

## Stormwater 101 Training

Protecting waterways as a municipal employee

### Keep it Clean Partnership

Protect, promote, and improve watershed health in the Boulder St. Vrain basin through sharing resources, building community awareness, and collecting and using data.

**Education & Outreach** 

Promote positive watershed behaviors

Stormwater

Improve collaboration of stormwater management across partners

Watershed

Integrate planning and analysis to highlight watershed issues and improvements













## Agenda

- Stormwater
  - Challenges
  - Pollutants
- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)
  - What is an MS4?
  - Stormwater Programs
  - History of MS4
- MS4 Phase II Permit Requirements
- Pollution Prevention for Municipal Staff

### Learning Objectives

- Explain what stormwater is, how stormwater pollution occurs, and how it impacts our watershed.
- Understand which municipal operations can have stormwater impacts.
- Identify and explain to others basic pollution prevention tactics for common daily tasks.
- Describe why your community has a stormwater program.
- Know where to find information and contacts for your stormwater program.

### Protecting our Watershed

- Protect water quality for safe drinking water and recreational opportunities
- Keep water clean for those who live downstream from us
- Preserving environmental health of streams and water bodies for future generations









## Stormwater

### What is Stormwater?

Rain and melting snow flow over our roofs, lawns, sidewalks, and streets and enters storm drains, which lead directly to local creeks. Stormwater is not treated!



### Stormwater Challenges



Urbanization

Removal of green space
Increased Imperviousness
Decreased infiltration
Increased stormwater
runoff



**Increased Flooding** 

Channelization
Property damage
Loss of life
Nuisance flooding



Channel Instability and Erosion

Water Quality Sedimentation



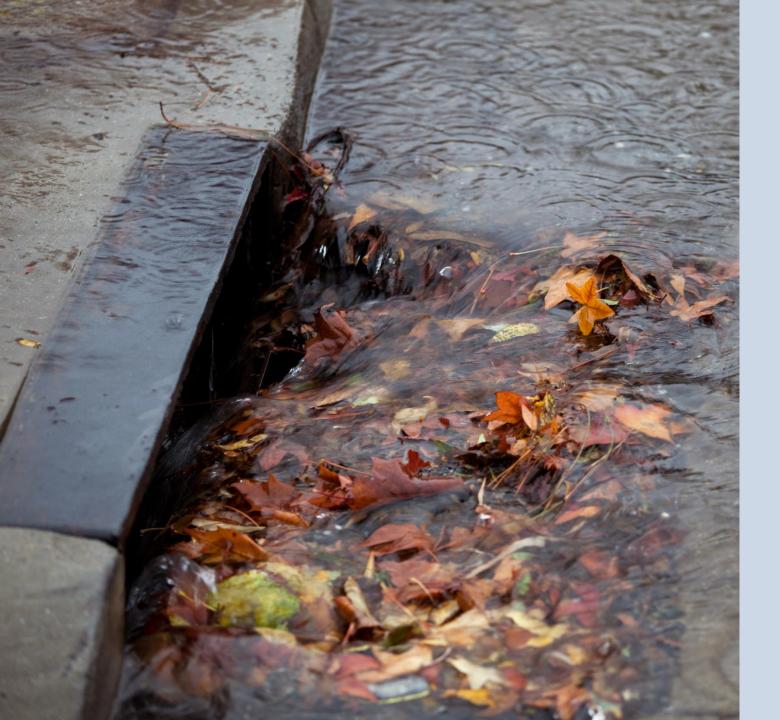
**Heat Island Effect** 

Increased energy
consumption
Increased air pollution
Decreased human health



Water Quality Impacts

Algal Blooms
E.coli
Trash



# Stormwater Pollutants

- Trash
- Oi
- Dirt
- Sediment
- Pet waste
- Human and urban wildlife waste
- Pesticides & fertilizers
- Leaves & grass clippings
- Anything that can be carried through storm drains and harm water quality and aquatic life in our streams

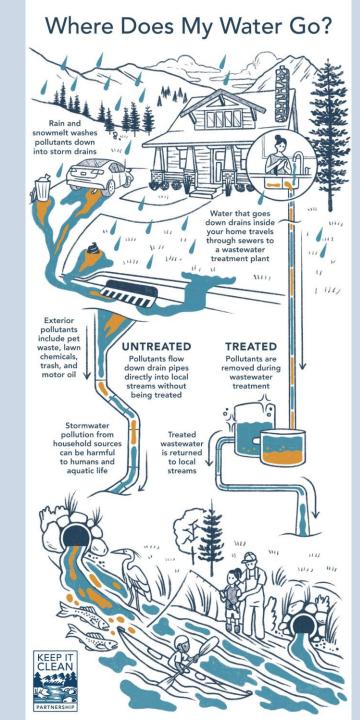


Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)

### What is an MS4?

An MS4 is a publicly owned or operated stormwater drainage system – this can include streets, pipes, and waterways in the community.

Each regulated MS4 community is required to have a stormwater quality protection program.



### Stormwater Programs

Stormwater Quality Programs are responsible for protecting the rivers and creeks that flow through our community by maintaining its Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4).





### History of MS4

#### 1972 Federal Clean Water Act

- Makes it illegal to discharge pollutants from a point source to waters of the US, except with a permit
- Created the NPDES

## National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)

NPDES is a permitting program which requires authorization to discharge pollutants from a point source into waters of the United States.

MS4 members of KICP have a NPDES permit often referred to as an "MS4 Permit"



### MS4 Permit Requirements

### Types of MS4 Permits

- There are 3 different types of MS4 permits that apply to communities of different sizes and certain large entities like universities or school districts
  - Phase I MS4 Permit, Phase II MS4 Permit, Non-Standard MS4 Permit
- Our community has a Phase II MS4 permit
- Non-standards are entities like CU Boulder and the Boulder Valley School District

### Phase II MS4 Requirements



1) Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts



4) Construction Sites Runoff Control



2) Public Involvement and Participation



5) Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New Development and Redevelopment



3) Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination



6) Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Permittee's Operations



### Pollution Prevention for Municipal Staff

# What daily on-the-job activities could be potential sources of pollution?

Parks and Open Space

**Public Works** 

Maintenance

Landscapers

Construction staff

### Municipal Sources of Pollution

















All municipal staff should know how to report stormwater pollution in their community.

### Pollution Prevention Good Housekeeping









Vehicle and equipment washing and maintenance

Spill procedure and reporting, hazardous spills



### Outdoor Cleaning



Secure trash, recycling, and compost bin lids

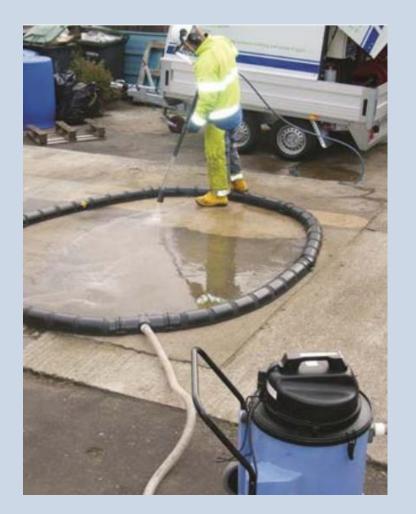


Use dry cleanup methods such as sweeping, vacuuming, and using absorbents on spills

### Outdoor Cleaning

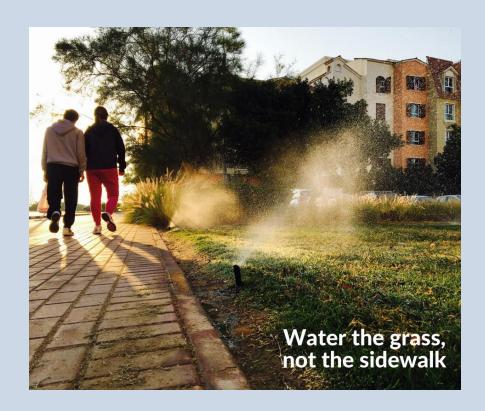
Wash water may be disposed of into a sanitary sewer drain





Contain
wash water
and use
equipment
to protect
storm drains

### Landscaping Activities



Avoid sprinkler overwatering



Keep storm drains clear of grass clippings and fallen leaves

### Landscaping Activities

Follow procedures for fertilizer and pesticide application.

In general,

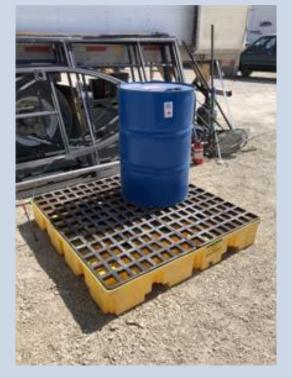
- Only certified pesticide applicators should apply chemicals
- Don't apply on a windy day or before a precipitation event
- Don't apply near water bodies
- Keep spill kits on hand



### Safe Material Storage

Materials should be clearly labeled and safely stored in covered areas and/or have secondary containment.







### Deicing Operations







Store and handle salts securely, prevent them from washing away

Do not apply if rain is expected prior to the snow

Limit use of deicers as much as possible without compromising safety

### Vehicle, Equipment Maintenance & Washing



Use wash bays or commercial vehicle washing stations connected to sanitary sewers



Check vehicle parking areas for spills

### Vehicle, Equipment Maintenance & Washing



Always carry a spill kit



Repair vehicles and equipment promptly



Contain and clean spills immediately, no matter the size

### Spill Procedures and Reporting

Ask about your department's spill procedures for outdoor activities

Know where your spill response kit is and how to use it





### Spill Procedures and Reporting

Each community has a way to report spills – know who and how to report stormwater pollution.

### **Report Stormwater Pollution** Fill out this form in as much detail as you can and we'll make sure the right staff are notified to respond to this incident. Using this form is preferred and will likely reduce response times, but if you would prefer to contact someone directly you can view a list of contacts at the bottom of this page. ☐ I would like to report anonymously Name First Last Email Jurisdiction \* Select jurisdiction where reported pollution was observed Location description \* Intersection, coordinates, or any other details that will help staff locate the

### Always Protect Storm Drains

- When working outdoors, locate storm drains and assess whether activities could impact them
- Prevent anything except clean rainwater from going into the drains







### Training Material Sources

Colorado Stormwater Council MS4 Permit Training, 2021 City of Longmont Training Materials, 2021-2022