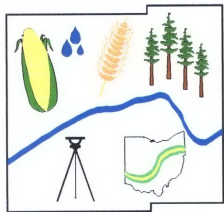


Best Management Practices

- Education is the best practice you can implement. Educate yourself on what, when and how storm water effects you and your property. Understanding this will help you determine the steps necessary to reduce storm water flow from your property.
- Rain Barrels are an effective way to reduce storm water flows from your property. They also save you money by providing a free supply of water for your lawn or garden.
- Rain Gardens are a great addition to your landscape and an effective way to reduce storm water runoff from your property. The gardens are designed to utilize storm water runoff through a combination of soil, mulch and live plants specifically selected to thrive in moist to wet conditions. A great way to add beauty and function to your property.



Crawford Soil & Water Conservation District
www.crawfordswcd.org

A Local Partnership Working for You

The City of Bucyrus storm water management program is a voluntary and cooperative partnership between the Crawford Soil & Water Conservation District and the City of Bucyrus Wastewater Treatment.

Contact the Crawford Soil & Water Conservation District or the City of Bucyrus Wastewater Treatment for information and assistance on storm water management in your neighborhood.

For More Information Contact:

**Crawford Soil & Water Conservation
District**
3111 SR 98
Bucyrus, Ohio 44820
419-562-8280

**City of Bucyrus Wastewater
Treatment**
500 S. Sandusky Ave.
Bucyrus, Ohio 44820
419-562-8981



Homeowners Guide to Managing Storm Water

What is Storm Water Runoff?

Storm water runoff is the melt or rain-water that runs off of impervious surfaces like roof tops, driveways, parking lots and sidewalks after a storm event. The impervious areas do not allow water to soak into the ground where it is filtered and recycled naturally.

These impervious drainage areas are connected to a system of underground drainage pipes that carry this storm water runoff to the closest body of water. Most of Bucyrus' storm water drains flow directly into the Sandusky river, NOT to our treatment plant.

Storm water runoff collects trash, chemicals, sediment and other pollutants transferring them to our streams, rivers and lakes where they can become hazardous to humans and wildlife. Polluted storm water runoff is the leading cause of water quality impairment in the United States.



What Can You Do?

- Keep household chemicals, trash or other contaminants from being washed into storm drains. Clean up chemical spills on driveways and in garage areas immediately and dispose of properly. Avoid washing them down the drain.
- Use a garbage can for trash pick up and recycle reusable materials. Improperly discarded trash can wind up in storm drains where it impedes flow and pollutes streams and rivers.
- Direct roof gutters toward lawns or landscaped areas and away from driveways and sidewalks. This allows water to soak into the ground reducing storm water runoff.
- Install a rain barrel. Rain barrels capture and store rain water for later uses like watering lawns, gardens and landscape plants. Best of all the water is free!
- Wash your car on a grassy area, not on the driveway where it runs into the storm drain. This allows the ground to filter the water.
- Recycle used motor oil properly and clean up any spilled car fluids immediately with cat litter. A single quart of motor oil can contaminate 2 million gallons of drinking water!



Lawn and Garden

- Avoid over applying fertilizers and pesticides. Follow instructions on the label and apply only when necessary, not out of habit!
- Minimize fertilizer and pesticide applications and be sure applications are spread where they are needed, not on driveways or sidewalks.
- Avoid over watering your lawn or garden. Over watering increases runoff and leaching of fertilizers and pesticides costing you money and polluting our streams and rivers.
- Start a compost pile to dispose of grass clippings and leaves. Use the compost as fertilizer for gardens and landscape plant.
- Avoid sweeping leaves into the street where they block drainage and increase flooding. Compost them instead.
- Cover dirt piles when not in use and seed and mulch areas of bare soil as soon as possible to reduce erosion.
- Use a mulching lawnmower or a mulching attachments.

