



# City of Goshen

## STORMWATER TOOLBOX

Public Works & Utilities  
 Department of Stormwater  
 204 E. Jefferson Street  
 Goshen, Indiana 46528  
 574-534-2201

**Stormwater Superintendent:**

Dustin Sailor

**Stormwater Coordinator:**

Jason Kauffman



The above picture of Rock Run Creek shows an ideal situation where vegetation grows down to the edge of the water and trees provide shade over the water to keep it cool. Cooler water provides a better habitat for aquatic wildlife and plants.

### Only YOU Can Prevent Threats to the Great Lakes

In September's Stormwater Toolbox, eight threats to the Great Lakes were presented. This month's focus is on how you can prevent these threats.

- ❖ Invasive Species - Clean and dry your boat, fishing gear, and clothing of all mud, dirt, sand, and visible plants, fish and animals before moving it to a new waterbody to make sure no "hitchhikers" (plant or animal) come along. For more information visit: <http://bit.ly/1j9nTIV>.
- ❖ Nonpoint Source Pollution - A rule of thumb to follow is "only rain down the drain" all other materials should be disposed of properly.
  - Elkhart County's Solid Waste Management District has monthly household hazardous waste drop-offs the first Saturday of the month. For more information visit: <http://bit.ly/1QwfQOB>.
  - Medicines (pills only) can be placed in the drop-boxes at our local police stations for safe disposal.
  - Avoid disposing of yard waste by blowing, raking, or hosing it into the road because it can cause drainage issues and water quality issues if not disposed of correctly. For more information visit: <http://bit.ly/1O5wxPo>.
- ❖ One drop of oil can contaminate 17.1 gallons of water, therefore it is very important to make sure your personal and work vehicle is properly maintained. If you notice a leak from underneath your car immediately contain (rags, drip pans, absorbent materials) and cleanup the material.
- ❖ Trash - Always dispose of trash in an appropriate container (trash can or dumpster) and not out the window or on the ground. Make sure each container is covered to keep stormwater from coming into contact with the trash. Also, cigarette butts are not biodegradable and should be placed in a proper disposal container.
- ❖ Sediment - #1 Pollutant in Our Waterways Today! Make sure to properly stabilize all areas where you work in the soil and instead of using water to clean soil off of the pavement use a broom.





# A DROP OF NEWS

## Your Stormwater Newsletter

### Happy Water New Year!

In the world of water, the week of October 1st was a special one because it was the beginning of the 2016 Water Year!

What is the "water year" you ask? It is the amount of rain and snow that falls from the beginning of the wet season in one year to the beginning of the wet season the next year. This time frame is from October 1st to September 30th of the following year. In our area we receive rain and snow throughout all 12 months and have access to adequate sources of water. But out west, where rain and snow fall mostly in the late fall through early spring, cities and farms are very dependent on snow melt for the water they use and that is why the "water year" is important.

Enjoy the 2016 Water Year!

Credit: CoCoRaHS Message of the Day ([www.cocorahs.org](http://www.cocorahs.org))

### Illicit Discharge Response Thank You!

On October 1st, a Republic Services garbage truck experienced a hydraulic oil line break leaking hydraulic oil over 3,900 feet of pavement on West Clinton Street and Greene Road and impacted two catch basins. Thanks to the work of Dana Platz and Greg Hughes of the Street Department, the hydraulic oil was contained and thanks to the help of Nick Hornish and Drew Koenig of the Utilities Department, absorbent booms were placed in both catch basins to absorb the hydraulic oil. The help of both of these Departments in responding to this illicit discharge was greatly appreciated.

### The Great Stormwater Hunt Continues...

Thanks to all of who have joined "The Hunt" and called or emailed the Stormwater Department about illicit discharges or dirt on the road. It is greatly appreciated and your name has been added to the prize drawing in December.

### Department of Stormwater

Report an illicit discharge or mud on the street by calling:  
574-537-3832  
or 574-534-2201



As a reminder, each City employee can help prevent water pollution by keeping an eye out for potential stormwater pollution issues like oil sheens on water, grease marks or stains around storm drains, dirt tracked or washed onto the road, people pouring or washing liquids into a storm drain, or unknown materials on the ground.

