

# Stormwater Pollution and Yard Waste

## Tips for stormwater management on your property

### DID YOU KNOW:

- Yard debris, including leaves and other organic plant material like shrubbery trimmings and grass clippings, are a significant source of stormwater pollution. This debris can clog culverts, storm drains, and pipes, causing flooding.
- Debris can carry fertilizers and pesticides from your yard and deposit them in streams and ponds.
- Piles of leaves and grass clippings will overload a stream's ability to process leaf litter, causing nutrient pollution and oxygen depletion.

It is easy to do your part to protect our streams and the drainage systems leading to our waterways:



- 1 Do not pile leaves or other yard waste near streams or drainage channels** where they can blow or wash into creeks. Use designated leaf collection bags for curbside leaf recycling.

- 2 Do not blow leaves or grass clippings off your property** into streets, streams, ponds, or drainage swales.



- 3 Recycle grass clippings and their nutrients on your lawn.** Use a mulching lawnmower to recycle remaining leaves into your lawn in the fall!

- 4 Compost leaves and grass clippings along with yard waste.** Select a location removed from streams, ponds, and wetlands.

