Good Housekeeping Practices for... RESTAURANTS & FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS

Control Stormwater Runoff Pollution... Protect the Delaware Estuary and its Streams and Rivers

Be a **Clean Water Partner** by preventing stormwater runoff pollution from your site. Controlling stormwater pollution can be simple and inexpensive. Preventing stormwater pollution from occurring is certainly less costly than cleaning up water pollution after the fact. Preventive measures include common sense good housekeeping practices for the outdoors like sweeping regularly to remove silt, sand, and litter from your parking lot, covering dumpsters, and controlling kitchen grease waste stored outside.

A message from restaurant owners...

"Keep serving your food in style, just remember before and after, clean your facility inside and outside by following these simple inexpensive practices that protect the Delaware River, which, for many, is our drinking water supply."

— Louie Harambou, Roxborough Restaurant and Pizzaria

"Restaurants have a big job ensuring food and its preparation is sanitary. Clean Water Partners doesn't make your job harder, but following its recommendations can help keep your customers coming back for more. A clean and attractive site reflects your high standards for quality. Become a Clean Water Partner and your customers will like knowing that your business is concerned about the environment and protecting the Delaware Estuary."

— Joseph Poon, Asian Fusion Chinatown Restaurant

CLEAN WATER PARTNERS

...ONLY RAIN... DOWN THE STORM DRAIN

Good Housekeeping Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Restaurants, Food Service Facilities, and Distributors

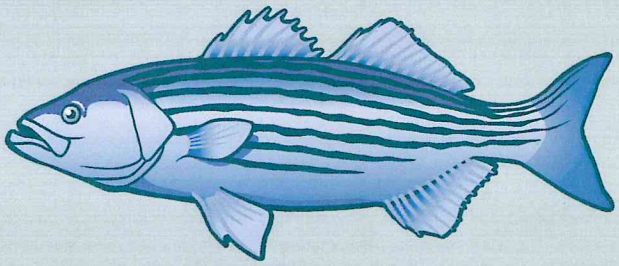
CLEAN WATER PARTNERS

Funded by:

- Delaware Estuary Program
- Delaware River Port Authority of Pennsylvania and New Jersey
- The Laffey-McHugh Foundation
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
- Pennsylvania Coastal Zone Management Program
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- Philadelphia Water Department
- U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
- The William Penn Foundation

Employ these Good Housekeeping BMPs to help prevent stormwater runoff pollution in local streams, nearby rivers and the Delaware Estuary.

- ***Control Kitchen Grease Storage.*** Ensure grease storage containers are not leaking and in good condition. Take steps to prevent grease from dripping or overflowing when transferring and emptying containers. Container lids should fit securely and be inaccessible to vandals and animals. Never dispose of grease in a storm drain.
- ***Trash Storage and Handling.*** Non-hazardous and non-liquid solid wastes should be containerized in tied bags prior to disposing in dumpsters. Lids on trash cans and dumpster containers should fit securely to prevent dispersal of trash by animals or wind. Request that your trash contractor pick up litter dispersed during their transfer. Regularly inspect waste storage areas for litter.
- ***Enclose Outdoor Food Storage and Processing Areas.*** Use temporary tarps or tents as a short-term measure and permanent structures (i.e., awning or shed) to cover activity areas to prevent rain or snow from picking up or collecting residues and wastes. If an activity cannot be effectively controlled, relocate it indoors or to an alternate site.
- ***Control Outdoor Washing Activities.*** Wash items outdoors only as a last resort and according to local code. Employ BMPs if you must conduct washing activities out of doors. Use minimum amounts of water to avoid producing excessive runoff that may contain detergent or pesticide residues, bacteria or grease. Polluted wash water, even in small amounts, can accumulate in storm drains and waterways where it can harm aquatic life and impact water quality.
- ***Sweep the sidewalk and parking lot*** outside your front and back doors to control litter and debris, cigarette butts, and packaging waste from customers and deliveries.
- ***Conveniently locate trash cans and cigarette receptacles*** for your customers' use to encourage proper disposal of wastes, wrappers, and packaging from your premises. Trash cans should be covered with securely fitting lids.
- ***Eliminate Illicit Drain Connections.*** Plumbing from indoor sink drains should not discharge directly into storm drainage systems, gutters, creeks, and streams; instead, indoor drains should be plumbed according to local sanitary code. Indoor drains should discharge to an approved wastewater treatment facility. Illicit connections have historically been a problem in older buildings.
- ***Control Erosion and Landscaped Areas.*** Use native shrubs, plants and natural groundcovers to beautify your site, control areas where pedestrian traffic has damaged plants, and consider alternative materials, such as river rock or mulch, in areas of heavy use. Watch slopes for soil erosion.



Printed on Recycled Paper