

## Best Management Practices

By following the best management practices in this brochure you will be doing your part to help keep Wisconsin waterways clean!

### General Maintenance & Sweeping

- Inspections of parking facilities and storm-water conveyance systems should be done on a regular basis. Recommend cleaning if necessary.
- Clean leaves, trash, sand, and other debris regularly to prevent debris from reaching any storm drain inlet or storm detention area (preferably by dry sweeping).
- Establish frequency of parking lot sweeping based on usage and observations of waste accumulation. Sweep after special events.
- Contact private street sweepers to sweep parking lot(s) after winter storms and during leaf season in the fall.
- **Maintain a map of the property identifying directions of stormwater flow and the location(s) of any storm drains on site.**
- Stencil or mark any storm drain inlets in or near the parking lot with the message "No dumping ; drains to waterway". These are available free-of-charge from the DNR Madison office or UW Extension. Call 608-264-8948 to order.
- Dispose of debris collected by sweeping, according to local regulations.
- Any automotive spills and/or drips should be cleaned up with dry clean-up methods (absorbents).



## Contacts for more information

To report an illegal discharge of pollutants into a storm drain contact:

Your local community's storm water department

If you would like more information about what you can do to impact water quality in Northeast Wisconsin visit:

[RenewOurWaters.org](http://RenewOurWaters.org)

Northeast Wisconsin Stormwater Consortium  
P.O. Box 1861  
Appleton, Wisconsin 54912  
Phone: 920-858-4246

## Parking Lot Maintenance



Parking lots can contribute trash, suspended solids, hydrocarbons, oil, grease and heavy metals to receiving waters via stormwater runoff or discharges. Anything entering a storm sewer system flows untreated into the water bodies that we use for swimming, fishing, and drinking water.

*Best Management Practices to keep our waterways clean!*

**Renew  
Our Waters**

*Every choice counts.*

## Snow Plowing & Snow Storage

- Never plow, push, blow or store excess snow, deicer, or other debris into creeks, watercourses or storm drainage systems.
- Snow disposal areas should be located away from any drainage ditches, ponds, creeks or wetlands.
- If possible, store excess snow in a pervious area where melt water can infiltrate into the ground and not into the storm drain system. Pick up trash and debris from pervious areas after snow melt.
- Contact private street sweepers to sweep parking lot(s) after winter snow melt, prior to spring rains.



## Salt or Deicer Application

- Hand-apply deicer or sidewalk salt. Do not use more than needed, apply to manufacturer's recommendations.
- If truck-applying, use the lowest application rate that will be effective. Ensure that the equipment is calibrated to optimum levels according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Avoid applying liquid or solid salt products near creeks or other water bodies.

## Landscaping Maintenance



- Sweep pavement or sidewalks where grass clippings, fertilizer or other dry chemicals have fallen. Sweep back onto grassy areas.
- For more Landscape

Maintenance information read the Garden Center \brochure at RenewOurWaters.org

## Materials Storage, Loading & unloading

- Do not store any potentially hazardous liquid or solid materials (paints, pesticides, fertilizer or salt/sand) outside unless adequate secondary containment and cover are provided or the container is specifically designed for outdoor storage.
- Do not load or unload materials near a storm drain inlet, pipe, culvert, or drainage ditch unless drains are blocked.

## Surface Cleaning Sidewalks & Parking Areas

- Do not hose down any sidewalks or parking areas except where wash water will only enter the sanitary sewer (if approved) or vegetated areas.
- Dry clean up methods should be used prior to any pressure washing. These include using absorbents (kitty litter, rags, sand, etc) to clean up spills, sweeping, vacuuming, and scrapping off dried debris. Use absorbents on oily spots prior to sweeping or washing. The waste material should be disposed of properly.
- If you must pressure wash, identify where all storm drains are located before starting. Wash water should not be allowed to flow down gutters or enter storm drains. All wash water must be captured for proper disposal.
- For more information on surface cleaning BMPs read the Professional Power Washer handout available at RenewOurWaters.org



## Paving & Painting

- Protect nearby, downstream, storm drain inlets from debris from maintenance work. (ex: preparing the surface for an asphalt cap, chip sealing, concrete breaking, or saw cutting).
- Cover and seal all storm drains before applying seal coat or slurry seal. Leave covers in place until the job is complete and until all water from emulsified oil sealants has drained or evaporated. Clean up debris from inlets and dispose of properly. Only use asphalt-based or petroleum-based sealants. (Do not use coal tar sealants.)
- Schedule painting, marking, and striping projects during dry weather only. Cease all activities when rain threatens.



- Promptly clean up any spills of paints, cleaners or other chemicals.
- Block nearby storm drain inlets when painting or striping.
- For specific information on Concrete Washout read the Concrete Washout brochure available at RenewOurWaters.org

## Storm Drains, Structural BMPs & Detention Areas

- Inspect storm structures, detentions areas or structural BMPs frequently for debris accumulation **and clean as needed.**

Remember to stop and think before you allow anything to go directly into the gutter or storm drain.