

Model Language for Municipal Websites

What is stormwater?

Stormwater is rain and snow melt that runs off surfaces such as rooftops, paved streets, highways, and parking lots. Stormwater carries sediment, oil, grease, nitrogen, phosphorus, and other pollutants into storm drains and then, untreated, into nearby waterbodies. Because most stormwater drainage systems provide no treatment, preventing contamination of stormwater is crucial to ensure that pollutants do not enter waterways. Improperly managed stormwater runoff is also a leading cause of flooding, which can lead to property damage, cause road safety hazards, and clog catch basins and culverts with sediment and debris.

Broome-Tioga Stormwater Coalition

The **[Town of Union]** of **[MS4]** is one of 15 designated *Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)* located in the Counties of Broome and Tioga that must prepare and implement a stormwater management program to comply with state and federal stormwater regulations. These municipalities recognize that watersheds and separate sewer systems cross municipal boundaries and that collaborative efforts addressing local stormwater issues saves time, money and energy. As a result, the MS4s entered into an agreement to form the *Broome-Tioga Stormwater Coalition* and work together to address local stormwater issues and meet the requirements of state and federal stormwater regulations.

To find out more information about stormwater, state and federal stormwater regulations or the Broome-Tioga Stormwater Coalition, visit the BTSC's website, www.broometiogastormwater.com.