 to meet the requirements of the Small MS4 General Permit, requires the following uses and activities to submit Stormwater Management Permit applications and permit review fees to the Building Inspector for review and approval in conformance with the requirements of the bylaw:

- Multi-family residential developments of 4 or more units
- New commercial, industrial, or institutional structures with at least 5,000 square feet of gross floor area, 10,000 square feet of impervious surface, or that require 10 or more parking spaces
- Redevelopment or additions to existing commercial, industrial, or institutional uses which will result in additional impervious surface area or gross floor area of more than 5,000 square feet, or which will result in an increase of 10 or more parking spaces
- Subdivisions and construction activities of any kind disturbing more than 40,000 square feet.

## Tips to reduce stormwater pollution

### Stormwater Best Management Practice (BMP) Maintenance

- Regularly inspect and maintain on-site stormwater BMPs such as detention basins, swales, or rain gardens. More information on stormwater BMP maintenance can be found in the Massachusetts Stormwater Handbook: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-stormwater-handbook-vol-2-ch-2-stormwater-best-management-practices>.

### General Cleaning and Chemical Use

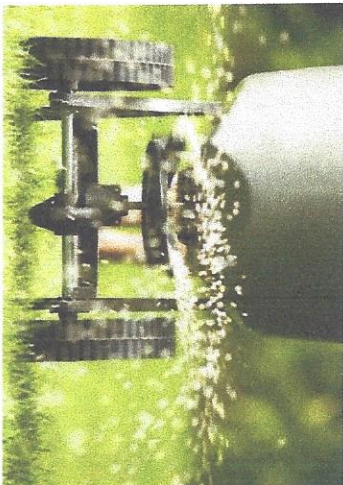
- Don't pour wash water or chemicals down a storm drain.
- Use cleaning products that are non-toxic to vegetation and wildlife.
- All chemicals, road salt, fertilizers, pesticides, gas, and oil should be stored in appropriate containers.





## Irrigation

- Avoid irrigating when it's windy to avoid water loss. The best time to water is early morning.
- Make sure that sprinkler heads are pointed at the lawn and not the pavement.



## Landscaping

- Limit the use of lawn chemicals and always follow directions.
- Use slow-release nitrogen fertilizer and fertilizer with no or low phosphorus to minimize impacts to water quality and algae growth.

## Dumpsters

- Schedule regular waste pick-ups.
- Keep dumpsters and waste bins covered and check regularly for leaks.
- Never wash dumpsters with a hose. If cleaning is needed, contact the leasing company.

## Who We Are

### About Us

For more information, check out the Hampden Stormwater Committee's online resources:  
<https://www.hampdenma.gov/stormwater-committee>

### Contact Us

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## TOWN OF HAMPDEN



*Stormwater  
Management  
for Businesses*