

--Town Notes February/March 2008

Residents can help prevent contamination of our streams and waterways by ensuring they don't pollute their property, and in turn, what is washed by precipitation into storm water pipes and our waterways.

- Maintain your vehicle so it does not leak oil or other fluids.
- Reduce your use of pesticides and fertilizers and other yard chemicals.
- Compost your yard debris.
- Garden with native plants, and construct a 'rain garden' to collect runoff from your gutters and paved areas.
- Allow chlorine to dissipate from pool or hot tub water prior to any draining process which would release the water into natural swales or drainage ways.
- Control any erosion and prevent sediment from leaving your property and entering the storm drain system, taking extra care during do-it-yourself construction projects.
- Plant more shrubbery and trees on your property. This practice not only improves air quality but also improves water quality by absorbing storm water and reducing the rate of storm event runoff. Water your plants with water you have collected from your roof drains into a rain barrel. .

Thank you for your help in keeping pollutants out of the storm water.

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