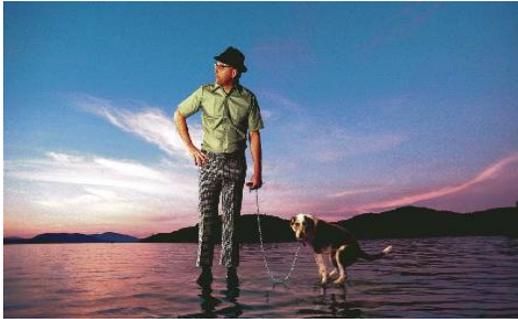


Stormwater pollution originates from many and varied sources. Examples of these pollutant sources are failing septic systems, lawn fertilizers and pesticides, eroded soil, road runoff, and even grass clippings and leaves. Here are a few ways to help prevent Stormwater pollution where you live.

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD...

- Don't litter. What you toss in the gutter eventually ends up in your stream.
- Pick up and properly dispose of pet wastes.



- Conserve water. Use water saving and low flow water conservation devices and appliances. Direct sprinkler water off of hard surfaces.
- Use non-phosphorus and biodegradable cleaners, detergents and wash products.
- Wash your car on the grass instead of the driveway. Use commercial car washes

that have water filtering devices for their wash water.

- Properly maintain your septic system. Pump it out once every 3 to 5 years.

AROUND THE YARD...

- Landscape your yard to reduce runoff.
- Prevent soil erosion by vegetating slopes and bare spots.
- Direct downspouts from your house into a rain barrel for reuse or towards vegetated areas to allow for filtration of pollutants.



- Landscape your yard with native plants that don't need a lot of water, fertilizer, or pesticides to remain healthy.
- Use natural pest repellents such as marigolds, garlic and herbs as part of your landscape design.
- Erect birdhouses. Many songbirds function as natural pest controls.

- Maintain a well vegetated, natural buffer between the edge of your lawn and a lake or stream.
- Compost grass clippings and leaves. Don't dispose of them in drainage ditches or blow them into the street.

AROUND THE HOUSE...

Oven cleaners, insecticides, paint thinner, etc. are examples of household hazardous wastes. Listed below are more environmentally friendly substitutes.



- A mixture of equal parts vinegar and water makes a very good glass cleaner.
- Make a paste of baking soda and water to clean your oven and stove.
- Furniture polish can be made from 1 part lemon juice and 2 parts vegetable oil.

- Equal parts boric acid and powdered sugar make a substitute ant and roach killer.
- Sprinkle baking soda on carpets and then vacuum - it's a natural deodorizer and cleaner.



- Control mosquitoes by eliminating standing water around your yard. Plant mint and use citronella and pennyroyal oil as mosquito repellents. Erect a purple martin house.
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- For more information go to: http://eartheasy.com/live_nontoxic_solutions.htm

PROPER MANAGEMENT OF HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS

- Household hazardous waste should never be discarded in the trash or poured down the drain. Instead, find out when your town or county is sponsoring a Hazardous Waste Clean Up Day and take any such materials there for proper disposal.
- Forsyth County residents may recycle many household hazardous waste products at the 3RC EnviroStation. Call (336)784-4300 for more information.



- Take used motor oil to a recycling station. Never pour it down a storm sewer or onto the ground. This can contaminate both the surface water and groundwater.
- Don't wash your car or boat where detergents and oil can easily run into a lake or stream.
- Closely monitor fuel usage from underground storage tanks and aboveground storage tanks to ensure they are not leaking.
- Clean up spilled antifreeze and motor oil. Don't hose them into the street or storm drain.

REPORT STREAM PROBLEMS

If you have questions or notice a pollution problem in a stream in Forsyth County, call us at 703-2440. We will investigate the problem or direct you to the appropriate agency where needed. You may also go to our website at www.forsyth.cc/EAP to report a problem or concern.

PROTECT YOUR LOCAL STREAMS



REDUCE WATER POLLUTION FROM YOUR HOUSE AND YARD



Provided by
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