



The Long Island Sound Office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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NEWS RELEASE

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Long Island Sound Study Announces New Posters Stressing the Importance of Reducing Pollution Around the Home

Stamford, CT, March 27, 2000 - The Environmental Protection Agency's Long Island Sound Office today released four new posters that stress the importance of reducing nonpoint source pollution at home. Pollution problems from human activities such as vehicle oil leaks, car wash soaps, overuse of lawn fertilizer, and disposal of pet waste are presented through colorful and humorous photos. The posters are being made available to the general public as part of the Long Island Sound Study's public education and outreach efforts.

"The posters present a humorous yet thought-provoking attempt to identify simple things that individuals can do to reduce nonpoint source pollution. Each time it rains, pollutants are washed off fields and farms, lawns and gardens, parking lots and driveways, into our stormwater drainage systems. These systems often lead directly, without treatment, into our rivers, lakes, oceans, and groundwater," said Mark Tedesco, Director of the EPA Long Island

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“All of these sources add up to a big pollution problem for Long Island Sound, but each of us can do our part to help clean up neighborhood rivers, streams, and the Sound.”

Each poster focuses on a common human activity and offers a brief description of the problem, simple hints on what individuals can do to prevent this kind of pollution, and a list of agency contacts where people can obtain more information. The posters were originally produced by the Washington State Department of Ecology, King County, and the cities of Bellevue, Seattle and Tacoma. The Long Island Sound Study has adapted the posters to reflect nonpoint source pollution as it affects the Sound. The set of four posters has been reprinted in three different sizes (17" x 24", 8 ½" x 11", and 4" x 9") in hopes that schools, libraries, museums, and places of business will post an appropriate size in a visible spot to spark attention and reaction.

A free set of four posters of any size is available to residents of Long Island Sound shoreline communities by calling the EPA Long Island Sound Office at (203) 977-1541 or contacting Kimberly Zimmer at the New York Sea Grant Extension office at (631) 632-9216. For more information about Long Island Sound, visit the Long Island Sound Study Web site at www.epa.gov/region01/eco/lis.