



**Bloomfield**

**East Hartford**

**Hartford**

**Newington**

**Rocky Hill**

**West Hartford**

**Wethersfield**

**Windsor**



## A Greener Solution to Our Environment

**Maintaining a clean, healthy environment is the backbone of the MDC's entire business. That is why we always take extra steps to improve and protect our environment – steps such as The Clean Water Project's sewer upgrade.**

We recently inspected thousands of home basements as part of the Clean Water Project's "Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Study." We used TV cameras, smoke tests, and other methods to determine which pipes need to be replaced or repaired. We want to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who let us into their homes and helped with this crucial endeavor.

Through these efforts, we realized how much "clean" water is flowing from homes into our sewers – adding to overflow, backups, and extreme wear and tear on pipes.

As homeowners, you can consider taking some of the following steps

to help reduce – or even eliminate – clean water from entering our sewers:

- Use rain barrels and other forms of rain storage
- Prepare your landscaping to better use rain for irrigation
- Disconnect gutters and sump pumps from sewers

For commercial and public spaces in your community, you can encourage "green designs" including:

- Curb gardens or vegetated strips
- Sustainable design standards for new developments, parking areas, and large buildings
- Building park storm water systems and storm water controls that mimic nature



### Editor's Note

Every day, the MDC takes steps to protect and clean our environment. In this special "Go Green" edition, we want to share important ways you too can help.

For more information on all of the MDC's environmental programs, visit [www.themdc.com](http://www.themdc.com).

For information on rain barrels, please call (860) 278-7850, ext. 3221, or e-mail [mbengtson@themdc.com](mailto:mbengtson@themdc.com).

## Saving Gallons



## Save Green by Going Green!

Summertime means pools, sprinklers, water slides, and hoses are in full use. We use water to keep lawns and gardens lush, to wash cars at home, to fill pools, and more. So it makes sense to think about using water more efficiently this summer – and help save our precious resource.



**The MDC has put together some easy tips to help you and your family save water this summer:**

SIMPLE STEP	WATER SAVED
Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks.	150 gallons or more each time
Adjust sprinklers so water lands on lawn or garden (not sidewalks or gutters).	500 gallons per month
Use a pool cover to cut down on evaporation, keep the pool cleaner and reduce the need to add chemicals.	1,000 gallons a month
Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants to slow evaporation.	750 to 1,500 gallons a month
Run only full loads in washing machine and dishwasher.	300 to 800 gallons per month
Turn off the water while brushing teeth and shaving.	180 gallons per month
Shorten your showers by one or two minutes.	Up to 700 gallons per month
Install water-saving shower heads or flow restrictors.	500 to 800 gallons per month
Rinse vegetables in a filled sink or pan.	150 to 250 gallons a month

## Source to Sea Volunteers Needed

On October 4, the MDC will participate in the 2008 CT River Watershed Council Source to Sea Clean Up, to be held at Wethersfield Cove. To volunteer or for more information, call (860) 278-7850, ext. 3221, or e-mail [mbengtson@themdc.com](mailto:mbengtson@themdc.com).

