

# WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

**Cities, towns, villages, counties, businesses, homeowners, and local interest groups in the Syracuse Urban Area are working together to develop a solution to pollution.**

Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow that doesn't soak into the ground but instead, runs off into local waterways. It flows from rooftops, paved areas, and bare soil while collecting and transporting sediment, animal waste, pesticides, fertilizers, oil, grease, debris, and other pollutants. The quality of the runoff is affected by the weather, geography, development, and other land use activities. Paved surfaces such as roads, driveways, parking lots and sidewalks increase the flow of pollutants to nearby lakes and streams.

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, as directed by the EPA, has implemented a program known as "Stormwater Phase II" in order to reduce stormwater pollution and protect water resources. The regulations apply to construction operations and municipalities that meet certain geographic and population criteria. Under this program, permits are now required for stormwater discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) in urbanized areas and for construction activities disturbing one or more acres. The permits are part of the State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES).

The Stormwater Phase II program is helping to correct environmental problems by protecting and restoring water resources. Education is a key component to the success of this program. The Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board is working with twenty-nine of the thirty-one regulated cities, towns, villages, and counties in the Syracuse Urbanized Area to reduce stormwater pollution through education and improved municipal practices. We can all make a difference!

## COOPERATING MUNICIPALITIES

Baldwinsville Village	Hastings Town	Marcellus Village	Solvay Village
Camillus Town	La Fayette Town	Minoa Village	Sullivan Town
Cicero Town	Liverpool Village	North Syracuse Village	Syracuse City
Clay Town	Lysander Town	Onondaga County	Van Buren Town
DeWitt Town	Madison County	Onondaga Town	West Monroe Town
East Syracuse Village	Manlius Town	Phoenix Village	
Fayetteville Village	Manlius Village	Pompey Town	
Geddes Town	Marcellus Town	Salina Town	

For more information on the stormwater management efforts in Central New York visit the CNY RPDB stormwater website at [www.cnyrpdb.org/stormwater-phase2](http://www.cnyrpdb.org/stormwater-phase2)