

## Things you can do at JBM-HH to Prevent Stormwater Pollution

- ◆ Never throw trash or cigarette butts on the ground
- ◆ Have your vehicle maintained regularly
- ◆ Do not top off your vehicle tank when fueling
- ◆ Use commercial car washes that recycle the water
- ◆ Immediately clean up spilled materials
- ◆ Observe good housekeeping practices for outdoor material storage areas; limit inventories of materials
- ◆ Ask your supervisor if any of your activities are subject to the JBM-HH Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
- ◆ If you see a spill of oil or a hazardous material, report it by calling 911
- ◆ If you see a condition that is causing or could cause stormwater pollution, notify EMD (see telephone numbers on back of this brochure)
- ◆ Use the recycling bins in your work area. Don't throw recyclable materials in the regular trash!
- ◆ Contact EMD if you have any hazardous materials for disposal

## For more information contact JBM-HH EMD:



### Directorate of Public Works Environmental Management Division

#### Pollution Prevention and Training:

Dr. Wanda Gooden 703-696-8513

#### Waste Disposal and Recycling:

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#### EMS/Sustainability Program:

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**Remember -**

**ONLY RAIN DOWN  
THE DRAIN!**



## Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall

### STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION AWARENESS

**For Civilian and Military  
Employees**



Prepared by:  
JBM-HH Environmental  
Management Division

# Protecting Water Resources in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed

## JBM-HH Storm Drain Systems

JBM-HH operates a small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) that is regulated by a Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit. The MS4 is a network of inlets, gutters, and storm drain pipes that are intended to collect only storm water. The permit was recently renewed with increased requirements to comply with the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. Fort Myer also has a separate VPDES permit for industrial-type operations, such as vehicle maintenance. The storm system at Fort McNair is regulated under the District of Columbia's MS4 permit. All storm drains on Fort Myer, Henderson Hall, and Fort McNair carry stormwater to the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, which flow to the Chesapeake Bay. Storm drains on Henderson Hall and much of Fort Myer discharge to Lower Long Branch, which is a Potomac River Tributary.

Drinking water for JBM-HH comes from the Potomac River. All stormwater that flows into JBM-HH storm drains eventually discharges to the Potomac River.

## Chesapeake Bay Pollution Diet

To address the declining health of the Chesapeake Bay, the U.S. EPA has established a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for pollutants in the Bay and its tributaries, which include the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers. A TMDL is the maximum amount of pollution that can flow into the waters of the Bay and still have the waters meet federal water quality standards. The Bay's TMDL will be a 'pollution diet' for three pollutants - nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment, which are major contributors to the Bay's poor health. All of these substances can harm water quality and aquatic life if they are washed off the land during a storm.

Nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) and sediment are the greatest sources of water quality impairment in the Chesapeake Bay.

## How do these pollutants get into stormwater?

JBM-HH storm drains collect and transport rainwater and snowmelt directly to streams and rivers, not to a treatment plant that removes pollutants. There are devices installed in a few areas of Fort Myer and Fort McNair that help to remove some of the stormwater pollutants, but much of the stormwater flows untreated directly to surface waters.

Oil, grease, detergents, trash, pet waste, and other pollutants that are leaked or deposited on the ground, whether intentionally or not, eventually end up in waterways.



Filtterra Bioretention Systems, like this one located at Hatfield Gate, use a plant-based natural system to remove some of the bacteria, metals, nutrients (i.e., nitrates), and suspended solids from stormwater.

## Stormwater Regulations

JBM-HH's VPDES permits regulate the stormwater discharged from the installation. As required by the VPDES permit, EMD has developed and implemented a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which describes specific practices for certain operations at Fort Myer to keep pollutants out of storm water.

In the near future, Virginia and the District of Columbia may require more stringent pollution prevention measures to comply with EPA's Chesapeake Bay TMDLs.

## How can civilian and military employees prevent stormwater pollution?

Preventing pollutants from entering rivers and streams through the storm drainage system usually requires only simple changes and an awareness of how your actions can cause pollution.

Observing the practices listed on the reverse flap of this brochure will help protect our Nation's valuable water resources including the Chesapeake Bay by reducing stormwater pollution from your actions.

Another way to help reduce pollution is by recycling as many products and wastes as possible. JBM-HH recycles paper, cans, bottles, and many other wastes.

Keeping pollutants out of the storm drainage system is a priority at JBM-HH. Remember...only rain down the drain!