

# GRASS CLIPPINGS ARE STORMWATER POLLUTANTS

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**KEEP GRASS CLIPPINGS AND YARD WASTE OUT OF THE STREET AND GUTTERS**  
*PLEASE DO NOT BLOW GRASS CLIPPINGS INTO THE STREET*

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Yard waste is a major source of pollution in surface waters. That is because it is filled with phosphorous — both artificial and naturally occurring — that feeds algae. Algal blooms can cause health problems for humans and wildlife and create some unsightly and foul-smelling water bodies.

## PLEASE REMEMBER

The only thing that should be going into storm drains is **water from rain and melting snow**.

## BASIC FACTS ABOUT STORMWATER PONDS

- Stormwater ponds are used in an area where land is altered, and additional runoff is generated due to a reduction in permeable surface.
- Ponds that are in neighborhoods or backyards generally serve a larger area than just the adjacent properties, by means of collecting street runoff with underground pipes and directing all the runoff from a development or neighborhood to one location.
- The ponds help to treat stormwater and water quality (pollutants within the water). This is based on federal, state, and local regulations. The overall goal of these regulations is to help protect our natural resources and to prevent downstream impacts.
- The main purpose of ponds is to help control and treat stormwater. They are not intended for aesthetics but can serve this purpose as an added benefit.
- Ponds are inspected on a regular basis (every 5 years, or as needed) to ensure functionality. The inlets, outlets, depth, and other attributes are reviewed to confirm that they are working properly.

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Property owners that are directly adjacent to these ponds are asked to

## LEAVE A 10 FOOT BUFFER AROUND THE POND

*This buffer helps to slow down water, catching sediment,  
fertilizer, and other types of runoff/contaminants.*

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- **STORMWATER PONDS ARE NOT INTENDED FOR RECREATIONAL USE.** The contaminants collected in these areas are not suited for swimming.

Working together and understanding the purpose for stormwater ponds  
helps protect the environment and benefits neighborhoods.