



Landowner Fact Sheet

Pavement Sealants

Excerpt from the Long Creek Watershed Management Plan (pg 47):

“To reduce the potential for transport of high levels of petroleum hydrocarbons into Long Creek, the Watershed Restoration Project should consider working with contractors that apply coal-based tar sealants to determine if materials substitution is possible. Asphalt-based sealants should be considered first for all applications within the watershed. Good housekeeping reporting should require reporting on asphalt sealing activities.”

Long Creek Watershed Management District

Implemented with
assistance from the
Cumberland County Soil
& Water Conservation
District.

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Site Management Guidelines:

Not all pavement sealants provide the same benefits. Coal-tar pavement sealants contain chemicals that are harmful to human health, wildlife, and pollute the water in Long Creek. **Use the management practices below to safely maintain your paved areas while protecting Long Creek.**

Use the Right Products

Request that your contractor **use latex or asphalt-based products** to seal cracks or large areas.

- **Coal-Tar Phase Out:** Due to hazards to human health and environmental impacts, coal-tar based sealant products have been banned. **Use is prohibited after October 1, 2024** per Maine State Law.

Spot Treat

Spot treat and seal cracks instead of sealing the entire area.

Cover Catch Basins

Always cover all catch basins and other utility infrastructure **before applying** sealant. You can use plywood, rubber mats, or other materials that the sealant will not soak through. Catch basins are part of the stormwater collection system and drain untreated to Long Creek.

Dispose of Product Correctly

Coal-tar based sealant products can be turned in at your local hazardous waste drop-off event. Contact your municipality for more details. Sealant products cannot be dumped into catch basins or ditches. Equipment cannot be cleaned on site or over catch basins.



Using latex or asphalt-based products will still give your pavement a refreshed look.



Cover all utility and catch basin infrastructure so sealant does not enter.



Catch basins are part of the stormwater collection system and drain to Long Creek.

