

RUNOFF

Runoff occurs when rain water moves over the earth. When that happens, the rain water can move different materials with it. Permeable and impermeable surfaces can affect the amount of runoff that happens.



How do you think each of these areas will be affected by runoff from a large rainstorm?

The grass is a permeable surface so it will absorb any water that falls onto it. If there is fertilizer on the lawn and it rains too much, then the rainwater will move the fertilizer toward the river or the storm drain

The road is an impermeable surface and any materials will move from the road to the storm drain, which connects to a larger body of water

The city is full of impermeable surfaces and lots of cars. As soon as it rains, the stormwater will carry all the chemicals (gasoline, oil, etc) and garbage towards the closest body of water.



SoundWaters
Protecting Long Island Sound through Education