

CITY OF LEWISTON, MAINE



Things to Keep in Mind

Remember.... Storm drains are **NOT** connected to the sanitary sewer, do **NOT** get treated, and may discharge directly into the Androscoggin River, Little Androscoggin River, No Name Pond, Lake Auburn, Taylor Pond, and Sabattus Pond.

If you have concerns regarding storm water pollution, please call us at 207-513-3003, x3421.



Only with your help can we keep our rivers and lakes beautiful,



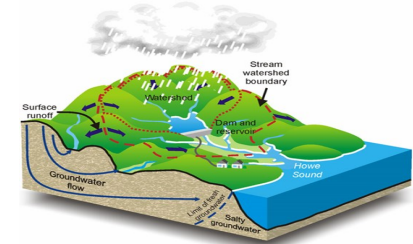
and prevent this tragedy from happening.

CITY OF LEWISTON

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Storm Water Pollution Prevention for the Androscoggin River and No Name Pond



Storm Water Explained, and How You Can Help!

Phone: 207-513-3003



How Does Storm Water Impact Me and My Community?



Imagine a raindrop falling from the sky and hitting a solid surface, such as a

parking lot, road, or roof. As it runs off this surface, it collects soil, pesticides, spilled oil, gasoline, and bacteria. It flows directly into your local river or lake...or it might go through a storm drain...to an outfall...then into a water body. Now imagine an entire



storm—lots of raindrops—or lots of melting snow—sweeping these contaminants into streams and ponds,



then into the Androscoggin River watershed! It happens and it is called:

POLLUTED STORM WATER RUNOFF.



How Can I Keep Storm Water from Becoming Polluted?

POLLUTED STORM WATER RUNOFF CAN HARM PLANTS, FISH, ANIMALS, AND PEOPLE.

- ⇒ Sediment can destroy aquatic life.
- ⇒ Bacteria can cause beach closures.
- ⇒ Household hazardous wastes can poison aquatic life.
- ⇒ Polluted storm water can affect drinking water sources.

Lawn Care

- ⇒ Don't overwater your lawn.
- ⇒ Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler.
- ⇒ Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Use organic mulch or safer pest control methods whenever possible.
- ⇒ Compost or mulch yard wastes. Don't leave it in the street or sweep it into road ditches, storm drains, or streams.



Don't Litter

Sweep up litter and debris from sidewalks, driveways, streets, ditches and parking lots, especially around storm drains. Debris—plastic bags, six-pack rings, bottles, and cigarette butts—washed into water bodies can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life such as ducks, fish, turtles, and birds.



Septic Systems

Leaking and poorly maintained septic systems release bacteria and viruses that can be picked up by storm water and discharged into nearby water bodies. This can cause public health problems and environmental concerns. Pump your tank as necessary (every 3-5 years).

Auto Care

Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants into local rivers and lakes. Dumping automotive fluids into storm drains has the same result as dumping the materials directly into a water body.



Wash your car within your yard so that the water goes into the ground. Repair oil and fluid leaks. Dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at a designated drop-off or recycling locations.

Pet Waste

When walking your pet, remember to pick up its waste and properly dispose of it—it's the law.



Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash directly into local water bodies by flowing over solid surfaces or through storm drains.