



LAWN CARE

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

How Does Grass Pollute Our Waterways?

Storm drains are not connected to sanitary sewer and treatment plants, which means they empty directly into waterways. The purpose of storm drains are to transport rainwater away from roads, parking lots and properties to prevent flooding. Rainwater runoff can contain pollutants, oil, fertilizers, and anything on paved surfaces that can flow into the storm drain. Grass clippings contain phosphorus which is a nutrient that promotes algae growth when carried into a lake or river. Too much algae growth is detrimental to aquatic life, and negatively affects water quality. It is important we as residents do our part to try and prevent this from happening.



How Can You Help?

- ❖ Leave grass clippings on the lawn & sweep up clippings if they go onto the street
- ❖ Sharpen mower blades every 1 to 3 years
- ❖ Direct grass clippings away from streets, driveways, sidewalks and other paved areas
- ❖ Use phosphorus free fertilizer OR ensure you are applying at the correct time of year

Benefits of Grass Clippings

- ❖ Lawns mowed higher are more competitive against weeds, withstand heat better and need less watering
- ❖ Leaving grass clippings on your lawn acts as a fertilizer
- ❖ Clippings are majority water, saving you money by reducing watering and use of chemical fertilizers