



What is stormwater?

Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow that does not soak into the ground but runs off into waterways. It flows from rooftops, over paved areas and bare soil, and over lawns while picking up a variety of contaminants on its way. Polluted runoff degrades our lakes, rivers, wetlands and other waterways. Polluted stormwater can harm fish and wildlife populations, kill native vegetation, foul drinking water, and make recreational areas unsafe and unpleasant.



Best Management Practices

BMPs, or Best Management Practices are ways in which we can get involved to reduce stormwater pollution and to manage stormwater runoff.

Slow it down, Spread it out, Soak it in.

Get involved in conserving our water. Chemung County has clean water, but it is up to us to keep it that way! *Keep our clean waters, clean!*

Find out more at:

<http://www.chemungstormwater.org>
www.facebook.com/chemungstormwater

Funding in part by New York State Environmental Protection Fund administered by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

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Upper Susquehanna Coalition
Rural Stormwater Coalition

Stormwater and the Home



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Rain Gardens

RAIN GARDENS

Soil, along with being a life-supporting substance, also acts as an excellent filtering system for stormwater. The stormwater gets cleaned, and toxins and chemicals neutralized, when it soaks into the soil. A rain garden is meticulously designed to slow down the water, to spread it out, and then soak it in so it can be filtered by the soil.



Stormwater BMPs and Rain Gardens

Rain gardens are effective in removing nutrients, chemicals and sediments from stormwater runoff.

Compared to a conventional lawn, rain gardens allow for 30% more water to soak into the ground.

Rain gardens are vegetated with aesthetically pleasing plants. These plants help the water soak back into the soil.

Rain gardens help to prevent flooding of all kinds, including basement flooding.

Rain gardens are constructed as shallow depressions where stormwater runoff will collect during and shortly after a rain event.

Rain gardens are gardens that take advantage of rainwater from impervious surfaces such as roofs, driveways and sidewalks.

They reduce runoff by allowing stormwater to soak into the ground instead of flowing into the storm drains.