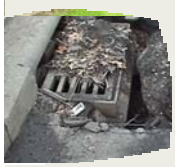

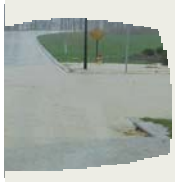

▶ What is storm water and why do we need to manage it?

Federal and State laws regulating water quality and the management of stormwater necessitate that the City of Massillon re-evaluate the way it manages the water that runs off impervious surfaces such as concrete, asphalt, or rooftops.

Stormwater runoff carries pollutants directly to the Tuscarawas River and creeks and has the potential to create drainage and flooding problems throughout the city.

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Storm Water focus

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF STORMWATER MANAGEMENT IN THE CITY OF MASSILLON

REDUCE *the amount of materials you use, which reduces the amount of waste you create.*
REUSE *materials when possible.*
RECYCLE *as much as possible*

NATURES REVENGE

Protecting water quality is a four-season job! Winter may change the way we view and interact with our waterways, but not the way we impact their health.

Because the ground will be frozen over for the next few months, it will lose its ability to absorb and filter pollutants during any snow melt events that might occur. The pollutants that accumulate in our snow banks all winter will eventually wash into our storm water systems, ponds, and streams next spring.

There are many simple steps that we can all take to reduce the springtime pollutant load now, and throughout the rest of the winter season.

Before the worst weather sets in, take the time to collect the last leaves that may have accumulated in the storm drain, catch basin or lawn strip in front of your house. Not only will this help keep melting snow from pooling and refreezing during brief warm ups, but it will help reduce the amount of phosphorus and organic matter that enters our waterways next spring.

Picking up pet waste is just as important in the winter months as it is in the warmer months. Animal waste is a significant source of nutrients, bacteria and disease. Cooler temperatures and frozen snow slow the decay process. Adopting an "out of sight, out of mind" approach to pet waste management this winter will result in a very unpleasant and unhealthy landscape once the spring thaw sets in.

If you are doing earthwork in the winter, remember to maintain your erosion and sediment control practices to keep soil and other pollutants on your site and out of streams and ponds.

Salt can be harmful to plants, aquatic life and drinking water supplies. Consider using a non-toxic, biodegradable ice melt product instead of salt. These products can be more expensive than salt, but they are less harmful to the environment, and because they frequently have residual effects that prevent or delay new ice from forming, you may not need to use the product as frequently as salt.

City of Massillon
Engineering Department
151 Lincoln Way East, Massillon, Oh 44646