

WHAT IS STORMWATER?

When it rains, water runs off roofs, roadways, sidewalks and lawns picking up oil, metals, salts, pet waste, fertilizer, grass clippings and other materials. Stormwater runoff ultimately flows into storm drains, which lead directly to our local rivers and streams.

HOW DOES LANDSCAPING & LAWN CARE CONTRIBUTE TO STORMWATER POLLUTION?

- Fertilizer and pesticide applications.
- Gas, oil, and lubricant leaks from lawn equipment.
- Excessive and or misdirected watering leading to surface runoff.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP): Behaviors and practices used by individuals to prevent or reduce stormwater pollution impacts.



SAVE WATER



Be sure sprinklers are not watering the cement and are turned off during rain events.



TEST



Always perform a soil test before fertilizer addition.



MULCH



Mulch leaves and grass clippings into the lawn to add nutrients and control weeds.



CLEAN UP



After fertilizer or pesticide application be sure to sweep any excess from sidewalks and driveways back onto the lawn, to keep chemicals out of storm drains.



GO NATIVE



Establish a buffer zone along shorelines and streambanks using native vegetation.



MAINTENANCE



Be sure lawn equipment is properly maintained, running efficiently and not leaking.



MOW HIGH



Never cut more than 1/3 the height of grass. Leaving grass longer allows for strong root development and less room for weeds.