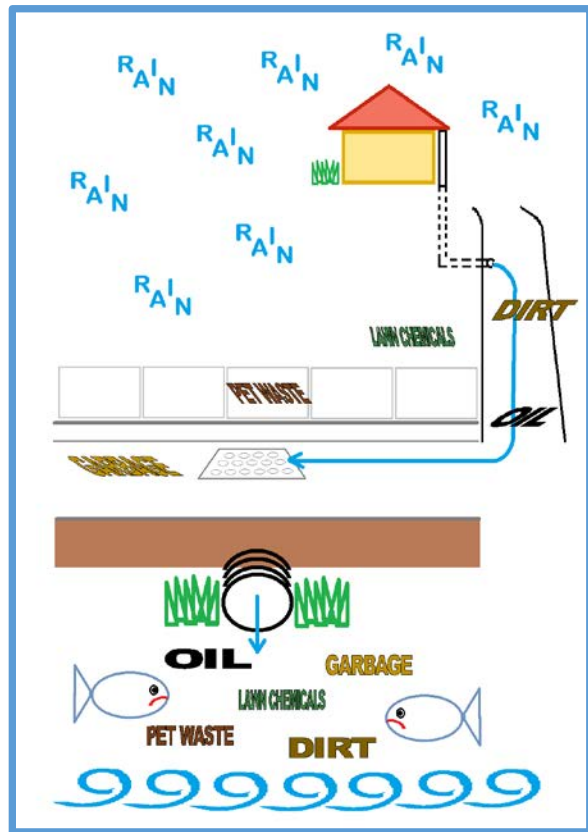


# Soak it in!

Stormwater washes over paved surfaces, collects pollution, and washes into storm drains which lead straight into our local lakes, streams and rivers. It would be much better to get stormwater to soak back into the ground.



## Pulled up Downspouts

One way to get stormwater right back into the ground is to pull up your downspouts. Instead of having runoff piped to the storm drain, water can run over a porous area and soak in.

There are some Do-It-Yourself tips at this EPA website:

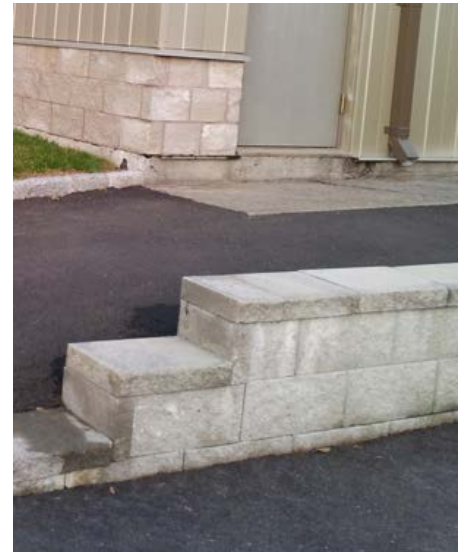
<https://www.epa.gov/soakuptherain/soak-rain-disconnect-redirect-downspouts>

Although you may try this project yourself, it is BEST to get professional advice from a Landscape Architect or Engineer. Siting of the runoff discharge point is critical. Slope of your property, proper distance from your foundation and porosity of the receiving area are just a few factors to consider. You must also not direct your runoff across a neighbor's property. Professional advice will insure that your project is a success.

## Driveway / Street Runoff



Some drain pipes run across your property right to edge, and discharge runoff directly into the street or onto the driveway. Not only does the flow pick up pollutants which go right to the storm drain, but a serious icing hazard is created in the winter. Village of Ardsley has an ordinance which prohibits this discharge due to the hazard it creates (*see 156-2 below*).



### Chapter 156: Property Maintenance

#### § 156-2 Exterior maintenance.

##### A.

...In no case shall water from any rain leader, drain, sump pump or similar devices be allowed to flow over the sidewalk, street, right-of-way or adjoining property unless permitted as part of an approved site plan.

[Amended 2-17-2015 by L.L. No. 1-2015]

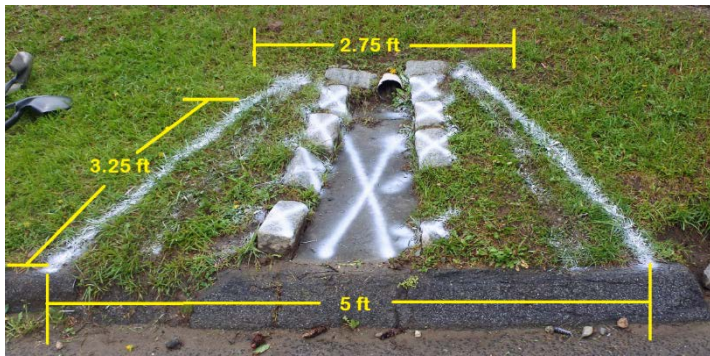
It may be possible to move the pipe outlet which is draining to the street back a little bit so that it has a chance to soak into the ground. Providing a small gravel area may help out, and will prevent the flow from scouring the lawn surface.



# McDowell Park Drain Retrofit

Ardsey High School Environmental Science Club has been doing a Stormwater Project for the Village of Ardsley every year since 2007. This year, students and their advisor, Dan Barnett, worked to install a demo drain retrofit at McDowell Park.

The dugout at Field #1 has drain pipes which run from the playing field directly to the parking lot. Drainage from one pipe was emptying onto impervious flagstone, as shown to the right.



A trapezoidal-shaped area was marked for excavation.

Students worked to remove the flagstone and several of the side wall Belgian blocks.



The rest of the marked-out area was excavated.





Excess soil was kept on site, and properly used to level off some holes near the work area. No soil pile was left over after the work.



Students backfilled the drain pit with 8 cu ft of drainage rock (KolorScape™).

Two varieties of Sedum plants (Sedum spurium 'Tricolor' & Sedum spurium 'Fulda Glow') were planted along the sides of the drain pit to landscape the project site.







The demo site will be monitored to see if most of the runoff from this pipe to the parking lot is now eliminated, and soaking back into the ground under the gravel drainage area.

**Village of Ardsley  
Stormwater Management**  
*~ thanks ~*

**Ardsley High School  
Environmental Science Club**

**Dan Barnett, Faculty Advisor  
Jallyn Boyette  
Emanuel Caceses  
Carolyn Fon  
Shannon Hurley  
Dylan McCarron**

**Village of Ardsley  
Department of Public Works**

**Rick Thompson, Foreman  
Pat Lindsay, Asst Foreman**

