

VILLAGE RESIDENTS HELPING TO PREVENT WATER POLLUTION

The Village of East Syracuse is required to have a storm water management plan. The purpose of this plan is to minimize water pollution resulting from rain, melting snow or other water runoff. You as a resident can help us in our fight against pollution reaching our local waterways. The storm runoff from the village runs to two watersheds, the Oneida Lake and Onondaga Lake watershed. The water reaches these lakes primarily from Ley Creek and Butternut Creek.

STORM WATER MEDALLIONS

The Department of Public Works has recently put medallions and also stenciled messages in the area of our catch basins that say "NO DUMPING DRAINS TO WATERWAY". This is a small reminder that any substance dumped in these basins such as oil, paint, solvents, hazardous waste and other waste products will eventually flow to our wetlands and into our lakes and streams.

CAR WASHING

Car washing is something we all do and even this practice can cause nutrients, sediments and other pollutants draining to the curb to reach our waterways. Some ways to prevent this can be something as simple as washing your vehicle on the grass where the water will naturally filter out through the soil or using environmentally safe car washing products.

VEHICLE FLUID CHANGING

Dumping of automotive fluids into storm drains can cause major water quality issues. Just a few quarts of oil or antifreeze dumped into a storm drain can cause hydrocarbons, oil and grease, metals, xylene and other pollutants to get into our waterways. The people who like to do their own oil changes should take the used fluids to a place that properly will dispose of these fluids. This could be a local garage or oil change location or possibly the store that you bought your oil or antifreeze at.

FLUIDS LEAKING FROM YOUR VEHICLE

The DPW is always on the lookout for leaking vehicles. The many fluids leaking from a vehicle can be oil, gas, transmission fluids, or any other fluid used in the operation of your vehicle. The DPW will try to reach you to have the vehicle removed from the street or to contain the fluid until you can have repairs made. If no attempt is made to correct the problem the vehicle can be cited and towed. This is not something that we want to do and we will assist you in finding a solution.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

The average house or garage has a lot of products that are classified as hazardous wastes, including paints, solvents, stains, pesticides and cleaning products. Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency has household hazardous wastes days and can be reached at 453-2866 to find out the next scheduled day. These materials should never be dumped in your garbage or left out on the village trash route.

CONSTRUCTION WORK

New construction, additions and remodeling can all lead to pollution entering our waterways. Mud from vehicles entering and exiting the site can be tracked on to the street and will run to the storm drain in the event of a rain storm or snow melt. The property owner or contractor is required to clean up the street if this occurs. Good housekeeping practices on the site can also cut down on debris entering our storm system. Some examples are paper, small pieces of shingles, waste wood products, insulation and other debris.

The Village of East Syracuse is committed to eliminating pollution to our waterways and wetlands and many simple tasks such as picking up papers, bottles and cans, mowing your lawn so the grass does not discharge into the street, putting yard waste into containers or yard waste bags for pick up and properly disposing of hazardous wastes by our residents will help us to protect our most important resource, clean fresh water. If you have any questions about proper disposal of any type of material call the Village Office at 437-3541 and we will be glad to assist you.

CLEAN SAFE WATER IS OUR MOST PRECIOUS RESOURCE!