



Be the Solution to Water Pollution!

SOURCES OF WATER POLLUTION

Stormwater is the leading cause of water quality decline in New Hampshire. The daily activities of residents and businesses across the region impact our water resources, wildlife and environment. Being knowledgeable is the key to taking action and practice water pollution prevention.

BE THE SOLUTION! 10 BEST PRACTICES YOU CAN DO TO PITCH IN

1. Never dump anything onto the street, down a storm drain or into a drainage ditch.
2. Pick up after your pet. Bag it and throw pet waste in the trash.
3. Compost or bag your grass clippings and leaves for curbside collection.
4. Use fertilizers and pesticides sparingly.
5. Dispose of all litter properly.
6. Keep your septic system pumped and maintained to prevent leaks.
7. Check your vehicles for leaks and repair them as soon as possible.
8. Always recycle your motor oil and other chemicals properly.
9. Wash your car over a grassy area or at a commercial car wash.
10. Tell a friend or neighbor how they can prevent stormwater pollution!

WHY SHOULD WE CARE ABOUT CLEAN WATER?

When it rains.....it pollutes!

Every time it rains, water runs off the land as stormwater. As it flows over rooftops, roads, lawns, driveways and other surfaces, stormwater picks up pollutants and debris such as dirt, motor oil, fertilizer, litter and pet waste. All of these pollutants can be carried by stormwater into storm drains and drainage ditches which flow untreated into rivers, streams, lakes and wetlands.

Stormwater pollution is one of the biggest threats to New Hampshire's water resources. It harms our ability to use these waters for drinking water, swimming and fishing, and negatively impacts wildlife, habitat and the environment.

It is far easier to prevent pollution than it is to clean it up or treat polluted water. Keeping our water resources free of pollution benefits everyone and every community in the watershed.

GET INVOLVED TO PROTECT AND IMPROVE WATER QUALITY

There are many ways to get involved in protecting water resources. Here are just a few:

- Become a volunteer member of a local watershed group.
- Invite a professional to speak at your next civic or neighborhood meeting.
- Teach your children and family members about best practices that prevent water pollution.
- Set a goal every year to volunteer in a clean water or water pollution prevention activity, event or organization.



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For more information, contact:

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