

Gary J. Passanante, Mayor

Dear Residents and Business Owners:

In accordance with our NJDEP Tier A Municipal Stormwater General Permit, the Borough has adopted various Ordinances to regulate the impact of stormwater runoff and pollutants on the environment. As part of our Local Public Education Program, the purpose of this letter is to highlight the requirements and environmental benefits of these Ordinances.

1. Pet Waste: This Ordinance requires pet owners to pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or other people's property. It prevents fecal contamination from impacting the local waterways.
2. Litter: This Ordinance states that it is unlawful to throw, drop, discard or otherwise place litter of any nature upon any public or private property, other than in a litter receptacle. The purpose of the Ordinance is to prevent unsightly and unsanitary conditions and prevent litter from impacting waterways.
3. Improper Disposal of Waste: This Ordinance states that it is illegal to dispose of waste in any place not specifically designated for the purpose of solid waste storage or disposal. The purpose of the Ordinance is to prevent unsanitary conditions and groundwater pollution.
4. Wildlife Feeding: Feeding of water fowl on municipal park property is prohibited by Ordinance. The Borough enacted the Ordinance as a method to reduce water fowl population in response to health concerns regarding bacteria which is harmful to human and fish populations.
5. Yard Waste: Yard waste is regulated via Ordinances which establish the current zone collection system and the methods of collecting leaves, brush and other yard waste. The purpose of the Ordinance is to keep grass and leaves out of the storm sewer system.
6. Illicit Connections: This Ordinance makes it unlawful to connect any pipe or device to the municipal storm sewer system that is intended to discard, spill or dump any material other than stormwater runoff or groundwater (sump pumps) into the system. The purpose of this Ordinance is to prevent pollution and contamination of waterways which receive discharge from our storm sewers.
7. Refuse Containers/Dumpsters: This Ordinance requires dumpsters and other refuse containers that are outdoors or exposed to stormwater to be covered at all times and prohibits the spilling, leaking, or otherwise discharge of liquids, semi-liquids or solids from the containers to the storm collection system. The purpose of the Ordinance is to prevent unsanitary conditions and groundwater pollution.


8. Private Storm Drain Inlet Retrofitting: This Ordinance requires the retrofitting of existing storm drain inlets which are in direct contact with repaving, repairing, reconstruction, or resurfacing or alterations of facilities on private property. The purpose of this Ordinance is to prevent the discharge of solids and floatables to prevent litter from impacting waterways.

The transport of pollutants into local water bodies can result in the destruction of fish, wildlife and habitats; threats to public health and the loss of recreational and aesthetic value.

The Borough has enacted the above Ordinances to protect our environment, and to keep pollutants that are commonly conveyed by stormwater from adversely impacting our waterways and groundwater supplies. These Ordinances may be found on the official Borough of Somerdale website at www.somerdale-nj.com in the section "Residential Resources" under Public Works.

Thank you for your continued cooperation with our environmental protection efforts.

Sincerely,



Gary J. Passanante, Mayor