

# **Summit County NPDES Storm Water Permit**

## **What is NPDES?**

### **National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)**

The NPDES permit program addresses water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants to waters of the United States.

Created in 1972 by the Clean Water Act, the NPDES permit program is authorized to state governments by EPA to perform many permitting, administrative, and enforcement aspects of the program.

## **Why Springfield Township and Summit County**

EPA has identified Springfield Township and Summit County as an Urban Area and requires the participation in the MS4 Permit.

Since Springfield Township is a part of “The Summit County Communities For Clean Stormwater” and holds a joint stormwater permit with the Ohio EPA, the Education, Outreach, and Public Involvement BMP’s will address the major issues impacting the Summit County headwater streams and the two major watersheds in the county, the Cuyahoga River Watershed and the Tuscarawas River Watershed.

## **What You Can Do to HELP Prevent Nonpoint Source Pollution**

### **Urban Stormwater Runoff**

- Keep litter, pet wastes, leaves and debris out of street gutters and storm drains—these outlets drain directly to lake, streams, rivers and wetlands.
- Apply lawn and garden chemicals sparingly and according to directions.
- Dispose of used oil, antifreeze, paints and other household chemicals properly—not in storm sewers or drains. If your community does not already have a program for collecting household hazardous wastes, ask your local government to establish one.
- Clean up spilled brake fluid, oil, grease and antifreeze. Do not hose them into the street where they can eventually reach local streams and lakes.
- Control soil erosion on your property by planting ground cover and stabilizing erosion-prone areas.
- Encourage local government officials to develop construction erosion and sediment control ordinances in your community.
- Have your septic system inspected and pumped, at a minimum every three to five years, so that it operates properly.
- Purchase household detergents and cleaners that are low in phosphorous to reduce the amount of nutrients discharged into our lakes, streams and coastal waters.

### **For Information More:**

- Summit Soil & Water Conservation District: <http://summitswcd.org/>
- Springfield Township: <http://www.springfieldtownship.us/>