

What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is the water produced from when rain, snow, sleet, etc. seeps into the ground or is collected on surfaces. Often, the stormwater will make its way to our streams and creeks.

To protect the people of Caln Township from flooding and water quality, the Township has a series of drains, pipes, and water quality improving Best Management Practices (BMPs) called a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). The MS4 directly drains to our lakes, streams, rivers, and ponds so it plays a very important part in keeping our waters clean.

Did you know that every waterway in Caln, including West Branch Brandywine Creek is considered impaired and eventually flows to other impaired waterways like the Delaware River? Any contaminants released into our watersheds are contributing to the degradation of many already in danger waterways. Caln Township is doing its part to protect local waterways by helping to keep the water clean before it reaches our streams. You can help too, by following the advice in this pamphlet and by participating in local stormwater events.

Caln Township Stormwater Resources

For more information regarding stormwater events, public meetings, and other public participation opportunities, please visit the Township website (listed below). The Stormwater Management subpage also contains links to the Township's annual stormwater reports, ordinances, educational information, and a list of helpful resources on a variety of stormwater-related topics.

Caln Township Office
253 Municipal Dr.
Thorndale, PA 19372

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610-384-0600
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<https://www.calntownship.org>



What is Stormwater?

For Local Businesses



What is a BMP?

You may have noticed man-made ponds, basins, and channels around the Township or on your property. Stormwater is collected and directed to these structures by a network of pipes and inlets. These structures are called Best Management Practices, or BMPs. These structures help remove pollutants from stormwater runoff prior to entering our natural waterways

Township staff will inspect these structures annually to ensure they are functioning as designed. If you have a BMP on your property which is not properly maintained, you may receive a notice from the Township to repair the structure.

Common maintenance issues include:

- Clogged inlets/outlets
- Trash and debris
- Dead grass/vegetation
- Structure erosion
- Sediment and organic waste build up



How can local businesses help reduce stormwater pollution?

Much of the area in Caln Township is suburban, with significant areas of impervious surfaces like your business or parking lot which is a large contributor to stormwater pollution. This means that if everyone joins in, we can make big changes to the quality of our stormwater!

- Inspect/Maintain BMPs on their property
- Clean Stormwater inlets, outlets, swales on property
- Ensure private on lot sewer systems are maintained
- Collect waste from property (grass clippings, leaves, sediment) so it does not go into the stormwater system.
- Limit the use of pesticides, fertilizers, and deicers
- Store materials, especially those that contain potential pollutants, indoors or under a cover (overhead, tarp)



What is an Illicit Discharge?

Federal regulations define an illicit discharge as "...any discharge to an MS4 that is not composed entirely of stormwater." This can include cleaning products, lawn products, trash, and organic debris.

We ask the public to not contaminate our stormwater system with items such as these.

How can an Illicit Discharge be Reported?

The Township has illicit discharge reporting information on the Township's Stormwater (MS4) page. If you witness an illicit discharge, please call The Township's phone number (610-384-0600).

Additional Resources

Municipal Website

<https://www.calntownship.org/stormwater.htm>

County Website

<https://www.chesco.org/286/Watersheds>

Pennsylvania DEP/EPA

<https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/Pages/default.aspx>

EPA

<https://www.epa.gov/npdes/npdes-stormwater-program>