

# STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

#### Understanding the MS4 Program



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

To protect and promote the health, safety and welfare of Lancaster County citizens by preventing the pollution, impairment or destruction of its natural resources.





Stormwater: Precious and Powerful

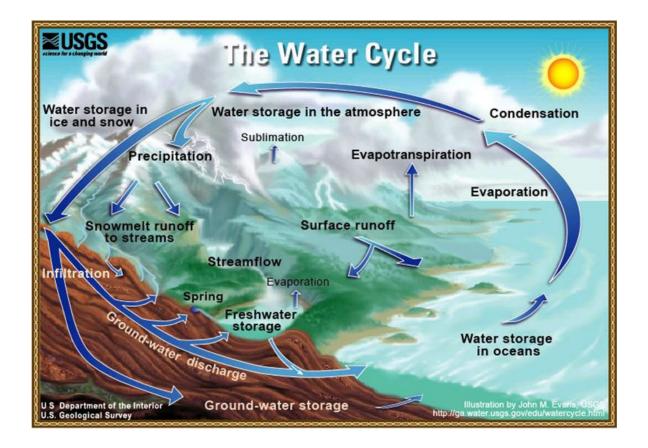
An inch of rain on an acre of land is equivalent to 27,000 gallons of water and weighs 113 tons

## **STORMWATER**

 Stormwater is runoff from rain or snowmelt that flows over land or impervious surfaces but does not soak into the ground



## THE WATER CYCLE



## WHY IS PROTECTING STORMWATER IMPORTANT



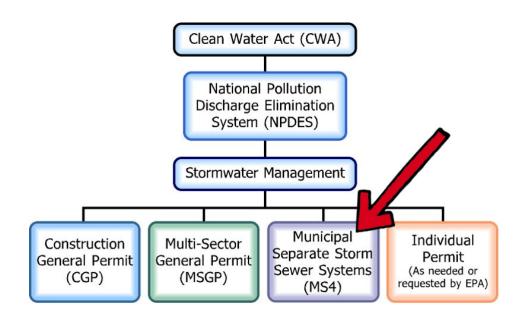
- Planet Earth is about 70% water
- 97% is salt water
- 2% of that is stored in glaciers
- Of that, just 1% is safe for us to consume



## THE SPARK THAT STARTED THE REGULATORY FIRE

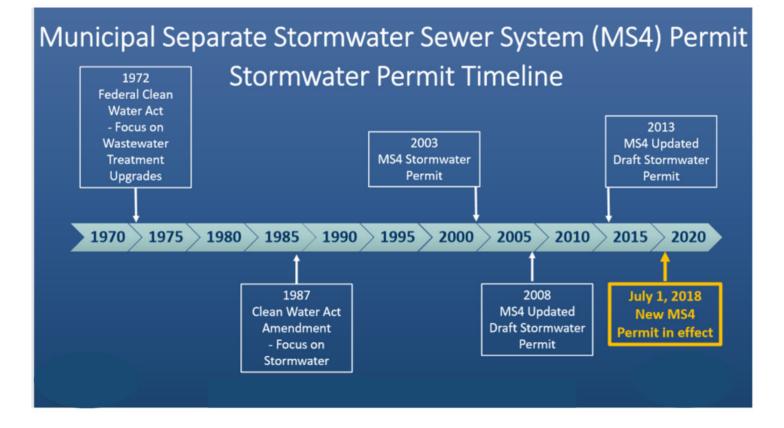
#### The Cuyahoga River Fire in Cleveland, Ohio

## **NPDES**



- Created in 1972 by the Clean Water Act (CWA)
- Stormwater was added by amendment in 1987
- Regulations are enforced by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the State
- Water quality is the primary focus of the program
- Prevention is the key to success

#### **NPDESTIMELINE**



## THEN AND NOW



## **NPDES MS4 PERMITTING**

- The National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program is mandated under the federal Clean Water Act.
- In South Carolina, the EPA has delegated MS4 Program oversight to South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC).

## WHY CREATE A STORMWATER UTILITY?

#### **Growth in the panhandle**



#### **Federal Mandate**

 A municipality is bound by Federal (US EPA) regulations when all or a portion of the municipality lies within an urbanized area as determined by the US Census Bureau.

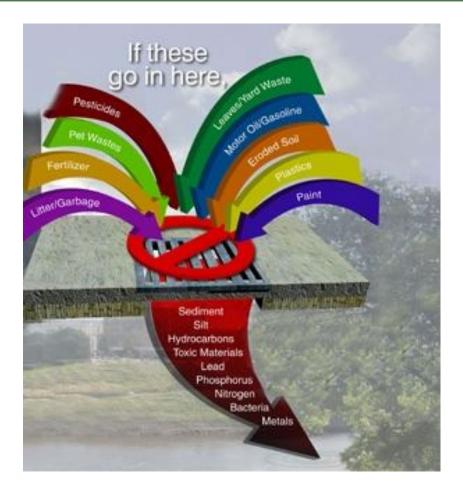
#### **NPDES MS4 PERMITTING**

An MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) refers to a collection of structures designed to gather stormwater and discharge it into local streams and rivers.



## **STORMWATER DISCHARGES**

The MS4 Permit was developed to minimize the environmental impact of stormwater discharges such as these.



## SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM



Basin captures stormwater



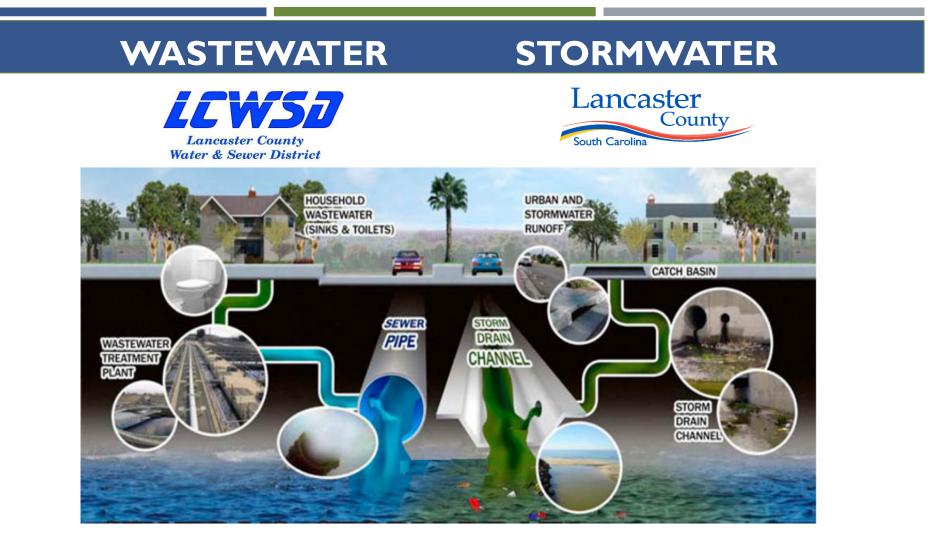
Ditch moves stormwater above ground



Inlet moves stormwater below ground



Discharge dumps stormwater



## WHERE DOES THAT DRAIN GO?

 In Lancaster County storm drains DISCHARGE DIRECTLY to waterways WITHOUT filtration or treatment.



## STORMWATER DOESN'T TRAVEL ALONE

As it flows over urban or impervious surfaces, it carries pollutants to the nearest stream or waterway.



## **STORMWATER - CLASSIFIED TWO WAYS**

#### **Point Source**



#### **Non-Point Source**



## **STORMWATER FEE**

- All properties are subject to the stormwater utility fee except the road rightof-way.
- Streets are typically designed to be part of the stormwater system



## SIX MINIMUM CONTROL MEASURES

- I. Public Outreach/Education
- 2. Public Participation/Involvement
- 3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- 4. Construction Site Runoff Control
- 5. Post-Construction Runoff Control
- 6. Good Housekeeping/Pollution Prevention





## MCM I: PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

- Educational presentations at Indian Land Middle School and the Library STEAM after-school program
- Meetings with HOA representatives to educate about retention and detention ponds, etc.
- Provide tools to minimize waste and water quality reminder promotional items







## MCM 2 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION





- Participation in community cleanup events
- Provide tools for community groups to pick up litter
  - If it's on the ground, it's in the water
- Pursuing grants to maximize our impact for the least costs

## MCM 3: ILLICIT DISCHARGE AND ELIMINATION

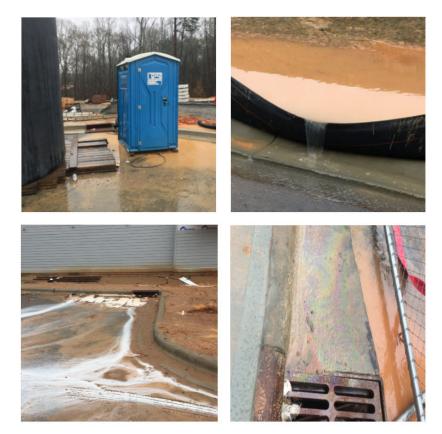
- Draft Water Sampling Monitoring and Assessment Plan.
  - To measure and monitor Impaired Waters in the SMS4 and surrounding area.
- Field tests will be conducted by staff at 32 sites, once a month.
  - Data collected will be analyzed and kept on record for reporting and baseline determination.
- Testing will aid in the detection and elimination of illicit discharges.







## MCM 4: CONSTRUCTION SITE RUNOFF CONTROL



- Bi-weekly inspections of 60 active sites
- 85 Requests for service
- Multiple inspection holds issued
- Multiple CO holds issued

## MCM 5: POST CONSTRUCTION SITE RUNOFF



- Inspection of long-term stormwater controls on new development and redevelopment
- Develop an enforcement strategy to urge compliance
- Develop plan for retrofitting existing sites that may be adversely impacting water quality

#### MCM 6: POLLUTION PREVENTION/GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

- Lancaster County facility inventory
- Municipal operations inspections
- Ongoing employee training



#### WHAT CAN WE ALL DO?

- Never dump anything down the storm drains
- Use pesticides, fertilizers and herbicides sparingly or not at all
- Use a car wash instead of washing your car in the street
- Pick up dog waste
- Throw your trash in the garbage can

## AND MORE ....

- Throw your cigarette butts away in the trash
- Fix any auto leaks
- Consider a rain barrel
- Direct your downspouts back onto your garden
- Sweep your sidewalks and driveways

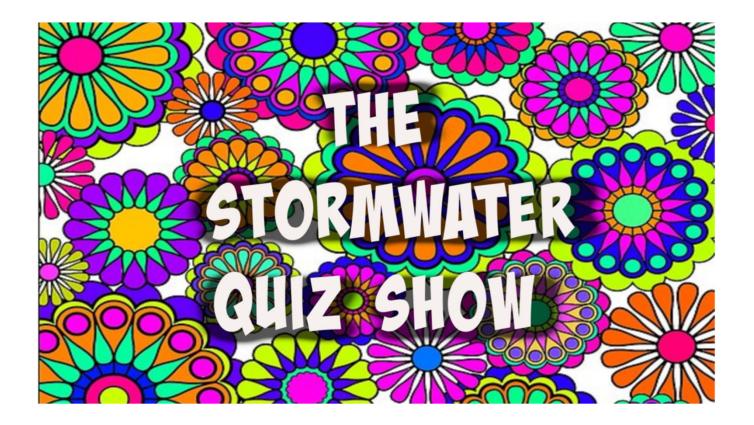
#### WE'LL SAY IT AGAIN "PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG"

#### **DON'T BE NAUGHTY**



According to the SC DHEC 303 D list, <u>all</u> of our creeks and streams are impaired to some degree with E.coli.

## **STORMWATER QUIZ**





Stormwater runoff is rain or snow melt that runs off surfaces such as rooftops, lawns, paved streets, graveled roads, driveways and parking lots.

True or False

## ANSWER







- What is the best place to was your car
  - A. near a river
  - B. at a car wash or on the lawn
  - C. on your driveway

## ANSWER

# B.At the car wash or on the lawn





- Which of these are sources of stormwater pollution?
  - A. Leaky fluids
  - B. Washing vehicles and equipment on the street or driveway
  - C. Pesticide, herbicide and fertilizer runoff
  - D. All of the above



#### D.All of the above



#### ALL OF THE ABOVE

#### **NO.** 4

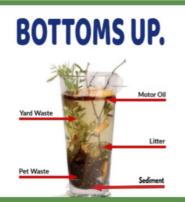
#### Why is stormwater runoff a problem?

- A. Harms wildlife habitats
- B. Creates dangerous flooding
- C. Degrades drinking water quality
- D. All of the above



#### D. All of the above

ALL OF THE ABOVE





#### Stormwater gets treated at a facility.

True or False

#### False

Unfiltered runoff is carried to streams and wetlands

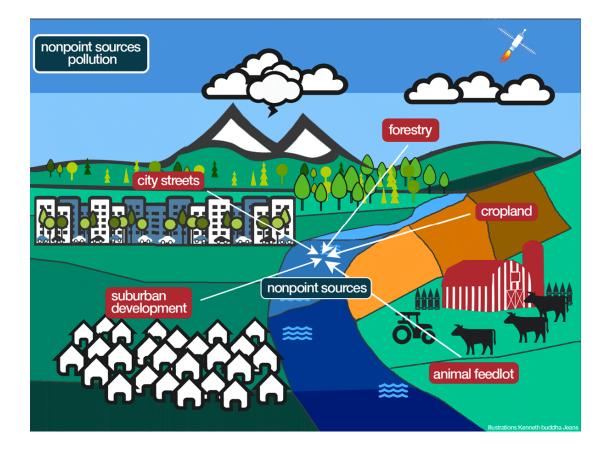




Which is the leading cause of water pollution in the U.S.?

- Point Source
- Non-Point Source

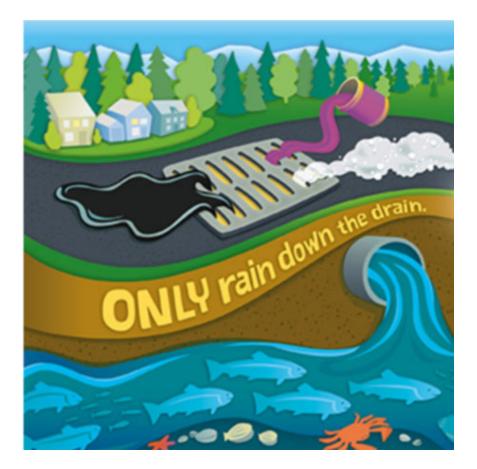
#### Non-point source





# Rain is the only thing that SHOULD go in a storm drain True or False

True





- What is the best advise when applying fertilizers?
  - A. Right before a heavy rain
  - B. Apply more that is recommended
  - C. Apply according to package directions

#### C.According to package directions





- How many fecal coliform bacteria are produced by the average sized dog dropping?
  - ■A. 4900
  - B. 1200
  - C. 3 Billion





#### NO. 10

#### Who contributes to stormwater pollution?

- A. Your neighbors
- B. Your pets
- C. Developers
- D. You
- E. All of the above





#### • E. All of these





#### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



After the mysterious impairment of our creeks and streams, a county begins to uncover the clues leading to this grisly discovery.



ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN



#### LANCASTERCOUNTYSTORMWATER



LANCASTER COUNTY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

#### IT'S TOXIC



#### **REAL LITTERBUGS**

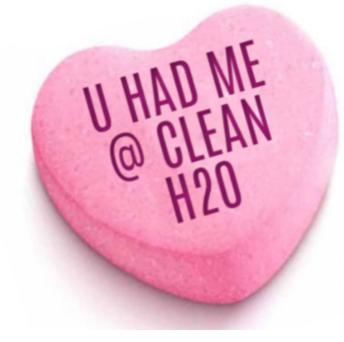
## **BREAL** Litterbugs OF LANCASTER

# Don't just watch, report **1-877-7LITTER**



cleanlancaster.org

#### **BILLBOARDS**



## Clean Water Starts with Clean Highways



#### WEALL FLOAT DOWN HERE



## 



#### 1-877-754-8837



### Thank You

www.cleanlancastersc.org www.mylancaster.org