



All storm drains in Purcellville empty untreated into local streams, specifically Goose Creek and South Fork Catoctin Creek.



These streams then flow into the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean.



Pollutants dumped down storm drains contaminate the storm water, and fertilizer washed from our yards during storms contributes to algae blooms. These blooms deplete oxygen levels in the water and block sunlight. As a result, aquatic plants and wildlife (such as fish) **CANNOT BREATHE!**



Owls and other animals eating contaminated insects and rodents become sick.



Thousands of fish die due to lack of oxygen from algae blooms or a contaminated food supply. Decaying fish then continue to contaminate our streams, lakes, and the Chesapeake Bay.

Chemical pollution of Purcellville's local waterways is a growing problem. Help prevent the contamination of our local streams due to uninformed dumping of chemicals down storm drains.

**“NO DUMPING”
MARKERS IN
PURCELLVILLE**



A LOCAL GIRL SCOUT'S GOLD AWARD PROJECT



HOW YOU CAN HELP!

- Do **NOT** dump chemicals and yard waste down storm drains!



- Dispose of used motor oil, auto fluids, and other household hazardous waste through the local Hazardous Waste collection program or at a local oil disposal station.

- Wash your car at a commercial carwash or in a location where soapy water **WILL NOT** run into a storm drain (such as on your lawn).

- Direct sprinklers away from streets and sidewalks to prevent grass clippings and oil from washing into storm drains.

- Avoid excess fertilizer or pesticide use and “Fertilize in the Fall... If at All” (September and October)



- Sweep up dirt, grass clippings, and yard waste instead of washing them down your driveway into the gutter (Clippings clog storm drains, causing backups and flooding).



- Instead, recycle clippings in brown, paper yard waste bags that can be found at your local hardware store.
- Or use a mulching mower and leave clippings on your lawn: they will provide 25% of your fertilizer needs.

- Pet waste left on the ground contains bacteria, parasites, and viruses that breed in and contaminate water, endangering both human and animal health.

So... **PICK IT UP!**



IT'S NOT THE SAME AS FERTILIZER!

- With more than 1/2 million dogs in Northern Virginia, a few ounces of poop per day adds to **MORE THAN 50 MILLION POUNDS PER YEAR!**