



Public Works Newsletter

Volume 15, Issue 2

www.readingma.gov

June 2015

Check it out, before you throw it out!

Before you put that item you are holding into the trash, look at it and ask yourself – “can this be recycled?”

In many cases, that answer will be yes; the Town of Reading has expanded its recycling program to include many additional items. You already know that you can recycle paper and cardboard, glass and metal, and plastics 1-7, but you can now add milk and juice cartons, aluminum, pizza boxes, and empty non-hazardous aerosol cans.

We are working on new methods to Recycle, Reduce and Reuse, and need your ideas to help the Town reach its goal to continue to increase and improve our programs. If you have a program idea, please let us know.

What’s your “R” idea?

Water Conservation Program

The hours for outdoor water use are as follows:

Monday through Sunday

4:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Watering is permitted for even numbered addresses on even numbered days of the month and for odd numbered addresses on odd numbered days of the month as specified above.

**There are no restrictions
on hand held devices**

Help Keep Our Stormwater Clean

Please help keep the Town of Reading’s stormwater system clean. Our stormwater system consists of grated catchbasins in our roads, streams and wetlands. Stormwater (rain and snow melt) is untreated and can carry pollutants into streams and wetlands. This means by polluting our catchbasins and streams we are directly polluting the town’s three rivers (*Ipswich, Aberjona, and Saugus*) that eventually lead to the ocean.

Stormwater pollution can also impact our groundwater, wetlands and waterways eventually contaminating our drinking water, fish, and wildlife. By keeping our stormwater system uncontaminated, we can help keep the environment clean for generations to come.

Here are some ways homeowners can help:

- Never dump household waste such as paint, cleaning products, motor oils, antifreeze, yard waste or any other hazardous material into catchbasins, streams or wetlands
- Promptly repair oil and fluid leaks on your vehicle
- Use environmentally friendly, biodegradable products when cleaning outside
- Remove debris such as trash, leaves and grass clipping away from catchbasins, streams or wetlands
- Minimize the use of fertilizers near catchbasins, streams or wetlands
- Always pick up and dispose of pet waste properly in trash, do **not** leave on the ground or dump in the town’s grated catchbasins



If you identify any stormwater pollution such as an unusual color, odor or other pollutants, please call the 24 hour Stormwater Hotline:

1-781-942-NOW1

Please note that the Stormwater fee for single & two-family residences is \$10.00/per quarter (\$40.00 annually). Multi-family, commercial/industrial property fees will be based on total impervious surface area.