Remove and keep the contact information listed on the back for future use.

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District
Creating Conservation Solutions for Over 60 Years
www.franklinswcd.org
(614) 486-9613
Summer 2015

Become a Water Quality Partner

As a Water Quality Partner, your business will educate our employees about stormwater issues and pledge to reach for the goal of preventing stormwater pollution.

Businesses in the Water Quality Partner program sign a voluntary pledge in which they have chosen among stormwater pollution prevention BMPs.

In appreciation of your partnership with Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District, you will receive a Water Quality Partner window cling, public recognition on the Franklin Soil and Water web site, and access to information and continuing education on stormwater issues for your business.

Water Quality Window Cling

Contact Franklin Soil and Water to find out how your business can become a Water Quality Partner or visit www.franklinswcd.org for more information.

Why You Should Care

Small business owners and managers are often closely involved in their communities. One way to be a good neighbor is to be a good steward of natural resources, including local streams and rivers.

This also makes business sense as local governments have regulations to protect water quality that could result in legal action against a violator. The Water Quality Partner program is a stormwater-specific pledge that is designed to share information on best practices for businesses.

Only stormwater (rain and snowmelt) should be allowed to enter a storm drain, on or off site. You are responsible for any dirt or contaminants stormwater picks up on your property. For instance, runoff from cleaning should not enter the stormwater system. Roadside ditches are considered part of the stormwater system.

This brochure is intended as an introduction to preventing stormwater pollution, not a complete listing of regulations. Regulations vary among local governments. For more information, contact the Village of Obetz at (614) 491-1080.

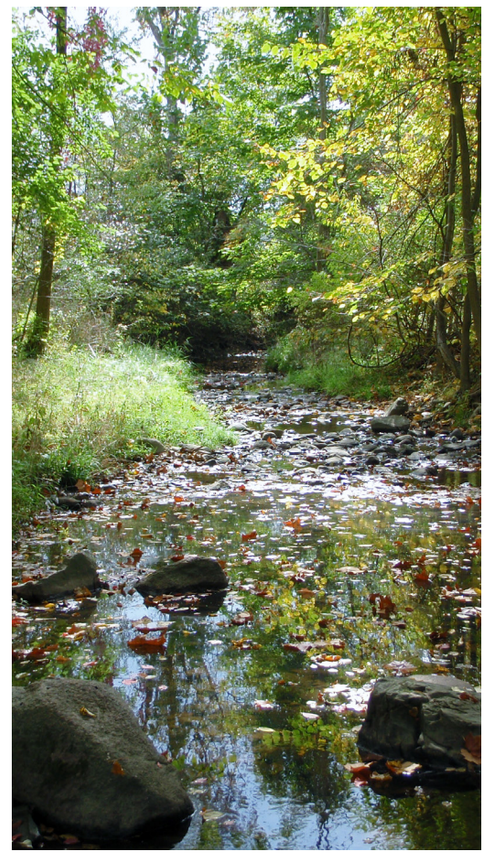
Franklin County Board of Commissioners

Canal Winchester Established 1828

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District
Creating Conservation Solutions for Over 60 Years
www.franklinswcd.org
(614) 486-9613
Summer 2015

Stormwater Pollution Prevention for Small Businesses

An introduction to protecting local streams



What You Can Do…

... About Cleaning

Water from outdoor cleaning of items such as kitchen mats, grease traps, trash cans, paint brushes, cars, etc. must not enter a storm drain. It should be contained or directed to a sanitary sewer, possibly with pre-treatment.

Use a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks and parking lots. Use absorbents to soak up spills.

Create a spill plan, post it somewhere visible and communicate it to your employees. Have spill absorbing products stored ready to use in a marked location.

... About Cars

Contain all leaking fluids from cars and store separately in labeled containers to send to a recycling facility.

Work done outside must be on a hard surface (not soil or gravel) with a drain to pre-treatment and a sanitary sewer system or another containment and collection system.

Pads used to absorb cooking oil that entered a stream from improper filter cleaning

... About Landscaping

Blow leaves or lawn clippings from sidewalks and roads back onto the lawn or bag them for recycling.

Cover areas of bare soil with gravel, mulch or plants to keep soil from being washed into storm drains. Soil is the biggest pollutant in Ohio's streams.

Consider using a rain garden to control some of your property's rain water runoff.

...About Dumpsters

Keep your dumpster closed and ask your hauler to exchange it, if it has a damaged lid or is leaking.

Never put liquid waste in dumpsters. Check that the drainage hole has a plug in place.

Know what qualifies as hazardous waste and make arrangements for its proper disposal. Ohio EPA's Division of Hazardous Waste Management can be reached at (614) 644-2934.

Stream full of suds from stormwater system

...About Storage

Anything that is stored outside must be properly covered, even if it is "natural" like sand or gravel piles, or in bags like cement. A waterproof awning or tarp may be all you need.

Keep cans, drums and bottles tightly closed and check regularly for leaks.

Liquids should be stored on an impervious surface with a berm for secondary containment.

...About Off-Site Jobs

Carpet cleaning water may not be directed to ditches, streets or storm drains.

Latex painting tools should be washed only in sinks. Solvents are hazardous waste and may not be rinsed down either storm drains or sanitary sewers.

Power washing water must be contained and disposed of either to a sanitary sewer, possibly after pre-treatment, or as hazardous waste. Before hiring a contractor, know what he or she does with wastewater.

Improper outdoor storage—no secondary containment

Tear here and keep the contact information near.

Report Water Pollution

Below are a few contacts that can handle, or direct, your water pollution concerns. Additionally, you can contact your municipal public service department or township office to notify them of concerns or needs.

Chemical and petroleum spills: Ohio EPA 24-hr hotline, (800) 282-9378.

Sewage-related pollution: Franklin County Public Health 24-hr hotline, (614) 525-3965 or e-mail failingHSTS@franklincountyohio.gov.

Poject Dry Basement: 311 or (614) 645-7102 to report a sewer backup. The Columbus Dept. of Public Utilities will install an approved backflow device in eligible homes in City of Columbus. To find out more and if you could be eligible visit http://columbus.gov

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District: (614) 486-9613 or visit www.franklinswcd.org for any non-emergency pollution or Agriculture Pollution Abatement.

Ohio EPA's Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP): (614) 644-3469 or visit www.epa.state.oh.us/ocapp.

It's a Crime, Report Illegal Dumping: (614) 871-5322 or visit ww.itsacrime.org

Download the free "Franklin County Board of Commissioners" app at the iTunes store or at Google Play that can be used to report water pollution.

Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District
Creating Conservation Solutions for Over 60 Years
www.franklinswcd.org
(614) 486-9613
Summer 2015