

Do your part

- CONSERVE** water by fixing leaky faucets. It saves water and money.
- COMPOST** pet waste or flush it down the toilet.
- ALLOW** grass to grow long in between mowing.
- PLANT** trees, shrubs, and rain gardens to absorb runoff.
- AVOID** using pesticides and fertilizer on lawns.
- DISPOSE** of oils and chemicals properly.
- PRACTICE** Leave no trace principals: *"Take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but footprints"*



For more information on keeping water clean:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/93615.html>

Protect water quality

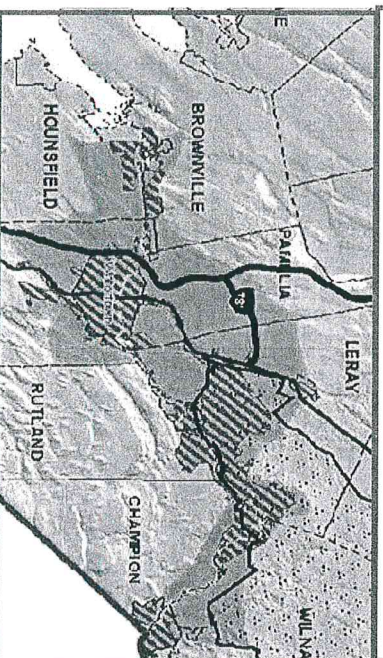
Jefferson County STORMWATER COALITION

Established in 2014, the Jefferson County Stormwater Coalition comprised of the City of Watertown, seven (7) surrounding communities, and Jefferson County. The Coalition works collaboratively to meet stormwater management regulations; achieve water quality goals; and promote awareness and stewardship of water resources in the urbanized areas.

Learn more!

www.jcnystormwater.com

Jefferson County Urbanized Area



Funding for this brochure was provided by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

Water Quality Improvement Project.

www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/4774.html



A guide to protecting the quality of YOUR water

Jefferson County

URBAN WATER RESOURCES

Developed by the

Jefferson County Stormwater Coalition

in partnership with Jefferson County

Soil and Water Conservation District,

New York State Tug Hill Commission,

and the New York State

Department of Environmental Conservation

“Eventually, all things merge into one, and a river runs through it.”

Norman Maclean

Under the federal Clean Water Act and the International Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation monitors the quality of the water, and works with local communities to manage threats and keep the water safe for drinking, swimming, and fishing.

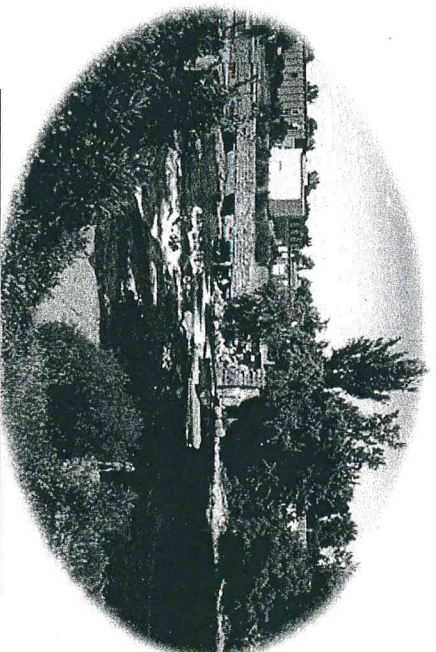
Threats to the use of the water in the Jefferson County include:

- Water contamination by urban stormwater,*
- Agricultural runoff, and*
- Inefficient wastewater treatment*

Shoreline development, illegal dumping of litter, waste and debris, land use, and invasive species can also threaten the water quality and ecosystem that we depend on.

Learn more!

www.epa.gov/environmental-topics/water-topics



*“A rare whitewater gem”
“World renowned play area”
Words often heard to describe the beautiful Black River. Clean water supports rafting, kayaking, and tourism.*

Learn more!

www.tughill.org/projects/black-river-projects

The Black River is the major waterway that runs through the city of Watertown and the surrounding towns and villages. Eastern Lake Ontario tributaries of Mill Creek and Perch Creek, as well as the St. Lawrence headwaters of Otter Creek and Black Creek are also in the area.

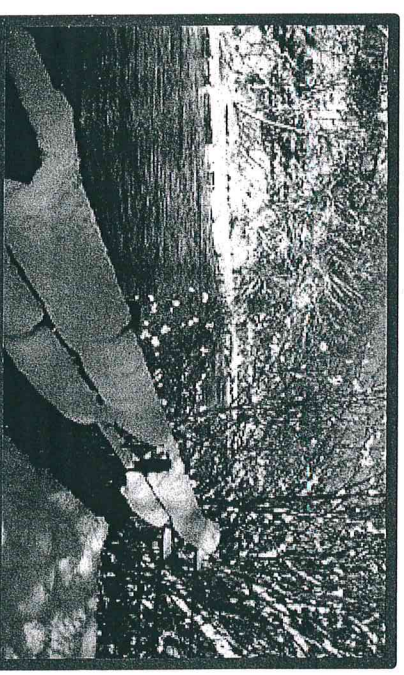
The area’s waters are used for drinking water, recreation, fishing, hydro- electric power generation, and support aquatic life. Protecting these important uses depends on federal and state agencies, local partners, and you!

Learn more!

www.dec.ny.gov/lands/26561.html

**Jefferson County
Stormwater Coalition
and collaborators are protecting
our water resources!**

- PREVENTING runoff from parking lots and other nonporous areas from draining to the river by planting trees and installing rain gardens
- MONITORING new construction projects to ensure that they are preventing runoff from leaving the construction site
- TRAINING staff to better understand and manage water quality issues
- EDUCATING the public about water quality and promoting participation in decisions that impact shared water resources.



Jefferson County

Stormwater Coalition

The Coalition was formed in 2014 to address the Phase II Construction Permit requirements for the MS4's in Jefferson County. Coalition members include:

Village of Black River

Village of Brownville

Village of Carthage

Village of West Carthage

Town of LeRay

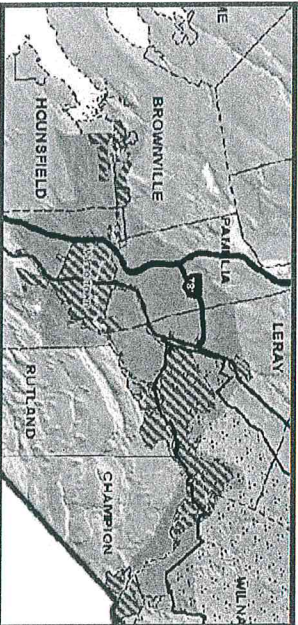
Town of Rutland

Town of Watertown

City of Watertown

Jefferson County

Jefferson County Urbanized Area



New York State

Stormwater Permit for Construction Activity

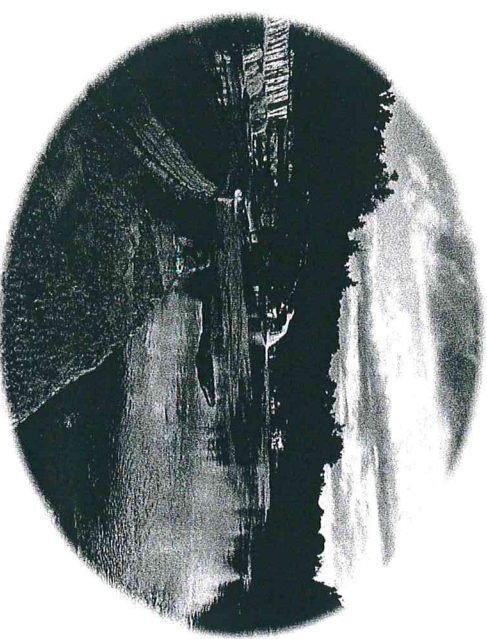
If your project involves soil disturbance of one (1) or more acres, you must obtain coverage under this permit. The following forms are needed to comply with the General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity requirements:

- ✓ **Notice of Intent (NOI):** Request for coverage under the permit
- ✓ **Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan** will show how you intend to control stormwater pollution on the job site.
- ✓ *If your project falls within a regulated MS4 (e.g. town, city or village with a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, you must complete the MS4 SWPPP Acceptance Form.*
- ✓ **Permit coverage:** Notification will be received by mail. Once received, construction activities can begin.
- ✓ **Notice of Termination (NOT):** When the project is finished and has met the requirements of the permit, the NOT form should be completed and mailed to NYS DEC.

Contact your local municipality for more information or visit NYS DEC's website for forms and instructions:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/43133.html

Jefferson County

Stormwater Coalition



A citizen's guide to

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

www.jcnystormwater.com

What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is rainfall or snowmelt that runs off surfaces such as roads, compacted ground surfaces and rooftops. As stormwater runoff moves, it can pick up and carry away natural and man-made pollutants such as fertilizer, animal waste and sediment. Eventually the runoff deposits the pollutants into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters and even our underground sources of drinking water. This is called nonpoint source

Sewer System

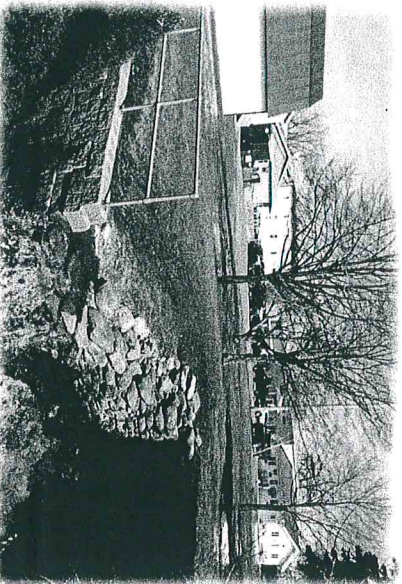
vs

Storm Water Drain

Sewer systems and storm water drains are two different things. The water that goes down a sink or toilet flows to a wastewater treatment plant where it is treated and filtered. Water that flows down driveways and streets into a gutter is not treated and goes into a storm drain that flows directly to a lake, river or the ocean.

Pollutants Harm our Water

We rely on clean water to drink, to support wildlife, to fill our lakes and creeks and to wash up onto the shores of our beaches. Pollutants can contaminate clean drinking water sources, kill off local wildlife and close beaches.



Common Stormwater

Pollutants

There are a variety of contaminants that can easily pollute our stormwater. Rain picks up oil and grit left on the roads; sprinklers wash pesticides, fertilizers and weed killers from our gardens and lawns; washing the car carries detergents, oils and grease from the driveway and into our waterways.

Motor Oil: Four quarts of motor oil can create an 8-acre oil slick and contaminate a million gallons of drinking water.

Antifreeze: A toxic pollutant that can kill not only aquatic life but also pets when they drink from contaminated puddles.

Pesticides: Using harmful chemicals on your lawn can be reduced with proper mowing, fertilizing and watering. Apply pesticides only in areas where needed and only in directed amounts.

Animal Waste: Pet and other animal waste is raw sewage that releases bacteria and oxygen-consuming materials into our waterways. Pet owners should always “scoop the poop”!

Soaps and Detergents: Pollutants that contain phosphorus which contributes to algae blooms. Algae blooms deplete waterways of oxygen and cause fish kills.

Yard Debris - Yard waste (grass clippings and leaves) is a pollutant that releases bacteria, oxygen-consuming materials, phosphorus and nitrogen into our waterways. It clogs storm drains, which contributes to flooding. Ask about your municipality’s guidelines for collection of yard waste.

Be the SOLUTION

stormwater POLLUTION

Pollution is a problem, but YOU can be the solution! There are many ways you can help prevent stormwater pollution:

- **DON'T** dump waste, including organic material such as leaves and grass clippings, in storm drains.
- **INSPECT** and maintain your car to prevent oil and antifreeze leaks.
- **DISPOSE** of household chemicals properly. Take motor oil, antifreeze, oil-paint thinner, varnishes and solvents to a recycling center.
- **USE** kitty litter to clean up leaks and spills. Never hose spills into the gutter.
- **BUY** environmentally safe household and garden products.
- **DON'T** apply lawn or garden products when rain is in the forecast.
- **AVOID** over-fertilizing your lawn by testing your soil first to find out how much of which nutrient it needs.
- **“SCOOP THE POOP”** dispose of pet waste in a compost or flush down the toilet.

