Pollutants of Concern: Metals

Stormwater Coalition of Albany County



Areas on a Car that May Leave Behind Trace Metals



Metal Roofs and Gutters



Discarded Shopping Carts in Stream Near Outfall



General Information

Exhaust, tires, engines and brakes from automobiles leave behind traces of metals on the roadways that are washed into the storm system. Other sources include galvanized metal from rooftops, gutters and scrap metal. Metals dissolve directly into stormwater or bond with sediment. Common metals found in stormwater are copper, lead, cadmium, zinc and nickel. Metals are a concern because of their potential toxicity and ability to bioaccumulate. Clay soils are better at removing metal pollutants than more porous soils.

Best Management Practices

- Good care and proper maintenance of vehicles and infrastructure.
- Street sweeping and regular maintenance of infrastructure in order to remove large particles.
- Use of vegetated buffers, swales and other green infrastructure practices to help filter out metals.

Additional Information

<u>EPA</u>

http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/ fs_swpp_stormwater.pdf

NYSDEC

Section 2.1 of the 2010 NYS Stormwater Management Design Manual - http://www.dec.ny.gov/ chemical/29072.html

http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/ swdm2010chptr2.pdf

<u>Other</u>

http://www.oeconline.org/our-work/rivers/stormwater/ stormwater%20report/impacts

http://www.water.ncsu.edu/watershedss/info/