

## Stormwater Management Program

The Town of North Branford is one of 130 Connecticut municipalities that contain urbanized areas and are required under the terms of general permits issued as part of the Federal Clean Water Act, to develop and implement a Stormwater Management Plan. An urbanized area is described as an area with concentrated development which substantially increases impervious areas such as paved streets, driveways and parking lots on which pollutants settle and remain until a storm washes them into storm drains and ultimately into local rivers and streams. Common pollutants include oil and grease from roadways, pesticides from lawns, pet waste, sediment from construction sites and litter.

The Environmental Protection Agencies Stormwater Phase II Rule establishes a municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) stormwater management program that is intended to improve the quality of waterways by reducing the quantity of pollutants that stormwaters pick-up and carry into storm sewer systems during storm events. The permit program is administered in Connecticut by the Department of Environmental Protection (CTDEP).

The Town of North Branford submitted its Stormwater Management Plan to the CTDEP on April 9, 2004. The Stormwater Management Plan must address Six Minimum Control Measures and implement Best Management Practices (BMP) for each control measure. BMP's are defined by State Statute as those practices which reduce pollution and which have been determined by the Commissioner of the DEP to be acceptable based upon, but not limited to, technical, economic, and institutional feasibility. The following is a listing of the control measures and examples of BMP's for some of them:

1. Public Education and Outreach
2. Public Involvement/Participation
3. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
  - Map Storm Sewer Outfalls
  - Screen Outfalls for Non-Stormwater Discharges
  - Ordinance Prohibiting Non-Stormwater Discharges
4. Construction Stormwater Management
5. Post-Construction Stormwater Management
6. Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations
  - Street Sweeping and Catch Basin Cleaning
  - Training Town Employees
  - Evaluate Storm Sewer System for Possible Upgrading and Repair

Each of the six minimum control measures must include measurable goals, a schedule of implementation, and a listing of the Town staff responsible for the control measure and BMP's. Under the terms of the general permit, the Town has five years to complete the six minimum control measures. The status of the Town's progress must be reported in an annual report. The Town of North Branford's 2004 annual report was submitted to the CTDEP in February 2005.

Many of the control measures and BMP's required under the general permit have been performed by the Town as part of its normal operating procedures and regulations (street sweeping, catch basin cleaning, zoning regulations), and by local agencies such as the East Shore District Health Department (Septic System inspections), the Regional Water Authority (Watershed inspections, Hazardous Waste collection and classroom education) and our school system (environmental education). Through this cooperative effort we will strive to protect our water bodies from polluted runoff.

A big part of the Town's efforts to minimize pollution is to increase the awareness of the citizens of North Branford through public involvement and participation and public education and outreach. It's up to all of us to keep our lakes, streams clean and we'd like to enlist your help. Town staff working together with the Hazardous Waste and Recycling Committee will be evaluating a number of activities and educational resources which will be presented to residents through the use of pamphlets, brochures, booklets and media such as the Town web site, local newspapers and our local public access cable station. In addition, we plan to coordinate our efforts to eliminate stormwater pollution with current community events such as HazWaste Days and Recycling days.