



Keep Pollution at Bay - One Parking Lot at a Time

As a business owner, you play an important role in keeping our waterways clean and healthy! Follow these tips to reduce polluted runoff, prevent flooding, and make a good impression with your customers.

DO



DON'T



- Maintain storm drains and stormwater structures 3-4 times per year, and clean and repair as necessary
- Sweep parking lots regularly to collect trash and debris.
- Provide covered trash cans, recycling bins, and cigarette butt receptacles in highly visible areas.
- Consider a dumpster enclosure, pad or fence around dumpsters.

- Don't wash vehicles in your parking lot. Use a car wash or vehicle wash bays that direct dirty wash water to the sewer, not storm drains.
- Don't leave dumpsters open.
- Don't let trash cans overflow.

Why is this necessary?

Rain that falls on and around your site can pick up trash, dirt, and chemical residue as it drains away. Much of this water, or stormwater, 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.

