



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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**Michael R. Pence, Governor**  
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## WHAT INDOT IS DOING

Rain and melting snow become storm water runoff when impervious surfaces like streets, sidewalks, and parking lots prevent it from soaking into the ground.

As storm water runs off these impervious surfaces and nearby properties, it can pick up pollutants like litter, dirt, oil, fertilizers, pesticides, road salt and animal waste. If left uncontrolled and untreated, storm water runoff can harm habitat, erode stream channels, and carry pollutants into streams, rivers, lakes and waterways.

Roads and parking lots constitute as much as 70 percent of total impervious cover in highly urban areas, and as much as 80 percent of the directly connected impervious cover. Roads tend to capture and export more storm water pollutants than other land covers in these areas.

INDOT, which manages more than 28,000 roadway lane miles, as well as rest areas and maintenance facilities, is deeply involved in the treatment and management of storm water runoff.

Runoff controls are essential to preventing polluted runoff from roads, highways, and bridges from reaching surface waters. Runoff control measures can effectively limit the entry of pollutants into surface waters and protect their quality, fish habitats, and public health.

INDOT controls runoff by utilizing best management practices in agency operations, and in road and facility construction and maintenance. These efforts keep pollution out of storm water runoff during construction, and during everyday operations on roadways, rest areas and maintenance facilities.

INDOT actions include:

- Regularly inspecting and maintaining agency roadway vehicles and equipment to eliminate fluid leaks that may contaminate the environment.
- Storing road salt, sand, and other materials used for winter operations in covered maintenance facilities to reduce storm water runoff pollution and reduce spillage and waste.
- Monitoring and taking efforts to minimize the amount salt and other chemicals applied to roads during winter operations to reduce over-application.
- Recycling used oil, cleaning fluids and other chemicals used for vehicle operations and maintenance.
- INDOT maintenance crews, contractors, partners and volunteers pick up litter and debris from highways, rest areas, and other transportation facilities. This helps keep pollution out of storm water runoff.
- Using the [Indiana Design Manual](#) to design storm water management systems and runoff-control measures for transportation projects. The manual outlines a process for selecting storm water management systems, which are approved to control storm water flow, treat pollutants, and when possible, mimic natural drainage patterns.
- Controlling erosion at construction sites to protect the environment and prevent erosion-related cost overruns and project delays.

- Inspecting construction areas that have a potential to discharge storm water carrying eroded soil or runoff to water bodies.
- Training contractors and field personnel on construction site storm water management.
- Requiring contractors to make a material handling and spill prevention plan for construction projects that disturb an acre or more of land. These plans help keep hazardous materials out of streams, rivers, lakes and waterways.
- Finding and eliminating spills and illicit discharges and connections to INDOT's storm water drainage system. This helps prevent pollution from reaching streams, rivers, lakes and waterways.
- Routinely inspecting and cleaning ditches, culverts, catch basins, and storm water management facilities to make sure they are working properly to control and treat runoff.

**Contact Information**

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