

FISH LOVE PUMP STATIONS

by Jenny Corbin

Romtec Utilities supplies, designs and installs waste water and storm water pump stations. Wastewater is generated by homes, industry and schools. Storm water runoff occurs when rain fall or snowmelt flows over parking lots and across driveways. The wastewater picks up everything in its path, eventually flowing into rivers and streams. Stormwater runoff is hazardous to fish and other aquatic life.

Here are some examples of hazardous components in storm water runoff.

Sediment – Reduces visibility in rivers and streams, impeding the ability of aquatic life to capture food. It also reduces the amount of sunlight in waterways making it hard for vegetation to grow.

Roadside Runoff - Can be potentially hazardous wastes like auto fluids or pesticides which can poison aquatic life and destroy habitat.

Roadside trash – Litter and refuse from passing cars, plastic bottles and cans.

Excess Nutrients – Can cause algae blooms, algae grow in large numbers, die and in their decomposition reduce the oxygen levels in water and kill fish.

A Romtec Utilities' Storm Water Pump Station essentially collects this "runoff" and pumps it to the waste water treatment plant. The waste water treatment plant "cleans" the water by removing the solids, reducing the organic matter and hazardous pollutants and restoring the oxygen to the water. The water can then be safely returned to the environment.

