

# STORMWATER SMART LAWN CARE



When water from rain, snow, or sleet flows over the ground, it's called "stormwater." Stormwater can pick up debris, litter, fertilizer, and pesticides used for lawn care. And when that stormwater flows into street gutters, storm drains, and downstream, it can pollute rivers, lakes, and streams. Follow these simple pollution solutions to help keep local waterways clean and healthy!



## DON'T MOW TOO LOW

Only remove 1/3 of the grass blade height and leave clippings on lawn to allow nutrients to return to the soil—they act as a natural fertilizer!



## CAREFUL WITH CHEMICALS

Read the label when applying pesticides and fertilizers, use them sparingly, and avoid applying them to pavement. When there is rain in the forecast, any chemicals you apply can wash downstream.



## ONLY RAIN IN THE DRAIN

Don't rake, sweep, or hose debris down the storm drains. Leaves, yard clippings, and trash can clog storm pipes, causing floods and polluted waterways.



## CURB YOUR WATER WASTE

Direct sprinklers toward the lawn and away from pavement to save water and keep chemicals and debris out of storm drains. Check out [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more tips to save water!

