



# CRWC

CLINTON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL



## LANDSCAPING & LAWN CARE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP'S)

When rain falls and snow melts, the runoff produced picks up a variety of contaminants such as oil, metals, salts, pet waste, fertilizer, and grass clippings as it flows over roofs, roadways, sidewalks and lawns.

Stormwater runoff ultimately flows into storm drains.

**Remember: storm drains lead directly to our local rivers and streams.**

### HOW DOES LANDSCAPING AND LAWN CARE CONTRIBUTE TO STORMWATER POLLUTION?

- Fertilizer and pesticide applications impact the ecosystem.
- Gas, oil and lubricant leaks from lawn equipment can pollute runoff.
- Excessive and or misdirected watering leads to surface runoff.

### BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP):

Behaviors and practices used by individuals and businesses 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



Plant native plants, especially along shorelines and streambanks, to improve water quality.



#### 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.

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