



Preparing for Wet Weather

Owatonna's stormwater system is a network of open/closed conveyances, control structures, and treatment BMPs, owned and operated by both public and private entities. Efforts by both the City and individual property owners are needed to properly manage our stormwater.

What Property Owners Can Do

1. Check and clean your nearby catch basins, drains, gutters, and downspouts on a routine basis.
2. Make sure your sump pumps are properly working and consider a secondary pump, including a backup power source.
3. Make sure your private laterals are working properly and have a plumber routinely inspect them.
4. Maintain drainage easements, swales, and pathways free of debris and blockages.
5. Consider installing rain barrels, rain gardens, or simply reducing the amount of impervious surface on your property through landscaping.
6. Join the efforts through one of the City's public stormwater programs available to all residents.

What the City Does

1. Routinely cleans catch basins and sumps.
2. Inspects the stormwater system and various public/private treatment practices.
3. Routinely maintains and repairs the aging infrastructure in the most efficient and effective manner.
4. Reviews construction plans for minimum design requirements.
5. Routinely sweeps the streets clear of debris.
6. Continually seeks cost effective solutions to minimize damages from flooding.