

ENGINEER'S CORNER... What is the Deal with MS4?

MS4 is short for, "Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System." In October 2019 Stroud Township obtained an NPDES MS4 Stormwater Permit. The MS4 program is mandated by EPA and administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP). The purpose of the program is to protect the water quality of the streams and waterways in the Township by reducing pollutants and to manage stormwater runoff volumes in an effort to reduce flooding and promote groundwater recharge for wells and stream flow.

The Township's goals under the MS4 permit include the following:

- Distribution of public education materials
- Providing opportunities for public participation and involvement
- Implementing a program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges
- Cooperating with PADEP regarding implementation of construction site runoff controls
- Enacting and implementing stormwater management ordinances and providing oversight of stormwater BMP maintenance
- Developing and implementing good housekeeping and pollution prevention procedures for Township properties and operations
- Implementing BMP's to reduce sediment pollutant loads in the impaired streams in the Township, including Flagler Run, Sambo Creek, Little Pocono Creek and UNT 006 to the Brodhead Creek
- Implementing BMP's to reduce pathogens in the impaired sections of the Brodhead Creek and McMichaels Creek

You can help by:

- Reporting dumping of anything into a storm system or stream. Contact the police immediately if you witness illegal dumping
- Reporting any chemical or hazardous materials spills by calling 911
- Cleaning up after your pets and disposing of waste properly
- Properly storing materials that could contaminate waterways and making sure garbage cans are watertight and lids are secure
- Properly and sparingly using fertilizers to prevent runoff of excess
- Remembering that everything that goes into a storm sewer eventually drains to a stream.

Eliminate Illicit Discharges

Illicit discharges means any discharge to a catch basin, storm pipe, drainage ditch, stream or other stormwater collection or conveyance facility that is not composed entirely of stormwater (rain water). Examples of illicit discharges include dumping or discharge of the following types of material: motor vehicle fluids; household waste; household chemicals or cleaning agents; grass clippings; leaf litter; pet waste; paint; sewage; industrial waste; restaurant waste, detergents or any other non-stormwater waste. Illicit discharges can be accidental or intentional.

For more information or to report an illicit discharge contact:

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