

**SADSBURY TOWNSHIP ENCOURAGES PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
FOR A SUCCESSFUL
MS4 STORMWATER PROGRAM**

Untreated or uncontrolled stormwater runoff is the number one cause of impairment in our local waterways. Polluted runoff is often transported through municipal stormwater systems where it eventually discharges into streams untreated. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has established a municipal stormwater management program, known as the **MS4 Program** that is intended to improve the quality of our Nation's waters by reducing the quantities of pollutants that stormwater picks up and carries into the storm sewer systems during a storm event. As part of the MS4 Program, the Township holds a permit to discharge their stormwater into local waterways. This permit requires the Township to design a stormwater management program that reduces the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent possible, that protect water quality and that satisfy the water quality requirements of the Clean Streams Law. In Pennsylvania, the MS4 program is administered by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

The MS4 stormwater Management Program has six elements termed "minimum control measures," which when implemented, should result in significant reduction in pollutants discharged into the receiving waters. The six minimum control measures and the actions required by the Township are outlined below.

1. **Public Education and Outreach**
Distribute educational materials and conduct outreach to inform citizens about the impacts that stormwater runoff has on water quality.
2. **Public Participation/Involvement**
Provide opportunities for citizens to participate in the stormwater management program or programs which improve water quality.
3. **Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination**
Develop and implement a plan to detect and eliminate non stormwater discharges into the stormwater system.
4. **Construction Site Runoff Control**
Develop, implement and enforce an erosion and sediment control program for construction site activities that disturb one acre or greater.
5. **Post-Construction Runoff Control**
Develop, implement and enforce a program to address discharges of post-construction stormwater from new development or redevelopment areas.
6. **Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping**
Develop and implement a program that reduces or prevents pollutants from municipal operations.

HOW CAN YOU HELP WITH OUR STORMWATER PROGRAM



You can help Sadsbury Township meet its minimum control measure for Public Participation and Involvement by Volunteering. The Township regularly posts volunteer opportunities at the Township Building and on the Township Website. You can also help with the Brandywine Valley Association's Red Streams Blue Program. The goal of this program is to ensure that all streams within Brandywine Watershed meet Pennsylvania water quality standards. Streams not meeting standards are mapped in red and streams that meet water quality are mapped in blue.

Here are ways you can make Red Streams Blue

- Visit the BVA website. There is a page for the Red Streams Blue Program which will provide you with practical information as well as an update on progress.
- Join the Brandywine Valley Association. We are your local watershed association working exclusively within the Brandywine Watershed. You can join and become one of 900 members who are helping to restore and protect this priceless resource.
- Become a watershed steward. Learn how to take better care of these resources and how you individually, can make a difference.
- Join an environmental stream team in your municipality. These are your neighbors, all volunteers, who have learned how to work together to better understand stream quality.
- Enjoy the Brandywine Creek and its watershed. This is the real payoff of the Red Streams Blue Program and everyone can be a beneficiary.

Sadsbury Township and the Brandywine Valley Association need your involvement to help make Red Streams Blue and keep the blue streams blue. If you are interested in forming an *Environmental Stream Team* for Sadsbury Township please contact the Township Office.

Other areas where you can volunteer to improve and protect your neighborhood streams and waterways include:

- Participation in a stream or creek clean-up within the Township
- Plant trees along a stream or creek
- Stencil storm drains with warnings about dumping
- Organize a neighborhood pollution watch

These programs will allow you to spend time outside and close to your home learning about the environment through volunteering. They are excellent opportunities for students to earn community service hours, scout troops to provide community service and earn merit badges, and community based organizations to participate in your local area. If you or your group is interested in any of these programs please contact the Township.

For more information on ways you can help, or to report any non stormwater discharge into local waterways please contact one of the agencies listed below.

Sadsbury Township

610-857-9503

www.sadsburytp.org

Brandywine Valley Association

www.bandywinewatershed.org

610-793-1090

Stroud Water Resource Center

www.stroudcenter.org

Chester County Conservation District

610-925-4920

www.chesco.org/conservation

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

610-250-5970

www.dep.state.pa.us

Keyword: Stormwater