



The importance of having a good quality local water supply is that there will be less sickness from water pollution. Also having a good water treatment plant benefits the community and there would be a plentiful amount of better drinking water for people. Also having a good water supply can prevent the food chain from becoming disrupted.

Results from Increased Volumes of Stormwater

The water supply obtains more pollution. This could result in...

- Reduced recreations, such as swimming and fishing
- Drinking water quality can become poor
- The cost of water treatment can increase
- Some wildlife organisms that are directly connected to the water supply can reduce in their number

Results from Increased Speed of Run-Off Run off can result from **impervious surfaces**.

- Increase speed in run-off can result in washing away of everything it comes in contact with such as oil, fertilizers, pesticides, etc. These particles flow into storm drains and empty into rivers, streams and oceans which pollutes them.
- Another result from increased speed of run-off is more flooding because the water can not seep into the ground.
- Also there can be more erosion due to the speed of water flowing.

Author Biography:

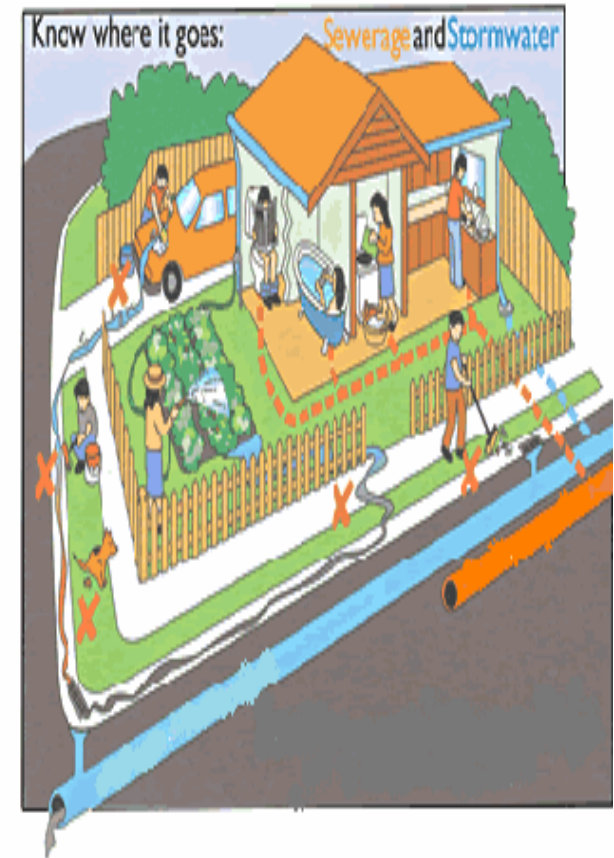
Jenny Kim and Sam Galante both attend Upper Dublin High School and are sophomores. We are both age 16 and are taking an interesting course of Environmental Science this year with Mr. Graham.

Contact Information:

Upper Dublin Township
Environmental Protection Advisory
Board
Chairman: Stan Ropski
801 Loch Alsh Ave.
Fort Washington, PA 19034
215-643-1600
Fax: 215-542-0797

Pennsylvania Department of
Environmental Protection
<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/>
United States Environmental
Protection Agency
<http://www.epa.gov/>

Know Your Stormwater!



What is Stormwater?

Stormwater is rainfall that flows over the surface instead of soaking into the ground. Stormwater is also called runoff.

Connections:

The connections between stormwater, land development, and population all lead into each other. The stormwater or runoff dissolves or washes away everything it comes in contact with such as fertilizers, pesticides, oil, gas, and sediments. The runoff and everything that it brings along with it flows into storm drains which end up in rivers, oceans, and streams. People do not want to live by polluted areas.



What is Impervious Surfaces?

Impervious Surfaces are hard surfaces that prevent water from absorbing into the ground.

Examples of Impervious Surfaces:

- Roads
- Parking lots
- Buildings

Homeowners' Affect on Stormwater:

1. People do not know how to use fertilizers and then they use too much water which causes a runoff to develop and the stormwater goes into the nearest stream, river, or ocean.
2. People drive automobiles everywhere they go causing the oil and gas to pollute the stormwater.
3. Poorly maintained or designed septic systems can pollute surface and ground water. The polluted water goes into drains and then goes into rivers, streams, etc.
4. If people who put garbage in the street for the next day pick up, like in Upper Dublin and other Townships, it may rain and garbage will be in the runoff.



Homeowners Solutions to Reduce Stormwater Damage:

1. Since washing your car creates runoff, try to wash your car on the grass to limit the runoff and the grass will soak up the pollutants. Also, you could wash your car at a car wash.
2. Reduce your use of road salt or other toxic products. Try to use sand or chip away at the ice to avoid toxic pollutants running into the stormwater.
3. Household products such as fertilizer, fungicides, and insecticides should be stored in high locations so that these chemicals do not get washed away by stormwater.
4. Know what to do with your pets' wastes and do not just leave their waste anywhere or send it to a landfill. You should try flushing it down the toilet or burying it in the ground and this will keep pollutants from entering the runoff.

