

## STORMWATER PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS

Residents should be aware the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) stormwater permit for municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) requires the Town to reduce the amount of stormwater that enters our storm system. Residents can help with this mandate by disconnecting downspouts that discharge directly to the Town's drainage system, driveways or into the road and redirecting rainwater to flow from downspouts to the lawn, landscape beds and other pervious surfaces that allow for infiltration.

To disconnect your downspouts, just follow these simple instructions:

**Did you know approximately 1,200 gallons of water flow from a single house (~2,000 sq ft) during a 1 inch rainfall?** That is a significant amount of water going down the storm sewer system into our streams! Disconnecting a roof drain is a simple and low maintenance alternative that directs stormwater away from storm sewers and promotes infiltration. Directing downspouts onto a lawn or vegetated area will reduce the amount of water and pollution entering a receiving waterbody. Before rerouting your downspout, it's important to check with your Municipality for permission based on their spacing requirements for stormwater runoff. If rooftop disconnection is ideal for you, then the following steps will help towards this goal:

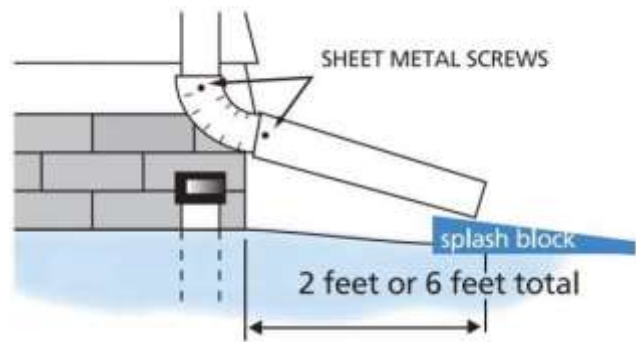
### Observe Your Property

- Know your property lines, don't direct runoff toward your neighbors!
- Be aware of the slope of your yard, water will rarely infiltrate on slopes over 10%.
- Measure the amount of lawn available for downspouts to direct water to.
- Keep in mind safety when routing downspouts onto pervious surfaces. Avoid downspout extensions across sidewalks and driveways.

### Disconnection Design

- Direct downspouts towards grass or landscaped areas.
- Downspouts can also be connected to rain barrels or drain into a rain garden or stormwater planter.

- The downspout extension should be at least 2ft away from a house without a basement and 6ft minimum from a house with a basement.
- The standpipe which connects into the sewer system should be capped or plugged.
- A splash guard or stone bed can help prevent erosion during intense storm events.



### Maintenance

- Clean gutters and downspouts, especially during the fall, to prevent clogging.
- Make sure gutters are sloped to direct water toward downspouts.
- Inspect area in which downspouts drain to; make sure there is no standing water.
- Ensure that elbows and sections of downspout are properly connected.

\*Information obtained from EPA and Gateway Engineers, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Residents can review the MS4 Annual Reports at the Engineering Division Office located on the second floor of Town Hall or on the Engineering Division page of the Town website after February 15th of each year. Residents can and are encouraged to provide comments on the report prior to its April 1st filing date. Additional information regarding stormwater management and the Town's Stormwater Management Plan can be found at [www.wethersfieldct.gov](http://www.wethersfieldct.gov) under the Engineering Division webpage.

**If you witness any illicit discharges to a drainage system, wetland, waterbody or watercourse, please notify the Engineering Division at 860- 721-2850 or [derrick.gregor@wethersfieldct.gov](mailto:derrick.gregor@wethersfieldct.gov).**