



## 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:

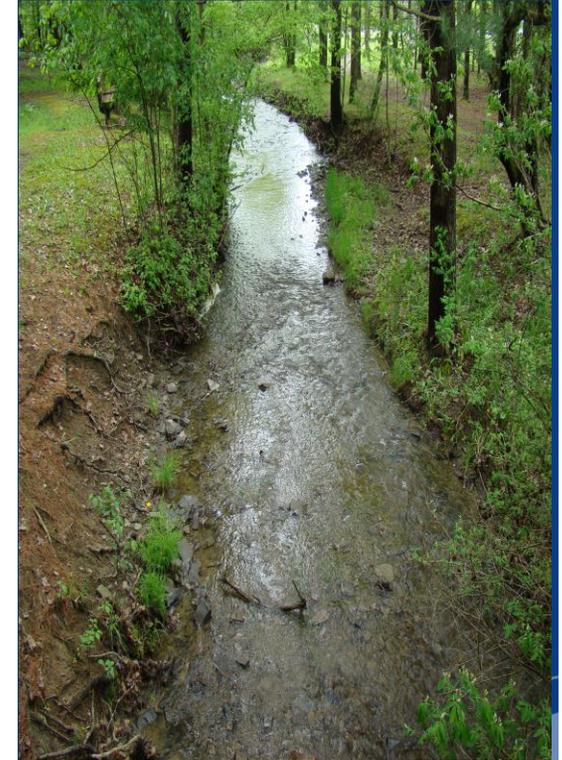
<http://www.chemungstormwater.org>  
[www.facebook.com/chemungstormwater](http://www.facebook.com/chemungstormwater)

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Chemung County Stormwater Coalition  
 Upper Susquehanna Coalition

## Stormwater and the Home



# Before you Build



## Chemung County Stormwater Coalition

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# Stormwater Management

If your project disturbs or impacts 1 or more acres of land, you will need to check in with your Municipality for assistance with the New York State SPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Activity. Stormwater management at the source is becoming a necessary step in seeking reductions of pollutants in our waterways. Pollutants in stormwater runoff enter our waterways in numerous ways and the best method of control is usually at the pollutant's source. Green Infrastructure approaches essentially infiltrate or reuse stormwater with significant utilization of soils and vegetation rather than traditional hardscape practices.



## Before you build/stormwater BMPs

How Does Your Rainfall Flow?

#1 Perform a Site Assessment – when it rains, walk your property. Where does the runoff go? Do you have ponding, wet soggy soils, or does it drain out to the road?

#2 Pervious Surfaces or green space such as gardens and grassy areas have the potential to; slow the runoff down, spread the runoff over a greater area and soak it in.

#3 Impervious surfaces such as roofs, sidewalks, concrete patios and driveways increases volume and velocity of rain flows.

Better Site Design incorporates non-structural and natural approaches to new and redevelopment projects to reduce impacts on watersheds by conserving natural areas, reducing impervious cover and better integrating stormwater treatment.

The goal is to maintain predevelopment hydrology and to protect naturally sensitive areas.

Common practices to utilize around the home are rain barrels & rain gardens. Consider using porous materials for sidewalks, patios and driveways.



Porous pavement examples