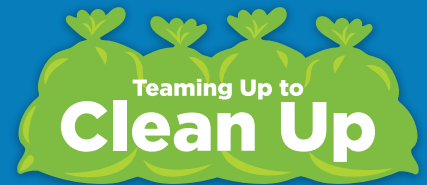


STREAMLINE

WYOMING VALLEY SANITARY AUTHORITY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024



Tires... couches... clothing... shoes... bottles and more were removed during our **November 4 cleanup event at Arch Street in Wilkes-Barre.**

Local volunteers, including members of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council and Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority, waded through trees and grass to remove illegally dumped trash.



LET IT SNOW...



The Clean Way!



Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority's (WVSA) Stormwater Management Division reminds residents about the importance of **properly managing melting snow on surfaces**. Stormwater runoff comes in many forms, including thawing snow that can easily infiltrate into local storm drains while carrying pollutants and high volumes of water into nearby streams, our river, and other waterways.

Letting it snow the clean way calls for **piling snow** onto areas providing the most opportunity for **ground infiltration** and where water doesn't pond, such as lawns. Also, an **early sweep or shoveling** of dry, powdery snow will help prevent the need for an abundance of deicers containing chloride that could be **toxic** to wildlife and plants.

Residents are also encouraged to **avoid piling snow on top of storm drains** or near water bodies and to clear any snow that may have landed onto neighboring drains. For more information on stormwater management and best practices for residents, visit wvsa.org/stormwater-management.



What proved to be a popular dumping ground was vastly cleared—thanks to our dedicated volunteers who braved the cold and stayed the course for more than four hours, along with the Wilkes-Barre City Department of Public Works.

In addition, the cleanup project allowed volunteers to earn **stormwater fee credits** for their **preferred nonprofit organization**. Designated organizations that will benefit include the SPCA and Habitat for Humanity.



Our Response to Customer Questions

Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority (WVSA) continually collects and monitors public commentary about wastewater treatment and stormwater management services. Provided below are WVSA responses to some recently submitted questions regarding stormwater management.

How does your street sweeping services help stormwater management?

Street sweeping is a non-structural best management practice (BMP) that can serve the entire community. It's also one of the most cost-effective measures for ensuring optimal stormwater management services. In addition, street sweeping offers a high level of nutrient runoff reduction, much of which is caused by leaf drop from deciduous trees. These nutrients contribute heavily to algal blooms, which leads to lower oxygen levels that are dangerous to animals and plant life. Also, it is more cost effective to remove impactful pollutants before they reach our waterways, rather than after.

How harmful can stormwater runoff really be?

It's not so much rain water itself, but the pollutants they carry that are harmful to our environment. Some common pollutants found in or carried by stormwater include sediments (dirt and silt), vegetation (leaves and yard clippings), fertilizers, litter, pesticides, pet waste, phosphates (from soap used in car or pet washing), oil and fuel.

What, exactly, am I getting for my stormwater fee?

All charged stormwater fees help support Best Management Practices (BMPs) designed to reduce stormwater pollution, including pollution reduction planning, BMP operations and maintenance, system mapping, street sweeping, installation of community rain gardens and local stream restorations. For more information, visit wvsa.org/stormwater-management.



Questions

about **Services** or **Billing?**

Our representatives are available **Monday - Friday, 8AM - 4PM** (Sanitary - 570-820-9872) and **7AM - 3PM** (Stormwater - 570-825-3416).

You can also send us an email at info@wvsa.net.



Use your cell phone camera to **scan the QR code**



UPCOMING EVENTS

WVSA Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

Tuesday, February 20, 2024

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Dates subject to change.
Visit wvsa.org/upcoming-events



For more information on **WVSA** and its **services**
Para más información sobre **WVSA** y sus **servicios**

Business Office:
570-820-9872

Sanitary & Stormwater
Divisions: 570-825-3416

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