

## DID YOU KNOW ?

Every time it rains, thousands of gallons of storm water runoff enters the storm drain system.

It can carry debris, chemicals, dirt & other pollutants that come from lawns, driveways, and streets, or are dumped directly to storm drains.

This runoff is discharged untreated into the waterbodies that we use for swimming & fishing and can eventually affect drinking water supplies.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP ?

- Never dump anything down storm drains.
- Keep lawn debris out of streets.
- Use pesticides & fertilizers sparingly.
- Vegetate or mulch bare spots.
- Keep soil from leaving construction sites.
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces to "green areas".
- Wash personal vehicles at a commercial car wash or over the lawn.
- Wash commercial vehicles & equipment where wash water is treated.
- Check motors for leaks. Make repairs.
- Dispose of used auto fluids at designated collection or recycling locations.
- Properly dispose of excess paints through collection programs.
- Have your septic tank pumped & system inspected regularly.
- Pick up pet waste. Scoop, Bag, & Trash it.
- Volunteer with organizations for clean-ups, tree planting, & landscaping activities.



## References

**Rain Garden Manual**—contact the Washington Soil & Water Conservation 740-885-3312

**Rain Barrels**— contact the Washington Soil & Water Conservation 740-885-3312

**Soil Testing**—contact the Washington Soil & Water Conservation 740-885-3312

**Recycle Disposal List**—contact the Washington Soil & Water Conservation 740-885-3312

**Greenleaf Landscape Inc.**(for lawn debris disposal) Greenlandscapes.com

**Lawn Care**—www.cityofbelpre.com, public works dept., storm water or contact the Washington Soil & Water Conservation 740-885-3312

**Codified Ordinances** —  
www.cityofbelpre.com, Online Resources: Codified Ordinances, Part Five, Chapter 521.15. (references no grass deposited into a drainage structure) Chapter 557.02 (references cutting required).

**Hire your Lawn Care?** - Please provide this brochure to your lawn care provider.

### For more Information:

www.cityofbelpre.com

Public Works Dept., Storm Water Runoff

or call

Washington Soil and Water  
Conservation District  
740-885-3312



## Guidelines

for

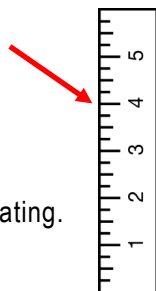
## Residents & Businesses



Tel: 740-423-7592  
Fax: 740-423-4967  
www.cityofbelpre.com

## Mow High

- Long grass = strong grass,
  - ⇒ Make it work for you!
  - ⇒ 4 inches is good.
- Prevent weed seeds from germinating.
- Grow deeper roots.
- Absorb & filter more rainfall.
- Reduce runoff.



## Clippings

- Sweep, discharge, or blow back to the lawn.
  - ⇒ Your grass loves the extra nutrients & organic matter.
  - ⇒ Consider a mulching mower.
- Don't discard to:
  - ⇒ Streets, Storm Drains, Ditches, Streams, or River Banks.
  - ⇒ Avoid a fine & clean up cost. (see *Codified Ordinances 521.15 & 557.02*)
- Compost or take to Greenleaf Compost Farm.
  - ⇒ Go to Greenleaf Garden Center @ 414 Muskingum Dr., Marietta for a permit slip.
  - ⇒ Proceed to Greenleaf Compost Farm @ 800 SR 821, Marietta.
  - ⇒ (trash free please)



## Fertilizers & Pesticides

- Use sparingly. Waste not—Pollute not.
- Follow manufacture's guidelines.
- Avoid using near water or storm drains.
- Pesticides:
  - ⇒ Choose the right one.
  - ⇒ Identify the need.
- Fertilizing:
  - ⇒ Use when growing—spring or fall.
  - ⇒ Fall is best for vigorous roots.
  - ⇒ Consider soil testing first.
  - ⇒ Try phosphorus—free.



## Leaves

- Mulch into your grass using a mulching mower.
- Compost or take to Greenleaf Compost Farm
  - ⇒ Go to Greenleaf Garden Center @414 Muskingum Dr., Marietta for a permit slip.
  - ⇒ Proceed to Greenleaf Compost Farm @ 800 SR 821, Marietta.
  - ⇒ (trash free please)



## Water

- Rainwater is much better for plants / lawn.
- Consider a covered Rain Barrel for storage.
- Be efficient—try a soaker hose.
- Direct downspouts to "green areas".
- During drought:
  - ⇒ Lawns will go dormant.
  - ⇒ Grass will grow again with rain.
- Stream bank erosion?
  - ⇒ Avoid mowing close to the water's edge.
  - ⇒ Try stream side plantings or rip rap.

## Landscaping

- Mulch & seed bare spots.
- Consider more trees & shrubs.
  - ⇒ Great for your health.
  - ⇒ Roots hold soil.
- Wet areas? Consider a Rain Garden.
- Reduce erosion.
  - ⇒ Try a stream buffer zone of uncut grass or vegetation.
  - ⇒ Avoid mowing short on slopes.

