

Make simple changes around your home to help stop water pollution.

Pick Up After Your Pet



Bacteria from pet waste is a major source of pollution. Always pick up after your pet and throw waste into a **trash can**, not a storm drain.

Redirect Runoff



Redirect water from your roof, driveway, or even the street onto a lawn or wooded area where it can **soak into the ground** naturally.

Install a Rain Barrel



Install a rain barrel to capture rain from the roof for later use. Rain is **free of chlorine**, and great for watering plants, or washing garden tools.

Build a Rain Garden



Rain gardens are shallow, plant filled "basins" about six inches deep that collect and **absorb runoff** from roofs, sidewalks, or streets.

Use Porous Materials



For patios or driveways, use materials that allow rain to pass right through to the soil, like **pavers, bricks**, or porous concrete and asphalt.

Use Safer Ice Melt



Use ice melt sparingly to minimize the harmful effects of salt on our environment. **"Pet safe" products** are a good choice.

Dispose of Chemicals Properly



Remember, if it goes into the drain, it goes into the river. Dispose of all chemicals at your town's **hazardous waste cleanup day**.

Be Smart About Lawn Care



Lawn fertilizer, grass clippings and leaves are high in **phosphorous**, a major pollutant. Keep these items away from paved areas and storm drains.

Get More Information

Call the NSP Stormwater Hotline (781) 575-0354 x300 with stormwater questions, or to report a problem.

Discover what the Neponset River Watershed Association does to protect your water, wildlife and land by visiting neponset.org

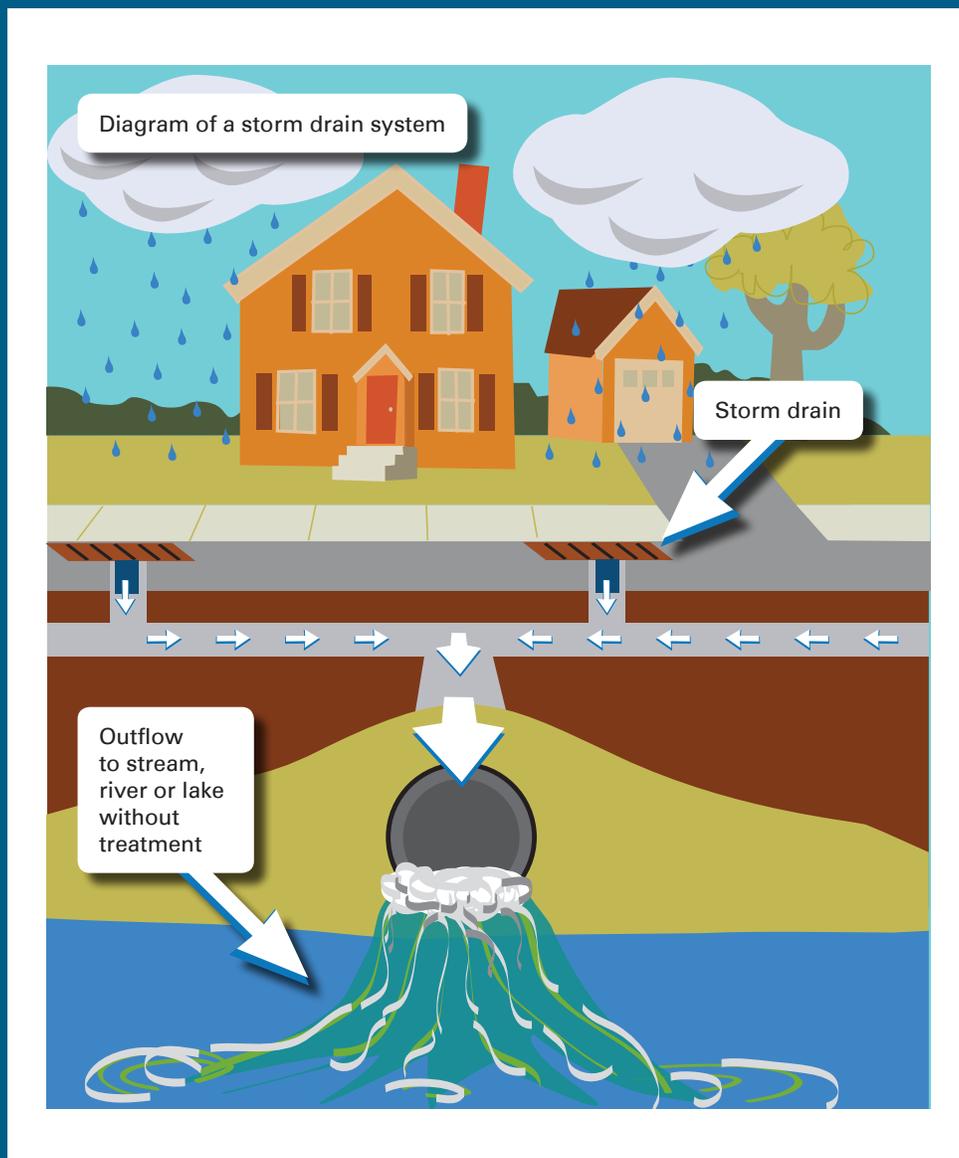


Dirty water is a big problem in Dedham and Westwood.

Like most towns in Massachusetts, Dedham and Westwood have many acres of pavement and concrete.

When rain hits these hard surfaces, it washes pollutants like pet waste, bacteria, oil, litter, fertilizer, and grass clippings into storm drains, which then lead directly to local waterways.

Water that flows into storm drains is NOT treated—and pollutants on the street flow directly into streams and ponds, affecting the health of drinking water, wildlife and recreation.



The Dedham-Westwood Water District appreciates your help in keeping the local waterways in your community clean and healthy.

Read the back of this page to learn how you can help stop water pollution around your homes and businesses.

For more information about stormwater, visit yourcleanwater.org

The Dedham-Westwood Water District is a member of the Neponset Stormwater Partnership (NSP), a division of the Neponset River Watershed Association. NSP aims to increase the effectiveness of municipal stormwater management programs through regional cooperation and resource sharing.

