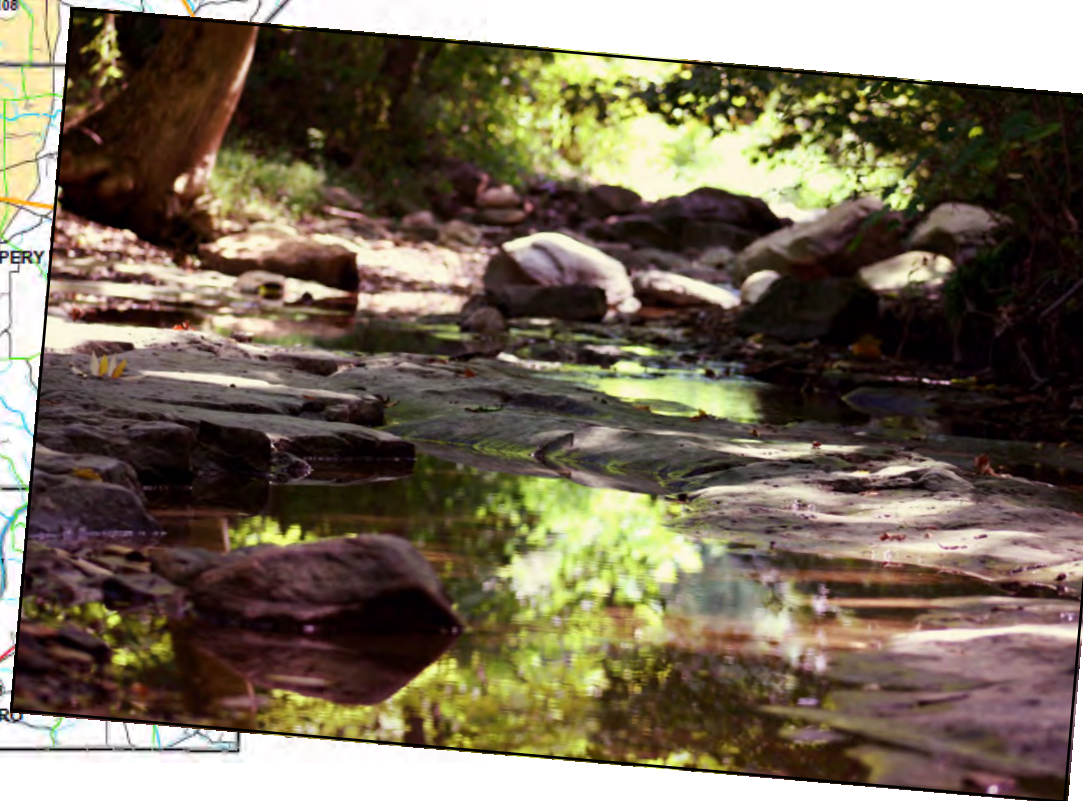




*2014 Shenango River Watershed
Source Water Protection*

The Lawrence County map to the left highlights the Shenango River Watershed in yellow. If you live within these highlighted boundaries, then you are a part of the Shenango River Watershed and your actions can have an affect on your public drinking water.



In an effort to help collect pictures for the 2014 Shenango River Source Water Protection Calendar, a photo contest was held. This photograph was provided by our winner, Leah Cwynar, taken in the woods off of Chapin Road in Neshannock Township. Leah was awarded a gift basket, generously donated by Apple Castle.

January 2014

The Shenango River Watershed

A **watershed** is an area of land where all of the water, above and below ground, flow to the same location, such as a river. The picture below illustrates this idea.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



<http://gk12burke.files.wordpress.com/2010/10/watershed-cartoon.jpg>

In the Shenango River Watershed, water from Neshannock Creek, Big Run, Hottenbaugh Run, Potter Run, Deer Creek, McClure Run, and many other smaller tributaries in the area all eventually empty into the Shenango River.

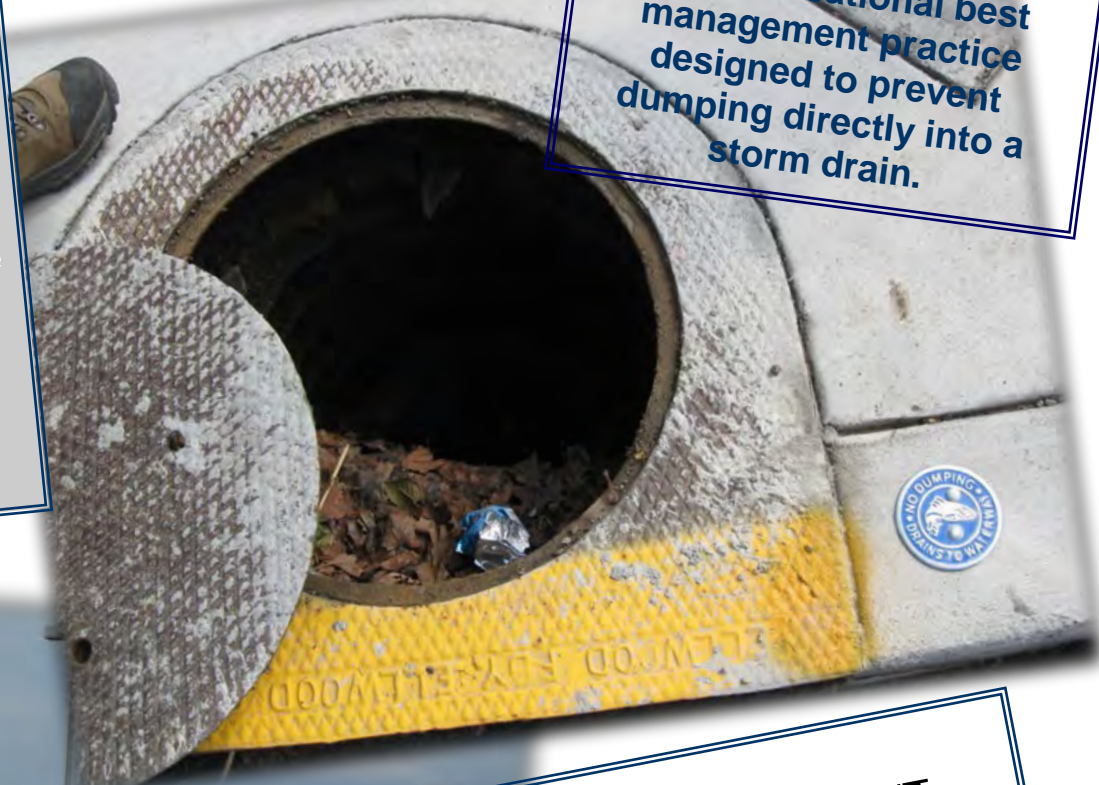


QUESTION OF THE MONTH:

*Each month a question will be asked pertaining to the topic at hand. Please submit your answer to the Lawrence Conservation District via email: landerson@lawrencecd.org. One lucky winner, with the correct answer, will be selected at random to win a prize.

A common misconception that many people believe is that all storm drains, such as the one in the parking lot below, lead to some sort of treatment facility before returning to the nearest stream. The truth is, in most cases, storm sewers lead directly to the nearest stream or river for outlet.

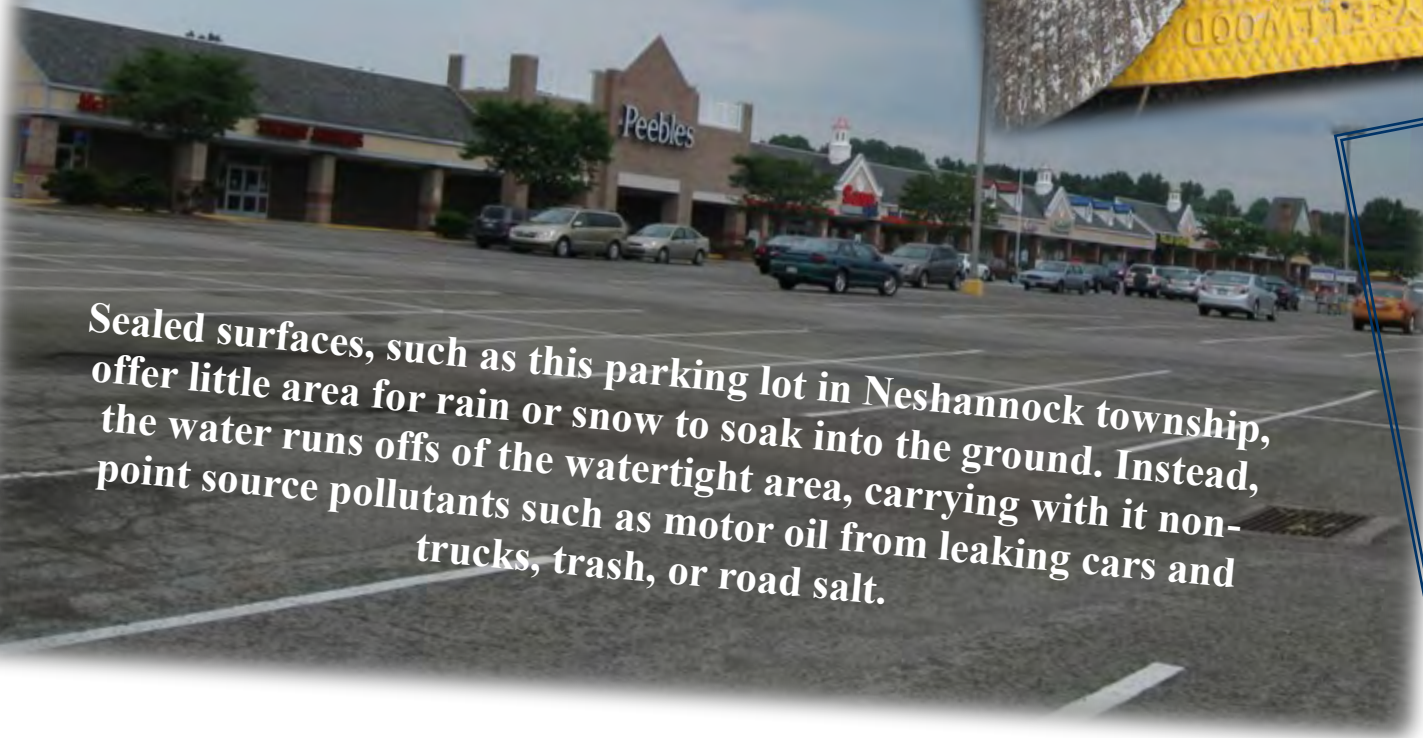
A storm drain marker, as shown in the picture below, is an educational best management practice designed to prevent dumping directly into a storm drain.



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE

BMPS or Best Management Practices are tools used to prevent water pollution.

Sealed surfaces, such as this parking lot in Neshannock township, offer little area for rain or snow to soak into the ground. Instead, the water runs off of the watertight area, carrying with it non-point source pollutants such as motor oil from leaking cars and trucks, trash, or road salt.



February 2014

Non-Point Source Pollution

Non-point source (NPS) pollution, unlike pollution from point sources such as industrial and sewage treatment plants, comes from many different sources and can be harmful to the local environment.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

QUESTION OF THE MONTH: What is one thing that you, as a member of the Shenango River Watershed, can do to help keep our river clean?

We all Live downstream...

Non-point source pollution makes its way into the local waterways during rain events and snowmelts. As **stormwater** travels over the land's surface to the nearest waterway, it picks up any contaminant along its way. These pollutants range from pesticides and fertilizers, litter and debris left laying on the ground, motor oil, manure, basic soil erosion, and much more.

It is up to the
Shenango
River
Community
to help keep
the watershed
clean and free
of NPS
pollution!



Why should you maintain your septic system?

- **SAVE MONEY!**

Repairing or replacing a septic system can be very expensive. Inspecting and pumping the system every 3 years helps keep the components working correctly.

- **PROTECT YOUR HEALTH!**

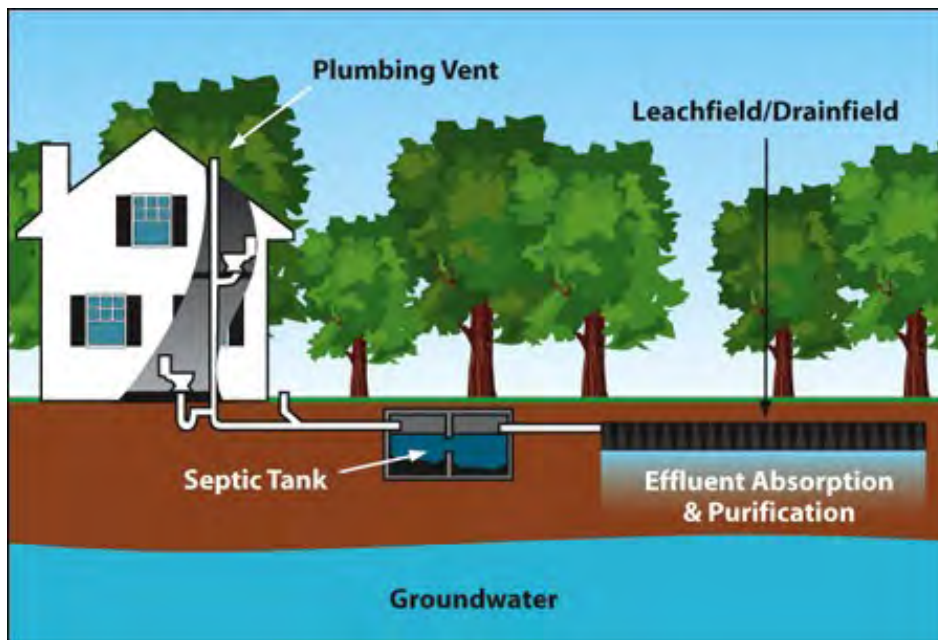
Bacteria and viruses are found in the wastewater, and a functional septic system removes most of the organisms during treatment.

- **PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT!**

What goes into your septic system may end up in your drinking water source. Refrain from using cleaners and other chemicals that may eventually be discharged from your septic system and soak into the ground.



A FAILING SEPTIC SYSTEM



<http://www.pumperguys.com/images/septic-system-diagram.jpg>

The picture above hints at a failing septic system, which means that the wastewater has not been properly treated. You can notice the dense green plants (a result of excess nutrients) and the black pools of water. These pools of water can contain bacteria and viruses; and, when it rains, they can be washed away by stormwater and discharged into a nearby waterbody. Underground, the system could be leaking into a groundwater system, potentially contaminating any nearby drinking water wells.