

Chelsea Business Stormwater Program

After a storm, stormwater flows over lawns and impervious surfaces like roads, roofs, and parking lots, collecting pollutants and whisking them into local waterbodies, like Chelsea Creek. Currently, stormwater is one of the main sources of pollution to our waterbodies. Examples of pollutants that stormwater transports include: fertilizers containing harmful nutrients, pesticides, oil, grease, viruses, bacteria, toxic metals, sediment, and salts. These pollutants can harm human health and our fragile ecosystems. Chelsea is trying to reduce its stormwater problem and is asking all of its residents and businesses to do their part.



Below are six easy ways you can run a stormwater friendly business:

- Keep it clean - keep all outside areas free of litter, cigarette butts, and leaves. During a storm, litter clogs storm drains and ends up in our lakes and streams.
- Sweep, don't hose - sweep up litter instead of hosing it into storm drains. Dispose of litter in garbage bins, not storm drains.
- Keep it closed - cover grease storage and dumpsters; don't overfill and keep the lid closed.
- Never dump - prevent wash waters and wastes, such as used oil, grease, and chemicals from entering storm drains. Never dump anything but clean water into a storm drain.
- Keep it dry - Cover all materials stored outside to prevent them from washing into stormdrains. Do not store fertilizers, pesticides, or de-icers outside.
- Be prepared - Report chemical spills to the DPW and train staff members to use a spill kit.

