



STORMWATER IMPACTS FROM HOME REPAIR AND REMODELING

Paints, solvents, adhesives, dusts, sediments, pesticides and household toxics commonly associated with home repair and remodeling activities often make their way into the storm drain system and DO NOT GET TREATED before reaching local waterways. These wastes make our waters unhealthy and unsafe for people and wildlife.

Follow these practices to help prevent stormwater pollution:

Construction

Keep all construction debris away from the street, gutter and storm drain, and if possible, schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather. Cover excavated material and stockpiles of asphalt, sand, etc. with plastic tarps, and prevent erosion by planting fast-growing annual and perennial grasses, which will shield and bind the soil.

Painting

CLEANUP: Avoid cleaning brushes or rinsing paint containers into a street, gutter, or storm drain. For water-based paints, brush out as much paint as possible, and rinse in the sink. For oil-based paints, brush out as much paint as possible, clean with thinner, and then filter and reuse thinner or solvent.

REMOVAL: Paint stripping residue, chips and dust from marine paints, and paints containing lead or tributyl tin are hazardous wastes.

RECYCLING: Recycle or reuse leftover paint by using it for touch-ups, or by giving it to someone who can use it, such as a theatre group, school, city or other community organization. If you're unable to give it away, bring it to a Household Hazardous Waste Day for proper disposal.

Concrete & Masonry

Store bags of cement and plaster away from gutters and storm drains, and under cover, protected from rainfall, runoff and wind. **REMEMBER:** Never dispose of cement washout or concrete dust onto driveways, streets, gutters or storm drains.

Household Hazardous Wastes

Common household cleaners, paint products, wallpaper and tile adhesives contain toxic substances. Dispose of these products properly. **REMEMBER:** Toxic wastes should never enter the storm drain system.

Landscape & Gardening

Use fertilizers and pesticides as directed. Keep them away from ditches, gutters and storm drains, and store them in a covered area to prevent contact with rain water. Also, minimize runoff and conserve water by

using drip irrigation, soaker hoses, or micro-spray systems. REMEMBER: Do not deposit leaves into the street, gutter, or storm drain.

Source:

Chittenden County Regional Stormwater Education Program

110 West Canal Street

Suite 202

Winooski, VT 05404

<http://smartwaterways.org/>