

DO YOUR PART TO KEEP OUR STREAMS CLEAN

THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF LIVING NEXT TO A STREAM



Encourage native plants and trees along bank

- Shrubs, trees and deep-rooted grasses stabilize the soil along stream banks
- Using plants native to your area provide natural food and shelter for wildlife
- Provides a buffer that reduces sediment and chemicals from storm water runoff



Mow grass to the water's edge

- Turf grass doesn't have a strong enough root system to support the soils and prevent erosion
- No buffer areas means runoff is not filtered or slowed down



Maintain good car washing practices

- Use a commercial car wash, if possible
- Wash your car in a grassed or gravel area instead of the driveway
- Use biodegradable detergents and solvents
- Dispose of wash water properly, not in the storm drain



Dump anything in the stream

- Any items discarded, even organic material could be detrimental to ecosystem and flow
- Grass and leaves reduce oxygen in the water as they decompose and cause odors
- Make sure fertilizers are used correctly on lawns, and never used within buffer zones



Remove trash from stream area

- Trash is unsightly and unsafe for people and wildlife
- Regularly remove garbage, glass, tires and other litter from the stream and buffer zone
- Educate others about the dangers of littering



Change the path of the stream

- Removing rocks or gravel from the streambed can ruin the wildlife ecosystem
- Never create dams or change the flow of the water, as increased erosion could occur
- Let nature takes its course naturally