

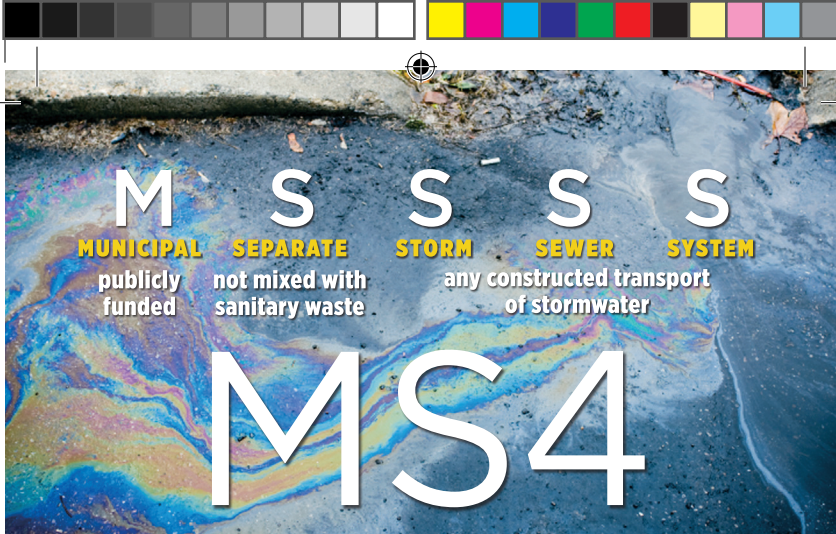
Rain and
snow are
clean...

...right?

Until they hit the ground.



**Polluted stormwater
is the #1 threat to our water.**



M **S** **S** **S** **S**
MUNICIPAL **SEPARATE** **STORM** **SEWER** **SYSTEM**
 publicly funded not mixed with sanitary waste any constructed transport of stormwater

MS4

MS4, a federal-state permit program, requires cities and towns to reduce polluted stormwater runoff by:

- Educating residents, businesses and developers
- Testing water exiting pipes
- Controlling construction site discharge
- Retaining or treating runoff from development
- Ensuring that streets and catch basins are clean
- Developing a stormwater management plan to improve operation and maintenance

What will MS4 accomplish?

- Leaks and illegal sewer and stormwater connections fixed
- Cleaner water for our rivers, ponds and their wildlife inhabitants
- Healthier places for swimming, boating and fishing

What can I do?

- Support spending on stormwater and sewer systems
- Pick up pet waste; ask for more pet waste stations
- Eliminate chemical pesticides and fertilizers
- Don't dump dirty water or oil into storm drains—ever
- Install rain barrels; use water before it reaches the ground
- Learn where rainwater goes after it hits the street
- Learn about low-impact development and green infrastructure—check out Greenscapes.org



Produced by Greenscapes North Shore Coalition

Ipswich River Watershed Association, Merrimack River Watershed Council, MVPC/8 Towns and the Great Marsh, Salem Sound Coastwatch

Providing cost savings by bringing regional public education and outreach to your community