

## **STORM WATER MANAGEMENT**

### **What is Stormwater Runoff**

Water that runs off the ground surface, usually because of the presence of buildings, pavement, and other impervious surfaces, is known as runoff. The volume and speed of runoff depends on a number of factors including the amount and intensity of the storm, the size of the drainage area, and imperviousness of the ground. Water that falls during a storm and flows over impervious surfaces and through pipes and channels is called stormwater runoff.

### **The Problem with Stormwater Runoff**

When it rains, water runoff from streets, driveways, parking lots and even lawn areas can pick up pollutants along the way to storm drains and collection areas. Some of the more common pollutants found in stormwater runoff include lawn chemicals, pet waste, motor oil, and deicing chemicals.

These pollutants affect water quality, which adversely impacts aquatic plants and animals, and degrades our coastal resources.

### **Stormwater Management**

The Town of Hull is committed to the proper management and control of stormwater runoff, The Department of Public Works is responsible for controlling and managing stormwater runoff from public roads and other Town property so as to ensure the Town is in compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Program under the Clean Waters Act. A copy of the Town's Small Municipal Storm Sewer Annual Report under the NPDES Program is available at the Department of Public Works office and at the Hull Public Library.

### **What You Can Do to Help**

- Properly dispose of hazardous waste and recycle used motor oil.
- Use fertilizers; pesticides and herbicides sparingly and follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Keep your yard waste, trash, and dirt off the street and out of the gutters.
- Clean up after your pets.
- Wash your car at the carwash facility or park your car on the grass before you wash it.
- Spread the word about protecting our waterways from polluted runoff.
- Never dump motor oil, antifreeze or any other contaminants into a storm drain.

### **More Information**

For more information you can contact the Department of Public Works by telephone at 781-925-0900, by e-mail at [jdow@town.hull.ma.us](mailto:jdow@town.hull.ma.us)

or go to any of the following sites:

- <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/laws/swmpoly2.pdf>
- <http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/laws/v1c1.doc>
- <http://www.mass.gov/ne/nepds/mass.html>
- <http://www.mass.gov/ne/topics/water/stormwater.html>