

The Conservation Corner



Hamilton County Soil & Water Conservation District
PO Box 166, Route 8 Lake Pleasant NY 12108
Phone: 518-548-3991 Fax: 518-548-5602
Email: hcswcd@frontiernet.net
Website: www.hamiltoncountyswcd.com
Hamilton County Online Mapping System: www.hamcomaps.net

A publication developed to highlight conservation efforts, programs and events throughout Hamilton County
Authored by Conservation Educator
Caitlin Stewart
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What's New With Stormwater

Stormwater can harm our Hamilton County lakes and rivers, but you can help! When rain or snow melt cannot percolate into the ground due to impermeable



surfaces or saturation, it flows over lawns, construction sites, or paved surfaces where it picks up pollutants and carries them to surface waters. Pollutants that stormwater runoff may transport include sediment; fertilizers; herbicides; pesticides; road salt; automobile fluids; animal waste; bacteria; or litter.

Benefits of clean stormwater include a lower cost to treat drinking water; a re-

duction in the number and severity of floods and property damage; increased property values; recreational swimming, boating, and fishing opportunities; healthy ecosystems; cleaner beaches; and increased tourism.

You can help prevent stormwater runoff from polluting our water bodies by repairing car oil leaks; cleaning up pet waste; picking up trash; safely storing and disposing of chemicals, refraining from lawn and garden chemical application; and washing your car on the lawn with organic soap.

Because construction sites sometimes contribute to stormwater pollution via eroding soil and machine fluids, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) will implement stricter regulations. The

new NYSDEC Stormwater Permit Requirement, beginning May 1, 2010, mandates that all construction site contractors and subcontractors must have at least one trained individual from their company on site daily for projects that disturb one or more acres who is responsible for implementation of erosion controls and stormwater management. These individuals must have completed a four-hour training course that will be offered at the Indian Lake Town Hall on February 23, 2010 from 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM (snow date February 25). The registration fee is \$75 and covers training, materials, and refreshments. For training session registration forms or for more information, visit the Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District's website at www.hamiltoncountyswcd.com or call 518-548-3991.

NOW required for DEC Stormwater Permits
Contractors Erosion & Sediment Control Training
February 23, 2010 (snow date 2/25)
8:30-12:30
Indian Lake Town Hall



Tree and Shrub Sale going on now! Visit our website for order form and plant photos!