

# Solutions To Stormwater Pollution

## Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides

- Do a soil test to see if you need fertilizer.
- Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted.
- Look into alternatives for pesticides.
- Maintain a small lawn & keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees & other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer.
- If you use fertilizer & pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply it. Make sure you properly store or discard any unused portions.

## Properly use & dispose of hazardous products



- Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn & garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze & paints.
- Do not pour any hazardous products down storm drain because storm drains are connected to local water bodies & the water is not treated.
- If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance.
- Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible.
- Recycle used motor oil.
- Contact your municipality, county or facility management office for the locations of hazardous waste disposal facilities.

## Keep pollution out of storm drains

- Municipalities & many other public agencies are required to mark certain storm drain inlets with messages reminding people that storm drains are connected to local water bodies.
- Do not let sewage or other waste flow into a stormwater system.

## Clean up after your pet

- Many municipalities & public agencies must enact & enforce local pet-waste rules.
- An example is requiring pet owners or their keepers to pick up & properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or other people's property.
- Make sure you know your town's or agency's requirements & comply with them. It's the law & remember to:
- Use newspaper, bags or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes.
- Dispose of the wrapped pet waste in the trash or un-wrapped in a toilet.
- Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.



## Don't feed wildlife

- Do not feed wildlife, such as ducks & geese in public areas.
- Many municipalities & other public agencies must enact & enforce a rule that prohibits wildlife feeding in these areas.

## Don't litter

- Place litter in trash receptacles.
- Recycle. Recycle. Recycle.
- Participate in community cleanups.

## Dispose of yard waste properly

- Keep leaves & grass out of storm drains.
- If your municipality or agency has yard waste collection rules, follow them.
- Use leaves & grass clippings as a resource for compost.
- Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn.



## Contact Information

For more information on stormwater related topics, visit [www.njstormwater.org](http://www.njstormwater.org) or [www.nonpointsource.org](http://www.nonpointsource.org). Additional information is also available at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Web sites; [www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater) or [www.epa.gov/nps](http://www.epa.gov/nps).  
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; (609) 633-7021