

STORMWATER POLLUTION EDUCATION: LAWN MAINTENANCE



A major contributor to stormwater pollution is traced back to residual excess from lawn care maintenance, particularly with fertilizers and lawn clippings.

Here are some tips to follow when maintaining your lawn to help prevent stormwater pollution.

FERTILIZERS AND CHEMICALS



- Lawn care chemicals often wind up washing right into local waters. The excess nutrients from fertilizers can cause drinking water contamination, algal blooms, and fish kills. The contaminants from pesticides can result in waters that are not fishable or drinkable.
- If you must fertilize, use organic, slow-release, and phosphorus-free fertilizers. These fertilizers are less detrimental to the environment.

- Stop pollutants from making their way into the storm drain by avoiding over-watering and avoiding fertilizing before a rainstorm.
- If any lawn chemicals or yard debris get on the sidewalk or driveway, sweep them back onto the lawn to prevent them from washing into storm drains.

LAWN CLIPPINGS AND YARD WASTE

- Mow high and leave grass clippings on the lawn. It helps improve the lawn's health and quality, and you're less likely to need fertilizer.
- If you decide to pick up grass clippings and other yard waste, make sure it is properly disposed of. Yard waste can wash into storm drains, adding harmful nutrients to streams and water bodies.



Contact Us:
Dover Highway Department
508.785.0058