HENDRICK HUDSON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, MONTROSE, NY 10548

MS4PY2 STORMWATER PROGRAM

INTRODUCTORY NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2012

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT YOUR STORMWATER COORDINATOR:
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1. Stormwater Cleanup Campaign

On August 14, 2011, the Hendrick Hudson Central School District (HHCSD) filed a Notice of Intent with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to comply with new regulations to control pollutants from storm water runoff from the following properties:

- The District Office, 61 Trolley Road, Montrose, NY 10548
- Frank G. Lindsey Elementary School, 57 Trolley Road, Montrose, NY 10548
- Hendrick Hudson High School, 2166 Albany Post Road, Montrose, NY 10548
- Furnace Woods Elementary School, 239 Watch Hill Road, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567
- Blue Mountain Middle School, 7 Furnace Woods Road, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567

Under the State mandated program, HHCSD will initiate and implement a storm water management program by educating the school community about the storm water program and soliciting its participation in the control of pollution from storm water runoff.

The Stormwater Management Program (SWMP), endorsed by the HHCSD, will prioritize public education and public participation and will focus on what constitutes stormwater pollution and how these pollutants directly impact each one of us, in all aspects of our daily life.

2. What is Stormwater Runoff?

Stormwater runoff is water from rain or melting snow that does not soak into the ground. It runs off the impervious surfaces such as roofs, driveways, sidewalks and parking lots into nearby drainage ditches and/or catch basins. The runoff, carrying stormwater pollutants, ultimately discharges into the Hudson River, via connecting tributaries.

3. What is the Impact of Stormwater Runoff?

The polluted stormwater runoff, containing oils and greases from leaking automobiles, road salt from winter operations, sediment from construction sites, fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides from lawns and gardens affect habitats of fish and plant life. Nutrients from fertilizers promote the excessive growth of algae, and deplete oxygen in our waterways. Bacteria from animal wastes and failing septic systems make our lakes and beaches unsafe for swimming and public water supplies unfit to drink. Contaminated runoff containing pathogens also adversely affects the propagation and consumption of edible shellfish. Finally, excessive runoff also promotes flooding and the destruction of property.

4. The District Stormwater Program Initiatives

The stormwater program, endorsed by your District will include:

- A stormwater website listing contact persons, fact sheets and newsletters related to stormwater management
- HHCSD will explore how students and staff can participate in the stenciling of storm drains that run through the campus
- Policies and procedures to address construction-related activities, illicit discharges and the District operations
- A Pollution Prevention Training will be provided to Operations and Maintenance Staff
- An annual report outlining current and ongoing stormwater activities will be presented to NYSDEC
- A draft copy of the annual report will be posted on the District Stormwater Website for students and staff to review and to provide comments and input

5. How Can You Help?

While the administrative portion of the program has been initiated, school participation is vital to the success of this of this program. You can help by:

- Visiting your Storm Water Website to review Newsletters and Fact Sheets on your storm water program
- Teachers should require students to review the District stormwater website and provide a written paragraph, summarizing three (3) key points presented on stormwater management
- Establishing volunteer student groups to actively engage in the District stormwater program
- Encouraging your peers (administrators, staff and students) to identify existing local stormwater programs