



“Only Rain Down the Drain”

As a resident or business owner in Brookline, you are responsible for all pollutants that leave your property. You play a big role in keeping our waterways clean and healthy! Follow these tips to properly store and handle materials like salt, pesticides, fertilizers, oils, and other chemicals.

DO



- Keep storm drains, catch basins, and stormwater structures clear of snow, litter, grass, and leaves. They can clog these structures.
- Businesses should perform maintenance on stormwater infrastructure (i.e., clean out catch basins, swales, etc.) **annually** or in accordance with your Operations & Maintenance Plan. Keep records in a maintenance log.

Don't



- Don't leave salt and ice melt uncovered or open to rain and snow.
- Don't dump oil, grease or ANYTHING into a storm drain, catch basin, or other stormwater structure. Doing so may negatively impact the environment and has the potential to cause localized flooding.

Why is this necessary?

Rain that falls on the paved surfaces of your property picks up oil, trash and dirt as it drains into our municipal drainage system. This stormwater runoff, ends up in our lakes, rivers, and streams. It's the fastest growing type of water pollution in Massachusetts. Stormwater pollution is bad business for our state's waterways. It harms fish and wildlife, makes our water unsafe to drink, and can spoil outdoor activities.

Business owners can do their part to keep Massachusetts' waterways clean.

Find more tips like these at www.ThinkBlueMassachusetts.org.

