

Incorporated
Village of Shoreham
Shoreham, New York 11786
January 3, 2007

Dear Neighbor:

At the Village Trustees meeting of November 14, 2006, the Board passed two environmental laws that affect all residents. Local Law 06-01 establishes the stormwater management program for the Village of Shoreham. Local Law 06-02 deals with illicit discharges into the Village stormwater system. Both of these laws are mandated by Federal and State regulations.

The level of attention paid to this subject is appropriate when one considers that surface water runoff is the leading contributor to water pollution. Stormwater flowing over paved surfaces can accumulate a variety of pollutants that have collected on the surface and then transport these noxious substances to the surrounding waterways. In our case, this process impacts one of our most important recreational assets, Long Island Sound.

As all of you are aware, the terrain of the Village is such that stormwater runoff migrates from each side of the Village to a central corridor running along Woodville Road. Runoff from the "Slopes" section of the Village drains into the two major recharge basins on Circle Drive and Overhill Road. Stormwater originating from the other areas of the Village ultimately ends up in the runoff that goes to the beach.

During the past five years, the Village has added approximately fifteen new catch basins at various locations. These basins are capable of preventing a large portion of the runoff from reaching the Sound. We plan to continue to install these basins to permit more containment and recharge of stormwater. Our ultimate goal is to minimize the runoff that flows onto the beach.

In any case, it is important for all Village residents to prevent, to the maximum practical extent, all sources of pollution from entering the stormwater system. We must keep in mind that even the stormwater that does recharge to the ground can affect our drinking water supplies.

These newly adopted laws will help to ensure that residents take prudent actions to prevent unwanted substances (fertilizers, pesticides, construction runoff, petroleum spills, septic wastes etc.) from entering our stormwater system. In addition, all residents are expected to keep curb lines along their property clear of leaves, branches, sand, soil and trash. These actions will significantly help to optimize the quality and flow of our stormwater runoff.

If you have any questions or comments concerning these new laws or about stormwater management in general, please contact me.

Your cooperation in the compliance with these two new laws is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Len Emma

Commissioner of Environmental Protection