

# Be a part of the Solution

- ⇒ Don't dump anything into the storm drain
- ⇒ Use fertilizers and pesticides sparingly
- ⇒ Keep grass clippings, trash, and dirt off the streets and out of the gutter
- ⇒ Prevent automobile fluid leaks-oil gas, etc.
- ⇒ Wash your car on the lawn so water and soap get absorbed
- ⇒ Use low phosphate detergents in small amounts
- ⇒ Clean up pet waste; put in trash
- ⇒ Spread the word about protecting our water
- ⇒ Participate in the annual clean sweep- the city works to pick up trash and sweep streets to remove sand from streets and catch basins
- ⇒ Participate in Household Hazardous Waste Collection days
- ⇒ Follow the local Stormwater Ordinance
- ⇒ Report illegal dumping to the Fire Department 508-485-2323

## How Do These Drains Work?

*The drain on the left, the sewer, takes in water from your house (sinks, tubs, toilets). It gets treated in a waste water treatment plant. The drain on the right, the storm drain, takes in water from the pavement, lawns and parked cars and DOES NOT get treated. This water flows directly back into lakes, streams and ponds. Only clean water should go down storm drains.*



**For more information, contact the  
Marlborough Conservation Office  
at:  
508-460-3768 or  
[pryder@marlborough-ma.gov](mailto:pryder@marlborough-ma.gov)**

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# City of Marlborough



## Stormwater Pollution

**You can help  
keep our  
streams, lakes  
and drinking  
water clean  
with a few  
easy steps!!**

# Stormwater Pollution

## What is Stormwater?

*It's the rain or melted snow that runs down our roads and into the drains in the streets and then into lakes, rivers, or streams.*

## What is the problem?

*Every time it rains, gallons and gallons of Stormwater runoff from our roads flow **UNTREATED** into the nearest lake, pond or river and our drinking water.*

## What Pollutes?

*Motor oil, fertilizers, pesticides, dirt, yard clippings, pet waste, mud and other pollutants that end up on road surfaces from cars and adjacent lawns and construction sites are pollutants.*

## What is this round marker?



*These markers are found on the side of most catch basins in the street throughout the city to remind us not to pollute our waterways by being part of the solution.*



## *Don't be a part of the* **Problem**

**Excess Fertilizers, pesticides & herbicides** *used on lawns can wash off into roadways, into drains then untreated into bodies of water. Fertilizers cause algae blooms, or increased pond weed growth!*



*An Algae Bloom*

**Oil, paint, gas, metals and detergents** *from cars are toxins that are harmful to aquatic life and when in our water supply, are expensive to remove.*

**Pet Waste** *is rich in nutrients, like fertilizers. But they also include fecal bacteria, which can close down beaches!*