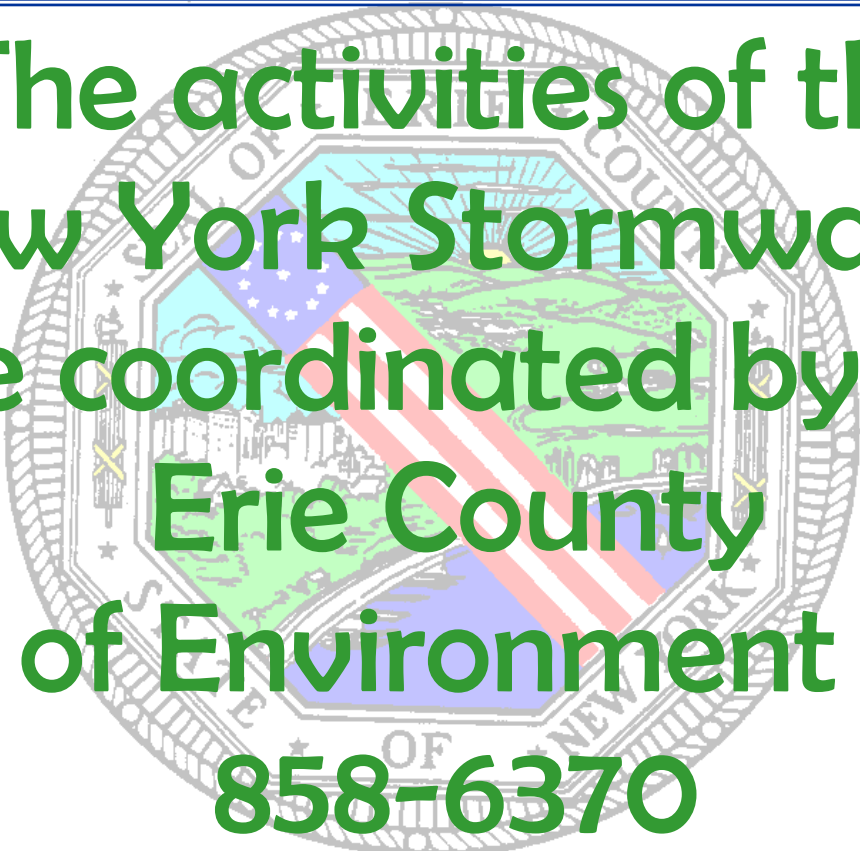


How Is *YOUR* Stormwater ?

Rain and snow wash pollutants such as pesticide, motor oil, bacteria, fertilizer, soil and litter into storm sewers and ditches.

Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow that does not soak into the ground. It runs off the surface of the land into storm sewers and ditches.

**THINGS YOU CAN DO
TO PREVENT
STORMWATER POLLUTION**

The seal of Erie County, New York, is a circular emblem. It features a central shield with a landscape scene including a river, a city skyline, and a sun. The shield is divided into four quadrants by a red and white striped diagonal. The outer ring of the seal contains the text "SEAL OF ERIE COUNTY NEW YORK" and is decorated with stars.

The activities of the
Western New York Stormwater Coalition
are coordinated by the
Erie County
Department of Environment and Planning
858-6370



General Household

Some household products, such as cleaners, insect spray and weed killer, can cause pollution if allowed to drain into a storm sewer. Buy household products labeled “nontoxic” whenever possible.

Paint & Solvents

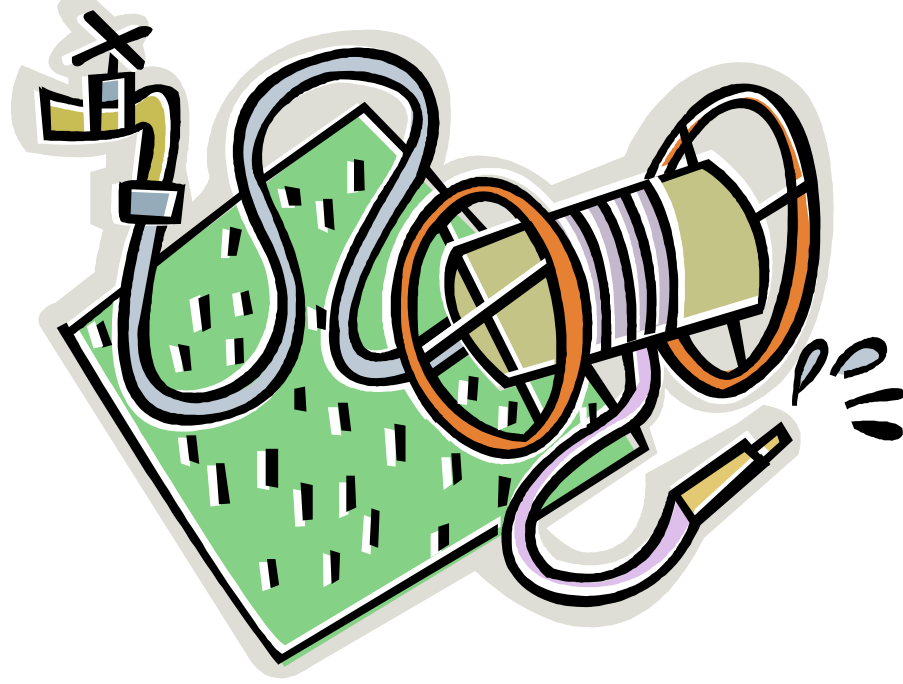
Clean water based paints from rollers, pans and brushes in sinks that go into the sewer system. Use paint thinner to remove oil-based paint from brushes and rollers, but do not rinse down sinks or drains.

Automotive

Keep your autos in good repair and watch for possible leaks. Take left over or used fluids to your household hazardous waste collection. Clean up leaks and spills with an absorbent material such as kitty litter.

Swimming Pool & Spa

Water containing chlorine is harmful to aquatic life. Whenever possible, drain water into the sewer system. There are established guidelines on the amount of residual chlorine, acceptable pH range, coloration, filter media and acid cleaning wastes when draining into the storm drain system, and some areas may require a permit. Check with your municipality.







WNY Stormwater Coalition

A partnership to protect water quality

Forty regulated municipalities in Erie and Niagara County meet on a monthly basis to work on a shared Stormwater Management Program. The Stormwater Management Program is required by Federal and State Phase II Stormwater regulations.

Lawn & Garden

Follow directions carefully when using pesticides and fertilizers; don't over water or use before a rain. Pesticides and fertilizers may adversely impact our waterways.

Pet Care

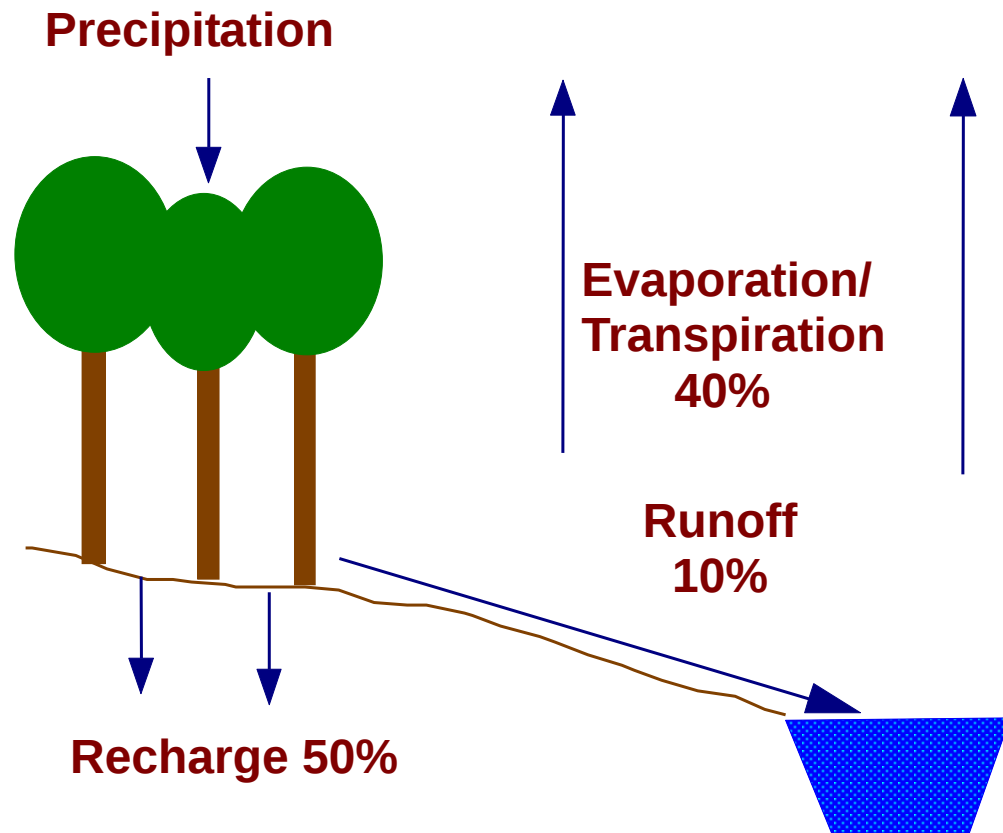
Pick-up pet waste as soon as possible and put it in the trash. Pet waste has harmful bacteria that can get into our waterways.



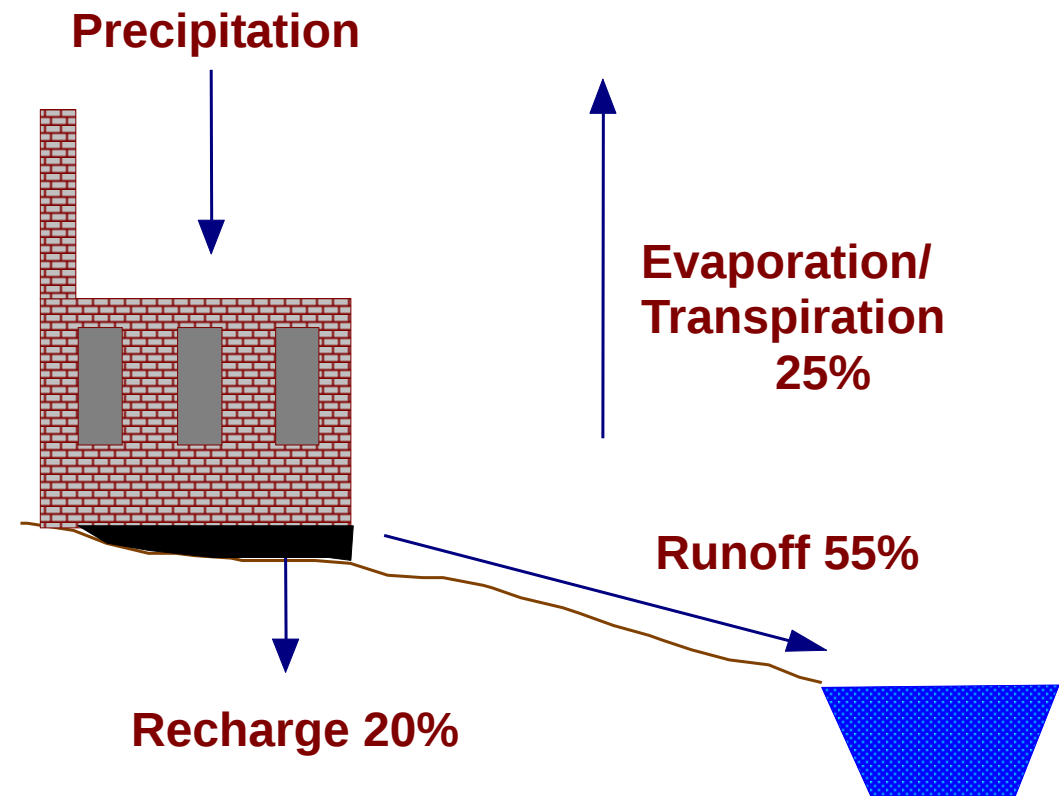
**Erie County
Household Hazardous
Waste Disposal Program
858-6800**

**NO COST DISPOSAL FOR HOUSEHOLD
GENERATED HAZARDOUS WASTE**

Undeveloped Conditions



Highly Developed Conditions



Stormwater runoff is a natural part of the hydrologic cycle ... but as land use changes, runoff can increase by 45%, resulting in erosion, pollutant transport, sedimentation, loss of aquatic habitat, & other damages.

Eventually, the storm sewers and ditches empty the polluted storm water directly into streams, rivers and lakes.

