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CLINTON

STORM WATER POLLUTION

Get involved to reduce storm water pollution

STORM WATER POLLUTION



Disposal of Household Hazardous Materials

Many products found in the home contain chemical ingredients that are potentially harmful to people and the environment. Detergents add phosphates to water resources through wastewater. One drop of oil can pollute one hundred gallons of water. Use no-phosphate soaps and detergents and dispose of used oils at approved recycling/collection sites.

Proper Use of Landscape and Garden Chemicals

Lawn and garden activities can result in contamination of storm water through pesticide, soil, and fertilizer runoff. When too much fertilizer is applied to lawns and gardens, it can pollute water or cause damage to lawns. Store and dispose of chemicals and their containers properly.

WHAT do litter, used oil, pet waste, and excess fertilizer all have in common? They can all be washed into a local stream during a rainstorm, possibly impairing its ecological health. Other typical urban storm water pollutants include sediment, excess pesticides, grease, trace metals, pathogens, and thermal increases. The City of Clinton encourages the citizens to take steps to reduce the amount of polluted runoff that reaches neighboring streams, but, **what can you do to reduce or prevent storm water pollution?** Here are some ways you can get involved:

Septic Tank Maintenance

All individual septic tanks require some form of maintenance. One of the worst mistakes the homeowner can make is to forget its there. To avoid problems, homeowners should establish and maintain a pump-out schedule and avoid excessive demands (long showers, several loads of laundry in one day, leaky faucets) on the system.

Backyard Conservation

Backyard conservation helps the environment and can make your backyard more attractive and enjoyable. Common practices such as composting, mulching, nutrient management, pest management, tree planting and water conservation help beautify the landscape and encourage wildlife habitat.

Storm Drainage

Storm drains are designed to carry off water from storm events. Drains will not function properly if clogged with debris such as leaves, pine straw and trash. Keep curbs clear of trash and debris from yards for proper drainage and pollution prevention. Things put in storm drains go directly to the river without treatment.

Protecting Riparian Vegetation

Riparian zones are areas of land that adjoin, influence or are influenced by a body of water. Riparian zones are essential for healthy habitat. Keeping stream banks and ditches clear of building materials and trash is essential to healthy riparian zones.

Be Informed:

To learn more about preventing storm water pollution, go to the city's website at www.clintonms.org and choose the link to the Economic Development then Community Development page. There you can download the current city Storm Water Management Plan, find out where to take household hazardous waste, follow links to related websites, and find other useful information.

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