**UI Storm Water Management Program Update**

The University of Iowa Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) maintains a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit 52-25-0-06, which implements a Storm Water Phase II Program under the Clean Water Act authorized by Environmental Protection Agency permit number IA0078182. This program implements several techniques to reduce storm water runoff from our campus and to improve and protect water quality. The University of Iowa’s permit was re-issued in May 2019 and is valid for five years before requiring renewal.

**What is storm water runoff?**

Storm water runoff is rainfall or snowmelt that runs off permeable surfaces or impermeable surfaces like roads, buildings, sidewalks, or compacted ground surfaces. It can drain directly into streams, rivers and lakes by traveling over ground or through storm drains. Storm water entering storm sewers does not receive any treatment before it flows to surface waters such as rivers, lakes, streams and wetlands.

**Why is storm water runoff a problem?**

Storm water runoff can carry debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and enter the University of Iowa’s storm sewer system or directly into a river, lake, stream or wetland. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water.

**How to reduce storm water pollutants and sources**

Faculty, staff and students can take measures to help reduce water quality degradation by avoiding creation of the following situations:

* Trash such as cigarette butts, paper wrappers and plastic bottles
* Illegally dumped pollutants
* Bacteria from pet waste
* Pesticides and nutrients from lawns, parks and roadsides
* Sediment from construction sites
* Oil and grease from car leaks, gas stations and industrial areas
* Thermal impacts from sun-heated surfaces
* Illicit connections to storm sewers

For additional information, see the Storm Water Information Website at <https://www.facilities.uiowa.edu/storm-water-management>