



Thoughts on stormwater from your Township Engineer...

For many years both land owners and engineers alike, thought of stormwater runoff as a waste product. Our goal was to simply get rid of the water that burdened our properties. By pushing it downstream, we could simply let someone else deal with the surge of flow. Also, in order to gain more usable land we piped streams, paved wetlands, and filled flood plains.

In the 1970's, the environmental movement brought to light how detrimental these practices were to an overall quality of life. Slowly, laws and regulations began to take shape which forced the engineering industry and land owners to behave differently in dealing with stormwater.

In the early 2000's, we began to take greater strides in dealing with stormwater runoff and our environment. Laws and regulations evolved to support a thinking that stormwater should be viewed as a resource and not as a waste product. By doing things like recharging the groundwater table, protecting stream corridors with vegetated buffers, allowing stormwater to runoff over land as opposed to being piped, we can return base flow to streams which have become a little more than stormwater conduits themselves and restore a more natural order.

These regulations on the surface may appear burdensome to land owners. But with a little diligence and with some forethought, we can all make a difference in improving the quality of our ecological systems.

On this Township webpage you will find links to more information regarding the stormwater programs. Also, you will find information of how individual property owners can improve runoff by protecting our storm sewer systems from pollution from things like dumping of yard wastes, dumping of motor oils, and discharge of chlorinated pool water directly into our streams. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have regarding the information you find on the website. I would be happy to share my knowledge and experiences with anyone from the community.

Sincerely,



Timothy P. Woodrow, P.E.  
Township Engineer