

## **Solutions to Stormwater Pollution**

As a resident, business or other member of the New Jersey community, it is important to know these easy things you can do every day to protect our water.

### **Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides.**

Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.

If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions of the label on how to correctly apply it.

Make sure you properly store or discard any unused portions.

Consider using native or well adopted vegetation that requires little or no fertilization.

For more information on fertilizer use, identification and soil testing, contact the local agriculture service. A copy of the *Citizen's Guide to Pest Control and Pesticide Safety*, and other information on pesticide control and use can be found on the Pesticide Control Program of New Jersey's Web site at [www.pcpnj.org](http://www.pcpnj.org).

### **Properly use and dispose of hazardous products.**

Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints, solvents, fluorescent lights, battery acid, engine cleaner and degreasers.

Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local waterbodies and the water is not treated.

Recycle used motor oil.

Additional information on household hazardous wastes (including information on each county's hazardous waste collection programs) may be found at the Association of New Jersey Household Hazardous Waste Coordinators Web site at:

<http://www.njhazwaste.com/index.htm>.

### **Don't litter.**

Place litter in trash receptacles

Recycle, Recycle, Recycle.

## **Dispose of yard waste properly.**

Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains.

## **Don't feed wildlife!**

Do not feed wildlife, such as deer, ducks and geese.

## **Clean up after your pet!**

Always clean up after your pet and never discard pet waste in a storm drain.

## **Recommended Individual Activities**

Wash your vehicle only when necessary – consider using a commercial car wash that recycles its wash water. If you wash your car at home use a non-phosphate detergent and wash it on the lawn. This will help prevent detergents and car grime from entering the drain and ending up in our waterways.

Service your vehicle regularly – this will prevent oils and other fluids from leaking onto the pavement so they don't wash into the storm drains.

Don't pour motor oil, antifreeze or other chemicals down the sink or on the ground – dispose of them on collection days or recycle them by taking them to a local public or private recycling center. One quart of motor oil dumped down a storm drain can create a two-acre oil slick.

Compost leaves and grass clippings, or leave them on the lawn – this will return valuable nutrients to the soil and result in lower fertilization requirements.

Use environmentally responsible, phosphate free cleaning products.

For more information regarding keeping our waterways clean, go to [www.cleanwaternj.org](http://www.cleanwaternj.org).

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