

STORMWATER QUALITY FOR RESTAURANTS

The Town of Suffield, under the Stormwater Management Program, is participating in educating the public in ways in which their actions can help reduce the amount of polluted stormwater runoff that enters our waterways. Storm drain systems are designed to collect stormwater-rain and snow melt- and release it untreated into watercourses. Pollutants are accumulated in stormwater as rain and snowmelt flow across surfaces such as lawns, roads, and parking lots picking up substances such as fertilizers, pesticides, oil and antifreeze. Contaminants degrade the quality of drinking water sources and fish and wildlife habitats.

As a way of helping to educate the public, the Town of Suffield, has developed a list of Best Management Practices (BMP) that your business can utilize to help ensure a safe work environment and better maintain the quality of local water sources for years to come.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING PRACTICES

- Avoid spilling onto floors or other surfaces through good housekeeping.
- Clean up spills immediately to minimize safety hazards and prevent spills from reaching a storm drain inlet.
- Use absorbent materials to clean small spills rather than hosing down the area. Remove the absorbent materials promptly and dispose of properly.

CLEANING

- Keep outside areas (dumpsters, parking lots, etc) free of trash and debris, and regularly clean them to prevent pollutant buildup.
- Control litter by sweeping and picking up trash on regular basis.
- Sweep up outside areas rather than washing them down.
- Do not dump mop water or wash floors or kitchen mats outside. Pour mop water and wash water into the mop sink or floor drains. Take floor mats to a car wash for cleaning.
- Whenever possible, purchase water based cleaning products. Look for products labeled “non-toxic”, “non-petroleum based”, “ammonia-free”, “phosphate-free”, “dye and perfume-free” or “readily biodegradable”.

OIL AND GREASE

- Regularly inspect and clean out grease traps/interceptors.
- Always use proper oil and grease recycling receptacles. Never dump oil and grease wastes into storm drains or onto parking lots.
- Use care to avoid spills when taking used oil to the grease receptacle.