

Stormwater News

In March of 2019 Spring Township received a MS4 Permit as part of the NPDES Phase II program as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources. What is a MS4 permit and what is NPDES you may ask? NPDES stands for National Pollution Discharge Elimination System and was created to meet the requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act. Phase I of the NPDES program was started in 1990 and dealt primarily with discharges from construction activities. Phase II, which was started in 2012, requires municipalities from urbanized areas to manage their Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, (MS4). In 2003, College, Ferguson, Harris, and Patton Townships, State College Borough, and Penn State University were designated part of the State College Urbanized Area. In 2018 a portion of Spring Township including Pleasant Gap, Pleasant Hills, and Steeplechase was added to the State College Urbanized Area.

The MS4 permit is a five year permit includes requirements for public education and public involvement, illicit discharge detection, monitoring of stormwater outfalls and stormwater Best Management Practices (BMP's). Over the coming months we will be placing more articles to explain what is happening with Spring Township's MS4 permit.

Spring Township and all of the other MS4 holders in the Centre Region are part of a group called the MS4Partners. For more information on the MS4 program you can go to www.MS4Partners.org This site contains information on the MS4 program and includes links to State and Federal websites dealing with stormwater.

Help keep Spring Creek Clean

Never place any paint, paint thinner, used motor oil, animal waste, cleaner, solvent, or other household chemical in a stormwater inlet. Please remember that materials dumped into stormwater inlets will eventually flow into Spring Creek. Stormwater inlets are meant to take stormwater only! Many people think that stormwater inlets and pipes discharge to the sewage treatment plant. They do not, they discharge to surface waters such as Logan Branch or Spring Creek. Contact the Township at (814) 355-7543 immediately if you suspect dumping of foreign material into a stormwater inlet.