

**WHEN YOU'RE WASHING YOUR CAR IN  
THE DRIVEWAY, REMEMBER YOU'RE  
NOT JUST WASHING YOUR CAR  
IN THE DRIVEWAY.**



All the soap, scum, and oily grit runs along the curb. Then into the storm drain and directly into our lakes, streams and into coastal waters including the Chesapeake Bay. And that causes pollution which is unhealthy for fish. So how do you avoid this whole mess? Easy. Wash your car on grass or gravel instead of the street. Or better yet, take it to a car wash where the water gets treated and recycled.

If you have questions regarding storm water, please contact your municipality or Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Regional Office. For general questions, you may also contact DEP's Bureau of Water Management at (717) 772-5661 or visit [www.dep.state.pa.us](http://www.dep.state.pa.us). Thanks to the Washington State Water Quality Consortium for permission to adapt and use this poster.

## **Do You Know the Word on the Street?**

(Name of municipality) is stenciling an important message on storm drains for the storm water management program to promote a healthy storm sewer system and healthy water for our community.

### **They're Doing What?**

The Township is stenciling a "No Dumping" message next to storm drains that go to local creeks, streams, rivers, and lakes.

### **But Why?**

Because storm drains flow directly to nearby rivers and streams, not to wastewater treatment plants. Your Township street is really like waterfront property and everything that rain washes off of your roof, yard, and driveway goes to the nearby water used for swimming, boating, and maybe even drinking. In addition, anything that is dumped into these drains, such as used motor oil, paint, or excess pesticides, goes directly into a local stream. Stenciling will remind everyone – homeowners, business owners, developers, and other citizens – not to dump anything into storm drains so we can protect our water from storm water pollution that may close beaches, cause unsightly weed and algae growth, and even kill fish!

### **This pollution comes from where?**

From all of us! Storm water picks up litter, yard waste, excess lawn fertilizers and pesticides, leaking oil on streets and parking lots, pet wastes in parks and on lawns, and dirt from construction sites. All together, this adds up to more pollution than industries make!

### **What can I do to help?**

Never dump substances down a storm drain that you wouldn't swim in or drink. Spread this simple message to everyone you know. Other ways to help include:

- Use less fertilizer on lawns
- Recycle used oil
- Pick up pet wastes
- Dispose of household hazardous wastes responsibly.

For more information call your storm water program coordinator at: