



Town of Ballston Stormwater Management A Homeowner's Guide To Healthy Habits for Clean Water

- Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks and roads. Avoid application if the forecast calls for rain.
- Never dump anything down storm drains including: cleaners, beauty products, medicine, auto fluids, paint, lawn care products, grease, diapers, condoms, feminine hygiene products, motor oil and photographic chemicals.
- Vegetate bare spots in your yard with native plants and grasses.
- Compost your yard waste. Cover mulch and dirt being used in landscaping projects to prevent being blown or washed away.
- Don't overwater your lawn and water during the cool time of the day.
- Avoid pesticides and learn about Integrated Pest Management.
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces.
- Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway.
- Check car and other machinery for leaks and spills. Clean up spilled fluids with an absorbent material like kitty litter or sand, and properly dispose of the absorbent material.
- Recycle motor oil at participating service stations.
- Pick up after your pet.
- Have your septic tank pumped every 3 –5 years and system inspected regularly, every 3 years.
- Properly store pool and spa chemicals to prevent leaks and spills preferably in a covered area.
- Care for your septic system drainfield by not driving or parking vehicles on it. Plant only grass over and near the drainfield to avoid damage from roots.
- Before beginning an outdoor project, locate the nearest storm drains and protect them from debris and other material.
- Purchase and use nontoxic, biodegradable, recycled, and recyclable products whenever possible.