



# **Stormwater Runoff** **I Can Make a Difference**



# Stormwater

- Rain and melting snow
- Collected by storm drains and flows into streams, rivers, lakes.



# The Problem

**Runoff picks up pollutants and contaminants such as these:**

- **Oil, grease**
- **Bacteria**
- **Pesticides, fertilizers**
- **Toxic chemicals**
- **Soil, silt.**



# Water Treatment?

- **Stormwater is not treated**
- **Piping system goes directly to waterways.**





# Drinking Water

- **Streams, lakes, reservoirs**
- **Expensive filtering and purifying process.**



# Stormwater Runoff

If not managed properly, runoff can:

- Flood streams
- Raise stream temperatures which can kill aquatic life
- Harm waterways with its pollutants.



# The Law

- **EPA and the Clean Water Act**
- **New rules restricting stormwater pollution.**



# Legal Requirements

- **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination permit**
- **State and federal minimums are met**
- **List limits on what can be discharged.**





# Your Responsibility

Learn all about the:

- **Problem**
- **Laws**
- **Solutions.**



# General Solutions

- **Create stronger and healthier ground surfaces**
- **Reduce or eliminate the runoff at its source.**



# Specific Solutions for Municipalities

- **Best Management Practices (BMPs)**
- **Infiltration trenches and detention ponds**
- **Street sweeping, receptacle servicing and roadside clean-up services**
- **Collect and dispose of chemicals.**



# Specific Solutions for Businesses

- **Use storm-resistant shelters**
- **Properly clean up spills, leaks**
- **Regularly sweep parking lots**
- **Pick up litter.**



# Specific Landscaping Solutions

- Reuse stormwater
- Plant vegetation
- Protect exposed soil with mulch
- Water plants, grass only when needed
- Protect soil on construction sites.





# Specific Personal Solutions

- **Never litter**
- **Recycle**
- **Use non-toxic materials**
- **Store hazardous products correctly**
- **Dispose of pet waste properly.**