



What is Stormwater? *Stormwater* is water that originates from precipitation, including not only rain, but snow and hail as well. This water collects on the grass and pavement and eventually finds its way to a body of water or a drain. During its travel, stormwater will pick up chemicals from fuel and salt on the road, in addition to common yard practices of fertilizer and weed killer use. The federal government has tasked each state, and therefore county and township, to control just how much of these substances enter our environment and lower the levels as much as possible.

Spotlight Topic: Create a Healthy Lawn Without Creating Excess Stormwater Pollution

Compost • Reduce Chemicals • Native Plants



The days are growing shorter as we close out the summer and welcome the fall. Many property owners will be raking leaves and cleaning up yard debris to prepare for the coming winter. We would like to offer a few helpful tips to meet your lawn's needs while reducing stormwater pollution.

1. Please dispose of your leaves and yard waste appropriately. Leaves should only be placed at your curb during the pickup cycle and kept away from inlets, but **never** dump them into a stream. You are welcome to bring your waste to our compost facility located on Kelker Street. Please contact the Township for more information.
2. This is a common time to fertilize your lawn, but we would like to remind you to be mindful. Do not apply chemicals excessively or right before a storm. Always follow the directions on the container and reduce your chemical use as much as possible to help the environment and keep your family safe.
3. **Plant. Native. Plants.** Please consider adding native plants to your property. Most species will fall dormant during the fall and winter and will not need much maintenance until the warmer months of spring and summer. They offer food and habitat for our local wildlife while offering a means of infiltration for stormwater. Please visit the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR)'s website for more information and workshops.

ATTENTION

We are now called the Stormwater Authority and we are **separate** from the Swatara Township Sewer Authority. Please remember this when making bill payments to ensure your payment is applied to the correct account! Thank You