

Monthly Stormwater Tip 12-2015

The emphasis on improving the stormwater discharges and industrial waste discharges to the waters of the nation is justified when we hear statistics such as these. The future of human and aquatic life is both adversely impacted by the current condition of our streams. Why must we continue to advocate for stormwater management?

Based on data collected in 2010, the Schuylkill River ranked as the third most polluted waterway in the state for cumulative toxic discharges, and ranked 49th in the nation.

"Potential health effects of these chemicals are fetal death, clef-lip and palate and heart abnormalities, as well as neurological, hormonal and immune system problems," according to the report.

Overall, the 49,123 miles of Pennsylvania waterways rank seventh worst in the nation for toxic pollution and the Delaware River, which is fed by the Schuylkill, ranks fifth in the nation for total toxic discharges as a result of the 2.6 million pounds that were discharged in 2010.