Date: 3 - 19 Inspector Prii 1	- [ ] Time:	l'co pr
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doors			

### Street Sweeping Log:

<u>DATE</u>	JOB NAME	TRUCK		<b>HOURS</b>	FUEL GAL	<u>F</u>	UEL\$	<b>WATER</b>
03/26/20	Village of Sparta SPRING	5019	Karl	2.00				
05/17/20	Village of Sparta SPRING - Parking Lots	5019	Jevin	1.90	-	\$	-	-
05/17/20	Village of Sparta SPRING - Parking Lots	Travel	Jevin	0.60				
07/09/20	Village of Sparta	1005	Boog	0.90	3.85	\$	8.12	1.00
07/09/20	Village of Sparta	Travel	Boog	0.30				
03/26/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	1001	Doug	1.00	19.61	\$	53.12	1.00
03/26/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	Travel	Doug	0.75				
05/08/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	1002	Boog	4.40	12.20	\$	20.12	2.00
05/08/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	Travel	Boog	0.85				
05/09/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	1002	Boog	7.10	19.10	\$	31.50	3.00
05/09/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	Travel	Boog	1.65	27.60	\$	45.51	
05/11/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	1005	Bob	8.00	23.00	\$	37.93	2.00
05/11/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	Travel	Bob	1.00	22.60	\$	37.27	
05/11/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	1002	Boog	2.90				1.00
05/11/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	Travel	Boog	0.35				
05/12/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	1005	Bob	2.00	19.40	\$	31.99	1.00
05/12/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	Travel	Bob	1.00				
05/12/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	1002	Boog	5.00	22.20	\$	36.61	2.00
05/12/20	Village of Sparta Spring - Streets	Travel	Boog	1.60				
10/08/20	Village of Sparta - FALL 2020	1005	Boog	1.60	11.60	\$	22.72	1.00
10/08/20	Village of Sparta - FALL 2020	Travel	Boog	0.30				

OTTAWA COUNTY LANDFILL 616-837-8195 15550 68TH AVE COOPERSVILLE, MI

Y6

14.87

29,740

882667 Brenda C.

6/25/20 8:17 am 6/25/20 8:36 am

870

0.00870 TRI US SERVICES INC. 78 N. BALL CREEK ROAD KENT CITY, MI 49330

Contract: 4042126929

Generator: VILLAGE OF SPARTA

SCALE IN GROSS WEIGHT SCALE OUT TARE WEIGHT

NET TONS 51,860 22,120 NET WEIGHT INBOUND

INVOICE

0.00 ΥD Tracking QTY

14.87 tn SW-STREET SWEEPINGS

Origin: KENT COUNTY 100%

Thank you for choosing Ottawa County Farms Landfill.

Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri 6 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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RS-F042UPBL (06/13)

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OTTAWA COUNTY LANDFILL 616-837-8195 15550 68TH AVE COOPERSVILLE, MI Y6 **882725** Brenda C.

6/25/20 10:01 am

6/25/20 10:14 am

870

000870 TRI US SERVICES INC. 78 N. BALL CREEK ROAD KENT CITY, MI 49330

Contract: 4042126929

Generator: VILLAGE OF, SPARTA

SCALE IN GROSS WEIGHT 48,800 NET TONS 13.37 SCALE OUT TARE WEIGHT 22,060 NET WEIGHT 26,740

INPOUND

0.00 YD Tracking QTY

13.37 tn SW-STREET SWEEPINGS Origin: KENT COUNTY 100%

Thank you for choosing Ottawa County Farms Landfill.

Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri 6 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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RS-F042UPBL (06/13)

Y6

882802 Brenda C.

6/25/20 12:28 pm

6/25/20 12:40 pm

870

000870 TRI US SERVICES INC. 78 N. BALL CREEK ROAD KENT CITY, MI 49330

Contract: 4042126929

Generator: VILLAGE OF ,SPARTA

SCALE IN GROSS WEIGHT SCALE OUT TARE WEIGHT

48,980 NET TONS 22,000 NET WEIGHT 13.49 26,980 INBOUND INVOICE

0.00 YD

Tracking QTY

13,49 tn

SW-STREET SWEEPINGS

Origin: KENT COUNTY 100%

Thank you for choosing Ottawa County Farms Landfill.

Hours of Operation:

Mon-Fri 6 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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RS-F042UPBL (06/13),

OTTAWA COUNTY LANDFILL 616-837-8195 15550 68TH AVE COOPERSVILLE, MI

Y6 882844 Brenda C.

1:59 pm

6/25/20

6/25/20 2:11 pm

870

000870 TRI US SERVICES INC. 78 N. BALL CREEK ROAD

KENT CITY, MI 49330

Contract:4042126929

Generator: VILLAGE OF , SPARTA

SCALE IN GROSS WEIGHT SCALE OUT TARE WEIGHT

NET TONS 13.91 49,740 NET WEIGHT 21,920 27,820

INBOUND INVOICE

YD 0.00

Tracking QTY

13.91 ŧп SW-STREET SWEEPINGS

Origin: KENT COUNTY 100%



Thank you for choosing Ottawa County Farms Landfill.

Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri 6 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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RS-F042UPBL (06/13)

OTTAWA COUNTY LANDFILL 616-837-8195 15550 68TH AVE COOPERSVILLE, MI ¥6

**882885**Brenda C.

6/25/20 3:21 pm

6/25/20 3:

3:33 pm

870

TRI US SERVICES INC. 78 M. BALL CREEK ROAD KENT CITY, MI 49330

Contract:4042126929

000170

Generator: VILLAGE OF SPARTA

SCALE IN GROSS WEIGHT SCALE OUT TARE WEIGHT

40,280 NET TONS 22,200 NET WEIGHT

9.04 18,080 INBOUND

0.00 YD Tracking QTY

9.04 tn S

SW-STREET SWEEPINGS

Origin: KENT COUNTY 100%

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Thank you for choosing Ottawa County Farms Landfill.

Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri 6 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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RS-F042UPBL (06/13)

## **Illicit Discharge Elimination Plan (IDEP)**

#### **Regional IDEP Activities**

A detailed description of the IDEP activities undertaken on an individual basis is included below. The IDEP activities include dry-weather screening of stormwater outfalls, locating possible sources of contamination, responding to reported incidents, correcting the problems, and preventing new illicit connections.

The IDEP is being implemented under a cooperative program administered by GVMC and involving the county agencies and municipal units. The IDEP was approved by EGLE in August of 2013. GVMC conducted outfall screening during the summer of 2018 on behalf of the MS4 communities in the Lower Grand River Watershed.

Please describe any dry-weather screening conducted during the reporting period and the findings of that screening.
Last completed in 2018.

Please list any other known and/or resolved illicit discharges identified during the reporting period and status of elimination. For significant discharges, also list the pollutants involved with an estimate of the volume and loading. Please describe enforcement action, if any.

Examples of illicit discharges include: malfunctioning septic systems; sanitary sewer leaks, overflows, or cross-connections; laundry water discharges; leaking fluids from vehicles, barrels, dumpsters, or tanks; concrete truck wash water; polluted runoff from temporary or permanent storage areas; improper fire hydrant flushing; spills from auto accidents; power washing wastewater; industrial/commercial wastewater, dumping; and any other violation of the IDEP ordinance.

- July 1, 2019, Latex paint believed to have come from a garage truck placed approx. 1 gallon
  of red paint at the corners of Martindale and 12 Mile and Martindale and Tentree. Cleaned up
  by local fire department.
- August 26, 2019, several gallons of hydromulch overflowed along the curb between Gardner and Centennial on Maple street. Contractor CL Trucking cleaned up the overflow.
- November 30, 2020, approximately one quart of gasoline from a leaking gas tank of a vehicle parked behind 128 E. Division in the municipal lot. Cleaned up by fire department.

Please list the status and schedule for elimination for any illicit discharges identified but not eliminated during this reporting period. Also, report the status of any illicit discharges identified but not eliminated during previous reporting periods.
All were eliminated.
Please describe the actions your community takes when indications of illicit discharges have been identified.
The Village DPW will be notified, and the DPW will clean it up, or hire a contractor if the situation is too large for the DPW to handle. Everything is handled in a timely manner to limit the volume of pollutants released to local waterways.
Please provide:
An estimated quantification of the number of discharges eliminated, and
• An estimated quantification of the volume of illicit flow eliminated (For large spills or, where the amount discharged is possible to estimate).
See above

Identify any specific coordination with the health department in response to illicit discharge elimination for failed or failing septic fields, or identify if any septic systems have been eliminated in your community and hooked up to the municipal system.
Describe the effectiveness of the program to prevent illicit discharges and the method used to assess effectiveness.
Discharges are reported to the Village, and the DPW is able to clean them up before significant releases to waters of the state happen.

# **New Point Source Discharges of Stormwater**

Do you own or operate any NEW or previously unidentified stormwater discharges?  Solution If "yes," please indicate which discharge points are new on your outfall map or list.
Is your stormwater discharge point map attached or provided electronically?  ☐ Map is attached ☐ Map is provided electronically ☒ Other. Please explain in comments section.
Is your stormwater discharge point list attached or provided electronically?  List is attached List is provided electronically Other. Please explain in comments section.
Comments:  Lists were submitted to EGLE in Early 2019 as Appendix 2 in the Illicit Discharge Elimination Plan revision as part of the 2016 MS4 Permit Application.
Each community maintains an updated map of their MS4, with the help of GVMC Environmental Programs, or REGIS.

#### **Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control**

Part 91 Administration Authority: KCRC

Was the Part 91 agency, or appropriate staff if you are the Part 91 agency, notified when the soil or sediment was discharged to your MS4 from a construction activity in accordance with the approved procedure?

Yes

Was the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) notified when soil, sediment, or other pollutants were discharged to your MS4 from a construction activity in accordance with the approved procedure?

Yes

Was a Part 91 permit issued for all construction activity one acre or greater in total earth disturbance with the potential to discharge to your MS4? Yes

#### Staff and Contractor Training August 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020

Training Topic Area	Employee Group to Receive Training	Date of Training
P2GH Video, provided by GVMC	Dennis Brinks, DPW Supervisor Randy Slatkowski, DPW	7/10/2020
P2GH Video, provided by GVMC	Marty Croaker, Sparta Airport Manager	7/16/2020

<sup>\*</sup>Training can be anything related to stormwater or construction management. Any conferences or applicable webinars that credited PDH's can also be listed here. List training for staff, city/twp/village commission/council, or contractors.

### **Other Actions**

Please li	ist ar	y extra	efforts	your	commu	inity has	conducte	ed above	and	beyond	your	commit	ments
recorded	d abov	/e (e.g.,	stream	buffer	ordina r	nce ado <sub>l</sub>	otion, new	ı manager	ment	techniqu	es, in	vasive s	pecies
control,	habit	at enha	ancemen	it/prot	ection,	logjam	removal,	stream/b	each	clean-u <sub>l</sub>	os, et	c.) that	have
helped in	mpler	nent the	Lower	Gran	d Rive	r Wate	rshed Ma	nageme	nt Pl	an:			

The Village publishes regular newsletters with LGROW information in them.

#### **MS4 Community Annual PEP Checklist + Report**

August 1, 2019-December 31, 2020 Reporting Period: Check the box for each action you completed and provide supporting documentation where indicated. The 2019-2020 PEP Focus Areas were: Personal watershed stewardship, Personal actions that can affect the watershed, Waste disposal assistance

Community Name: Village of Sparta			
2019-2020 Prioritized Activiti	es:		
1. Ensure Community website line https://spartami.org/public			
2. Publish at least 1 article on P  Name of newsletter/news out  Distribution/Reach of newslet  PEP Topic(s) addressed: G  Illicit Discharge Reporting  Waste Management Assis	EP topics in Comilet: ter/news outlet: teneral Watershed Septic Systemance or link to online ar	munity newsletter or news outlet  Awareness Stormwater Discharge em Management Personal Actio  rticle: published in Sparta newspaper	
<u> </u>	plav: List additional	/multiple events at the end of this form	
_	-	at least 2 targeted businesses/grou	
Names of Businesses		Title(s) of Material(s) Distributed	
media, newsletter, or website (You multiple social media posts on multiple Date shared: Location shared: Social Media Post Reach: Social Media Post Engagement	may attach the PEI PEP categories to	information with residents via Comm P Social Media Report in lieu of this ques report)  media post, copy of newsletter, or link	tion if you have
6. Distribute giveaway items for	r selected PEP ca	tegories	
Item	# Distributed	Item	# Distributed
LGROW Chapstick		Pet Waste Bag Dispenser	
LGROW Shopping Bag		Troutie Coloring Book	
Trout Stress Ball		WMEAC Coloring Book	
LGROW Pen		Paint by Number	
Only Rain Snap Bracelet Reusable Straw		Watershed Brochure  EPA Stormwater Solution Brochure	
neasable straw	l	Li A Storill Water Solution Brothare	l

Other:

HHW Magnet

#### **Other Activities** 7. Cohost a LID/Green Infrastructure workshop for Community members with LGROW Workshop Date: Workshop Location: # of Attendees: \*Attach a copy of workshop sign-in sheets or photos if available 8. Host, participate in, or support a stream cleanup effort Cleanup Date: Cleanup Location: # of Volunteers: \*Attach a copy of volunteer sign-in sheets or photos if available 9. Mark storm drains or host/support storm drain marking events Storm Drain Marking Event Date: # of Participants in Event: # of Storm Drains Marked: # of Pre-Marked or Stamped Drains already existing in Community: 10. Join or Promote Adopt a Drain Program *Date(s) of program promotion:* Method of program promotion: Social Media Metrics (Post Reach, Post Engagement): \*LGROW will create a report of the number of drains adopted in your Community 11. Provide presentation on PEP topics to a school in your Community Date of presentation: Location of presentation: # of Students Reached: 12. Implement EPA SepticSmart Social Media Guide during SepticSmart Week Provide Social Media Metrics (Post Reach, Post Engagement): 13. Post 1 new educational sign on PEP topics on Community property Sign Location: PEP Topic(s) addressed: General Watershed Awareness Stormwater Discharge Location/Impacts Illicit Discharge Reporting Septic System Management Personal Actions Waste Management Assistance

#### Other Public Engagement Activities Completed

December 31, 2023.

Use this space to provide additional detail on Public Engagement Activities described above or to describe other Public Engagement Activities completed in your Community during the reporting period. You may also report any adjustments your Community made to Public Engagement as a result of limitations due to COVID-19 in this space. Village intern/code enforcer attends LGROW Public Ed. meetings

\*Attach a photo of the educational sign; Note that this activity is not required in 2020, but is required by



#### Village Hall

156 E. Division St. Sparta, MI 49345 (616) 887-8251 8:00am-5:00pm

#### **Department of Public Works**

276 W. Division St. Sparta, MI 49345 (616) 887-9303 7:00am-3:30pm

# Residential Storm Water Discharge in the Village of Sparta

Hello! This packet was put together by Village staff in order to inform citizens about the ordinances surrounding storm water discharge and the penalties for violating those ordinances. Suggestions are also provided to aid citizens in effectively dealing with their storm water runoff. Any questions relating to residential storm water discharge should be addressed to the Department of Public Works.

# **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

#### What is storm water runoff?

Storm water runoff is water from rain or snowmelt that comes off of roofs, driveways, sidewalks, and other surfaces that does not infiltrate into the ground.

#### What is polluted storm water runoff?

When storm water flows over surfaces, it picks up and carries pollutants on those surfaces becoming polluted. Common storm water pollutants include oil, sediment, pesticides, fertilizers, litter, yard waste, and pet waste.

#### What causes storm water runoff pollution?

Every day activities we do around our businesses, homes, and yards can impact the quality of our storm water. Some common examples include over fertilizing our yards or fertilizing before a heavy rain, not picking up pet waste, and excessive use of pesticides. Oil drips from vehicles, litter, yard debris, and sediment are other examples of common storm water pollutants.

#### Why do we need to manage storm water and polluted runoff?

Managing our storm water aims to improve the quality and reduce the volume of storm water. Unlike sanitary sewer water, storm water does not receive any treatment before it enters our waterways, thus delivering pollutants with it that it picks up along the way. This adversely affects wildlife, human health and safety. In addition, water that falls on hard surfaces and doesn't infiltrate into the ground runs off to lower areas, with excess runoff potentially causing local flooding and stream bank erosion.



#### How can I help prevent storm water pollution?

When working around you home or yard, make sure you dispose of products properly, never dump or dispose of items in storm drains, pick up after your pets, keep yard waste out of the street, and eliminate or minimize the use of fertilizers and pesticides. Volunteer to help educate your community on how they can help prevent storm water pollution.

#### What is an illicit discharge?

An illicit discharge is any discharge to the MS4 that is not composed entirely of storm water. These may occur due to illegal connections to the storm drain system in which wastewater enters the storm drains (i.e. floor drains connected to the storm drain system). Direct dumping of waste into a storm drain or placement such that waste can enter the storm drain system is also a form of illicit discharge.

#### Who controls Michigan's storm water program?

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) controls Michigan's storm water program. The goal of Michigan's Storm Water Program is to protect and preserve Michigan's water resources through pollution prevention measures. EGLE works to accomplish this goal through a two-step process. First, EGLE has been authorized by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency to manage a storm water discharge permit program. Second, EGLE is implementing a compliance assistance approach to the permit program. Click on the titles below to be redirected to the desired storm water program webpage.

Visit mi.gov/eglestormwater for more information or call the Environmental Assistance Center at 1-800-662-9278 for any questions or concerns.



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY



#### **Village Ordinances**

Sec. 58-2. - Damage and obstruction prohibited.

No person shall make any excavation in, or cause any damage to, any street in the village, except under the conditions and in the manner permitted in this chapter. No person shall place any article, thing, or obstruction in any street, except under the conditions and in the manner permitted in this chapter; but this provision shall not be deemed to prohibit such temporary obstructions as may be incidental to the expeditious movement of articles and things to and from abutting premises, or to the lawful parking of vehicles within the part of the street reserved for vehicular traffic.

Sec. 58-17. Placement of leaves and other material.

The owner and/or occupant, or his agent or employee, of any parcel of property and any individual, partnership, or corporation shall not place any leaves and/or other debris or material, or snow or ice upon the streets or public rights-of-way of the village or upon any property not his own, unless permission has been obtained for such placement. The owner and/or occupant of any parcel of property from which any such item as specified above originates shall be responsible for the proper placement of such item as called for in this section, in addition to any employee or agent or contractor of any such owner and/or occupant.

Sec. 74-241: Stormwater, surface water, etc.

(a) No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any stormwater, surface water, ground water, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, cooling waters, or unpolluted industrial process waters into any sanitary sewer.

(b) Stormwater and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to the ground surface, or to a natural outlet approved by the village or MDEQ.

Sec. 74-341: Sump pump discharge

- (a) Whenever building footing drains are required or utilized, a direct connection between the footing drains through a sump-pump-check-valve system to a storm sewer is required. A gravity system is not permitted.
- (b) A stormwater lateral shall be provided for each parcel at the time of storm sewer construction. (Permission from the Village is required before hooking up. Village DPW must inspect the connection and the as-builts provided for lateral in right-of-way.)

Sec. 74-342: Public health, safety, and welfare
Protection of the public health, safety, and welfare shall be a primary consideration in the
design of all stormwater runoff facilities.



# **Penalty for Violation**

Sec. 74-395: Sanctions for violation

(a) Any person violating any provision of this article shall be responsible for a municipal civil infraction and subject to a fine of not less than \$100.00 plus costs, damages, expenses, and other sanctions as authorized under chapter 87 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961 and other applicable laws, including, without limitation, equitable relief; provided, however, that the violation stated in subsection (b) shall be a misdemeanor. Each day such violation occurs or continues shall be deemed a separate offense and shall make the violator liable for the imposition of a fine for each day. The rights and remedies provided for in this section are cumulative and in addition to any other remedies provided by law. An admission or determination of responsibility shall not exempt the offender from compliance with the requirements of this article.

For purposes of this section, "subsequent offense" means a violation of the provisions of this article committed by the same person within 12 months of a previous violation of the same provision of this ordinance for which said person admitted responsibility or was adjudicated to be responsible.

The village manager, village zoning administrator, and village building inspector are authorized to issue municipal civil infraction citations to any person alleged to be violating any provision of this ordinance.

- (b) Any person who neglects or fails to comply with a stop-work order issued under section 74-396 shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 93 days, or both such fine and imprisonment, and such person shall also pay such costs as may be imposed in the discretion of the court.
- (c) Any person who aids or abets a person in a violation of this article shall be subject to the sanctions provided in this section.

#### **Reasons for Sparta's Ordinances**

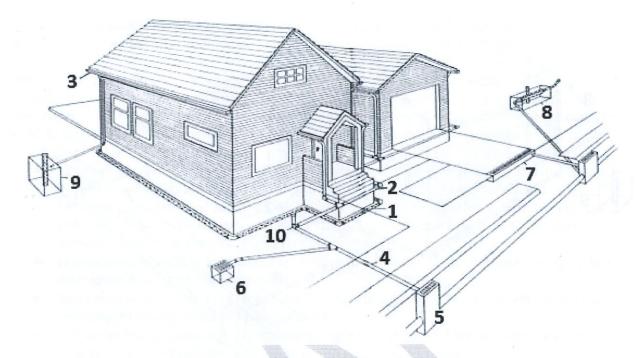
The Village of Sparta has these ordinances and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to ensure the safety of its citizens and to protect the infrastructure of the village and its residents. It is important to make sure that water is discharged properly and not in a way that is harmful to the environment or to surrounding neighbors.

Water that is not discharged properly can lead to many different problems. If storm water is illegally routed to the street or sidewalk, that water can collect and become a hazard to motorists and pedestrians. Storm water that is routed to a property line may damage or destroy a neighbors grass or garden. This is why it is necessary to familiarize yourself with proper methods for storm water discharge.

Remember to call MISS DIG 3 days before you dig. 1-800-482-7171



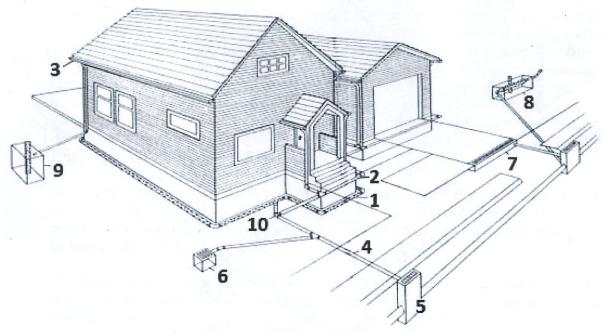
# **Suggested Solutions**



- Foundation drains divert stormwater away from your building's foundation. Foundation
  drainpipes are perforated and usually surrounded by gravel. The pipes disperse the water
  (instead of discharging in a concentrated area) and the gravel contributes to infiltration of the
  water. The gravel can be wrapped with a layer of filter fabric to prevent the drain from clogging
  with sediment.
- Roof drainpipes are not perforated, and are not connected to the foundation drain system.
   They should be connected to convey water to the City's storm drain system, to a drywell, or directly to a waterbody.
- Gutters collect runoff from a building's roof. This runoff is conveyed through downspouts to the
  roof drain system. Gutters should be kept clear of leaves and other debris so clogging does not
  occur in the roof drain system.
- 4. **Storm drainpipes** convey rainwater to the City's stormwater system. Storm drainpipes can be made from many different materials such as concrete, aluminum, and polyvinyl chloride (PVC).
- 5. Catch basins are connected to storm drainpipes. They are concrete structures (either round or rectangular) with metal grates on top. Catch basins capture debris that could clog the pipes in a storm drain system. You can prevent the system from clogging by checking the catch basins in your neighborhood during and after a heavy storm. Use a broom or rake to remove any leaves or debris that have blocked the catch basin's grate.
- 6. **Yard inlets** are similar to catch basins but are much smaller. Metal and plastic yard inlets can be purchased at a local hardware store.
- 7. **Trench drains** are used to capture stormwater flowing over a larger area like a driveway. Trench drains convey rainwater to the City's storm drain system.
- 8. **French drains** can be installed anywhere on your property that collects water. French drains are constructed with a perforated pipe. Gravel and filter fabric surrounds the pipe, similar to foundation drain systems.



# **Suggested Solutions (Cont.)**



- 9. **Drywells** can be installed in areas that cannot be connected to a stormwater drainage system. Drywells are filled with gravel and surrounded by filter fabric. Water flows into the wells and infiltrates into the ground through the gravel.
- 10. **Cleanouts** are designed as easy access points for maintenance of the stormwater drainage system. They are usually located in a bend where debris can clog the system.

Borson, B. (2018). Residential Drainage. Retrieved from Life of an Architect: https://www.lifeofanarchitect.com/residential-drainage/

**Pop-Up Drains** (pictured below) can divert water from the building's foundation and out into the surrounding yard. Runoff water must stay on your property and cannot cross the sidewalk or enter the gutter pan.





#### **How to Eliminate Water Runoff Contamination**

The following is information obtained from Grand Valley State University's Robert B. Annis Water Resources Institute (AWRI) - Information Services Center.

The well-known stories about environmental problems tend to focus on big, recognizable targets such as smoking industrial facilities, leaking toxic waste dumps, and messy oil spills. As a result, people often forget about water pollution caused by smaller nonpoint sources--especially pollution at the household level. Below are some recommendations to protect water quality in your community.

- Limit the amount of impenetrable surfaces in your landscape. Use permeable paving surfaces such as wood decks, bricks, and concrete lattice to let water soak into the ground.
- Allow thick vegetation or buffer strips to grow along waterways to slow runoff and soak up pollutants. Plant trees, shrubs, and ground cover. They will absorb up to 14 times more rainwater than a grass lawn and don't require fertilizer.
- Use natural alternatives to chemical fertilizers and pesticides. If you must use chemicals, test your soil to determine the right amount.
- Don't hose down driveways or sidewalks. Dry sweeping paved areas, along with careful trash disposal, are simple, effective pollution reducers.
- Gutters and down spouts should drain onto vegetated or gravel- filled seepage areas not directly onto paved surfaces. Splash blocks also help reduce erosion.
- Divert runoff from pavement to grassy, planted or wooded areas of your property, so storm water can seep slowly into the ground.
- Compost grass clippings and leaves. Never allow them to wash into roadways where they will reach storm drains.
- Get involved in the planning and zoning process in your community. That's where the decisions are made that shape the course of development and the future quality of our environment.
- Place litter, including cigarette butts, in trash receptacles. Never throw litter in streets or down storm drains.
- Properly dispose of household hazardous wastes. Many common household products, (paint thinners, moth balls, drain and oven cleaners, etc.) contain toxic ingredients. When improperly used or discarded, these products are a threat to public health and the environment. Do not pour hazardous products down any drain or toilet. Do not discard with regular household trash. Learn about natural and less toxic alternatives and use them whenever possible. Contact your County Solid Waste Management Office for information regarding hazardous waste collection in your area.
- Recycle all used motor oil by taking it to a service station or local recycling center. Motor oil
  contains toxic chemicals that are harmful to humans and animals. Do not dump used motor oil
  down storm drains or on the ground.
- Animal wastes contain bacteria and viruses that contaminate shellfish and cause the closing of bathing areas. Pet owners should pick up after their pets and dispose of the wastes in the garbage or toilet.
- Wash your car on the grass so soapy water soaks into the ground. Use a hose nozzle to prevent water from running when not in use.
- Dispose of used oil, antifreeze, paints, and other household chemicals properly

http://www.gvsu.edu/wri/isc/how-you-can-help-274.htm#Hm own



Stormwater runoff is generated from rain and snowmelt that flows over land or impervious surfaces, such as paved roads, parking lots or building rooftops, that does not soak into the ground. Stormwater flows into drains that take it directly to nearby lakes, rivers and streams.

Stormwater is NOT treated before it reaches our waterways. Therefore, managing stormwater on your property can help prevent pollution from reaching our drinking water supplies, and keep your foundation and basement dry.

# Ways you can manage stormwater at home:

- Do not put anything in a storm drain
- Wash your car at the commercial car wash or on the grass (NOT on the driveway where water flows into a storm drain!)
- Keep storm drains clear of debris and trash
- Use phosphorus free fertilizer (or don't use any)
- Shovel snow first & salt second (or not at all)
- · Pick up and dispose of pet waste
- Use practices that capture, slow, and absorb runoff such as:
  - · Rain Barrels
  - Native Plants
  - · Rain Gardens
  - · Trees





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# What can you do?



# Protect drinking water with smart stormwater management at home

We can protect our drinking water supply by mimicking nature, and allowing stormwater to infiltrate or sink slowly into the soil rather than running into catch basins or storm sewers. Native plants (pictured: butterfly weed) have long root systems that help soak up runoff, and look great in your yard!

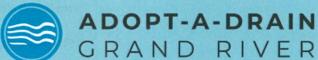
#### Be a good steward!

Dispose of waste properly. Use chemicals, pesticides, and always use phosphorus free fertilizers sparingly and according to the directions on the package. Never dump anything into catch basins. They connect directly to lakes and rivers!





Get involved!



Visit www.adoptadrain-lgrow.org to learn more and find a drain near you!

From Sparta Newspaper/Newsletters:



# · PROTECT OUR WATERSHED · LGR(

# Summer Tips

# **CLEANUP**

Get involved in a local stream or neighborhood cleanup. Check the event calendar at www.LGROW.org to find a cleanup near you or plan your own!

# **MEASURE**

Always follow directions to use proper amounts of fertilizer and herbicides. Too much can wash off your property into storm drains and can harm aquatic life.

# WASH

Wash cars at commercial car washes where the water is connected to sanitary sewers and treated. At home, wash your car on the grass, not the driveway, so that soapy water doesn't wash into storm drains.

# **CARE**

Have a spill kit handy to immediately clean up any spills in your driveway like gas or oil leaks. Report any major spills at www.LGROW.org/report.

# **CONSERVE**

Watch your watering! Lawns only need about 1" of rain per week. Overwatering can result in runoff which can carry fertilizers and herbicides along with it. Avoid watering during mid-day.

# REUSE

Keep grass at least 3" to promote healthy root growth. Dispose of clippings in a compost pile or yard waste bag so they don't wash into storm drains. Clippings also make great natural mulch!