



PICK-UP AFTER YOUR DOG

*Dog waste carries high levels of harmful **E. coli bacteria** and other pathogens, and is a major contributor to local water pollution.*

- Pick up the poop! Always carry a **plastic bag** when you walk your dog, and dispose of pet waste in a **trash can**.

LAWN & GARDEN

- Choose **organic lawn chemicals** whenever possible.

Use lawn chemicals sparingly and never use more than the directions call for.

- Sweep up **dry chemical spills** and dispose in trash.
- Don't pile **yard waste** near streams, wetlands, or stormdrains.
- Start a **compost pile**.
- Don't allow irrigation to **spray onto pavement**. Water that ends up on the pavement contributes to polluted runoff, and is wasted.
- Make sure that your **landscaper / irrigation contractor** follows rules for preventing stormwater runoff.
- Redirect **downspouts** toward grassy areas, trees and shrubs, so that runoff from your roof can soak into the ground.
- Use **pervious materials** in landscape designs. Bricks, pavers and stones allow water to slowly filter into the ground.
- Set a **rain barrel** under your downspout to capture water for another use.
- Plant **rain gardens** to help filter and soak up water before it runs onto the street.

HOMES / BUSINESSES

- Use the **least toxic** products available for cleaning, etc.
 - Avoid **liquid chemical spills** such as oil, gasoline, antifreeze, paint, etc. on paved areas.
- If a liquid chemical spill occurs, clean with rags or absorbent material such as **sand or kitty litter**. Sweep up absorbents and dispose of in the trash.*
- Never use a **hose** to wash down the driveway or sidewalk. This washes pollutants into storm drains, and is a waste of water.
 - Dispose of household hazardous waste through your local DPW / **Household Hazardous Waste Program**.
 - Never pour **washwater or chemicals** down stormdrains.

- Store chemicals in **leak proof containers** inside a building or shed, or under cover, away from rainwater.
- Avoid oversalting** walkways and driveways in the winter, and use non-toxic products whenever possible.
- Sweep up all **construction areas** on a regular basis and dispose of debris in the trash.

WASHING CARS AND BOATS

- Park your vehicle in a spot where the soap will run off onto **grass**, rather than into the street and down the stormdrain. If practical, park your vehicle on your lawn when washing it.
- Use **organic or mild soaps** and detergents.
- Never clean or pressure wash the **undercarriage of a car** at home. The oil, grease and other pollutants from this activity can contaminate shallow groundwater.
- Always use a **hose nozzle with a trigger**, and shut it off when you're not using it to conserve water.
- Skip the home treatment and **wash your car professionally**, but use a car wash that recycles its water!

AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR

- Store automotive parts, such as batteries, engines, transmissions, and parts that may have oily or greasy residue on them, under cover and off the ground, to **minimize rainwater contact**. Rainwater can wash pollutants off these parts and into stormdrains.
- Collect all used oil, antifreeze, and other vehicle fluids in containers with tight fitting lids and **recycle at a local service station**.

SWIMMING POOLS AND HOT TUBS

- Never **discharge pool water** directly into a storm drain.
- Dechlorinate pool, hot tub or spa water with **neutralizing chemicals**, if water is to be discharged into the ground. If water cannot be dechlorinated, it must be collected by a pool maintenance company.

For more information on hazardous waste disposal, call your local Department of Public Works.

For more information on reducing stormwater pollution, visit www.neponsetstormwater.org

