

Stormwater Pollution Prevention

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

Water pollution degrades surface waters, making them unsafe for drinking, fishing, swimming and other activities.

As authorized by the Clean Water Act, the [National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System \(NPDES\) permit program](#) controls water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of the United States. Point sources are discrete conveyances such as pipes or man-made ditches.

Since its introduction in 1972, the NPDES permit program is responsible for significant improvements to our nation's water quality. Individual homes that are connected to a municipal system, use a septic system or do not have a surface discharge do not need an NPDES permit; however, industrial, municipal and other facilities must obtain permits if their discharges go directly to surface waters.

The Village of Winnetka discharges stormwater from its storm sewer system under IEPA General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No. ILR40.

As a condition of the permit, the Village is required to set goals for a five-year period in order to reduce pollution to the receiving waters. These goals are described in the [Notice of Intent](#).

After each program year, the Village must document its status of compliance with and any changes to the Notice of Intent in an [Annual Facility Inspection Report](#).

Comment [MGP1]: Insert a link to the Village's Notice of Intent here.

Comment [MGP2]: Insert a link to the Village's latest Annual Report here.

How to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff

The Village of Winnetka sponsors or participants in a number of programs that help improve water quality by working to eliminate pollutants:

[Rain Barrel program](#)
[City household waste collection](#)
[County waste collection](#)

Comment [MGP3]: Insert a link to MWRD's rain barrel program here.

Please call (847) 716-3568 to report any suspicious discharges to the storm sewer system or a body of water.

Impacts of stormwater discharges on water bodies

More information can be found on the following sites or fact sheets:

[Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure](#)
[Fertilization](#)
[Going Native](#)
[Lawn Watering](#)
[Managing Your Household Chemicals](#)
[Pet Waste and Water Quality](#)
[Rethinking Yard Care](#)
[Rivers and Streams Begin at your Front Door](#)
[Storm Sewers – Rivers Beneath our Feet](#)

Comment [MGP4]: Insert links to the documents in Appendix 7

EPA launches Green Infrastructure Website

Green infrastructure uses vegetation, soils and natural processes to manage water and create healthier urban environments. [This website](#) is a one-stop shop for resources on green infrastructure that features improved navigability and up-to-date content, including a wealth of publications and tools developed by EPA, state and local governments, the private sector, nonprofit organizations and academic institutions.

Getting more involved

Want to know [What You Can Do to Prevent Stormwater Pollution](#) at your home or business?

Many area organizations have an interest in protecting the quality of our water. Contact any of the following organizations and find out how you can get involved.

[North Cook County Soil and Water Conservation District](#)

Comment [MGP5]: Insert a link to this document in Appendix 7