

HOME & GARDEN



Yard waste and household toxics such as paints, solvents, and pesticides often make their way into the Chittenden County storm drain system and **DO NOT GET TREATED** before reaching Lake Champlain. These wastes make our waters unhealthy and unsafe for people and wildlife.

Follow these practices to help prevent stormwater pollution...

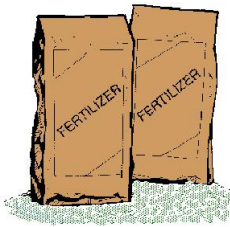
In Your Home...

Household products such as paints, paint thinners, drain openers, motor oil, wood polishes, insecticides & herbicides, oven cleaners, and many other general cleaners frequently get dumped on the ground, or into a gutter, street or storm drain. Instead of polluting our stormwaters, take these items to a household hazardous waste collection facility. Call **872-8111** for a facility in your area.



Fertilizers and Pesticides...

Fertilizers and pesticides are often carried into our storm drains by sprinkler runoff. To minimize stormwater pollution, use organic or non-toxic pesticides and fertilizers as directed, and keep them away from ditches, gutters and storm drains. Store them in a covered area, off the ground, to prevent contact with water. For additional gardening questions, call Vermont Master Gardener at **1-800-639-2230**.



For more information, call your city or town offices or go online: **www.smartwaterways.org**

Regional Stormwater Education Program

Trimmin' the Garden...

Decaying organic materials that enter our storm drains, such as grass, leaves, yard clippings, and pet waste, will use up oxygen in nearby streams, stressing aquatic life. Prevent stormwater pollution by not blowing, sweeping, raking or hosing yard waste into the street, gutter, or storm drain. Alternatively, leave grass clippings on your lawn after mowing, or compost your clippings and yard waste.



Pet waste should not be composted, but rather disposed of in the trash to prevent the potential spread of diseases.

Planting In The Yard

Produce less yard waste and save water by planting low maintenance trees and shrubs. Also, conserve water and minimize unwanted runoff by using drip irrigation, soaker hoses, or micro-spray systems to water vegetation.



Chittenden County