

3



LAWN CARE

Excess fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawns and gardens wash off and pollute streams. In addition, yard clippings and leaves can wash into storm drains and contribute nutrients and organic matter to streams.

Don't overwater your lawn. Consider using a soaker hose instead of a sprinkler. Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly. When use is necessary, use these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Use organic mulch or safer pest control methods whenever possible. Also, compost or mulch yard waste — don't leave it in the street or sweep it into storm drains or streams. And, where possible, cover piles of dirt or mulch being used in landscaping projects.



A Best Management Practice (BMP) is defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a technique, measure or structural control that is used for a given set of conditions to manage and improve the quality of stormwater runoff efficiently and cost-effectively. Stormwater runoff management is an essential component of our Regional Stormwater Management Program. *(Source: EPA)*



For more information on **WVSA** and its **services**
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Business Office: | **Sanitary & Stormwater**
570-820-9872 | **Divisions: 570-825-3416**

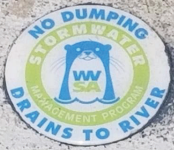
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6 BEST STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PRACTICES *for Residents*



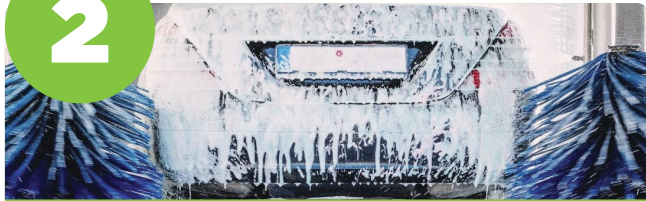
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PUBLIC OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Outreach and education help influence and change people's behavior. Signs and markers near storm drains caution residents that pollutants entering the drains will be carried untreated into a local waterway.

2



AUTO CARE

Washing your car and degreasing auto parts at home can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system. Dumping automotive fluids into storm drains has the same result as dumping the materials directly into a waterbody.

Use a commercial car wash that treats or recycles its wastewater, or wash your car on your yard so the water infiltrates into the ground. Repair leaks and dispose of used auto fluids and batteries at designated drop-off or recycling locations.

4



PET WASTE

Pet waste can be a major source of bacteria and excess nutrients in local waters. When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it properly. Flushing pet waste is the best disposal method. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local waterways.

5



RECYCLING

Recycle or properly dispose of household products that contain chemicals, such as insecticides, pesticides, paint, solvents, and used auto fluids. Don't pour them onto the ground or into storm drains.

6



LANDSCAPING

Permeable pavement: Traditional concrete and asphalt don't allow water to soak into the ground. However, permeable pavement systems allow rain and snowmelt to soak through, decreasing stormwater runoff.

Rain Barrels: You can collect rainwater from rooftops in mosquito-proof rain barrels. The water can be used on lawn or garden areas.

Rain Gardens and Grassy Swales: Specially designed areas planted with native plants can provide natural places for rainwater to collect and soak into the ground. Rain from rooftop or paved areas can be diverted here rather than into storm drains.

Vegetated Filter Strips: Filter strips are areas of native grass or plants created along roadways or streams. They trap the pollutants stormwater picks up as it flows across driveways and streets.