

DID YOU KNOW ?

Every time it rains, thousands of gallons of stormwater runoff enters the storm drain system.

It can carry debris, chemicals, dirt & other pollutants that come from lawns, driveways, and streets, or are dumped directly to storm drains.

This runoff is discharged untreated into the waterbodies that we use for swimming & fishing and can eventually affect drinking water supplies.

HOW CAN YOU HELP ?

- Never dump anything down storm drains.
- Keep lawn debris out of roadways & drainage areas.
- Use pesticides & fertilizers sparingly.
- Vegetate or mulch bare spots.
- Keep soil from leaving construction sites.
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces to "green areas".
- Wash personal vehicles at a commercial car wash or over the lawn.
- Wash commercial vehicles & equipment where wash water is treated.
- Check motors for leaks. Make repairs.
- Dispose of used auto fluids at designated collection or recycling locations.
- Properly dispose of excess paints through collection programs.
- Have your septic tank pumped & system inspected regularly.
- Pick up pet waste. Scoop, Bag, & Trash it.
- Volunteer with organizations for clean-ups, tree planting, & landscaping activities.



References

Washington Soil & Water Conservation
@ 740-885-3312 for the following information:

- Rain Gardens
- Rain Barrels
- Soil Testing
- Recycling

Greenleaf Landscape Inc. (for lawn debris disposal) Greenleaflandscapes.com

Belpre Codified Ordinances —
www.cityofbelpre.com, Online Resources: Codified Ordinances, Part Five, Chapter 521.15. (references no grass deposited into a drainage structure) Chapter 557.02 (references cutting required).

Marietta Codified Ordinances —
www.mariettaohio.gov, Online Resources: Codified Ordinances, Part Nine, Title III, Chapter 921.5 (references no grass deposited into a drainage structure)

Hire your Lawn Care? - Please provide this brochure to your lawn care provider.

More Information:

www.cityofbelpre.com
www.mariettaohio.gov
or call
Washington Soil and Water
Conservation District
740-885-3312

LAWN CARE

KNOW BEFORE YOU MOW

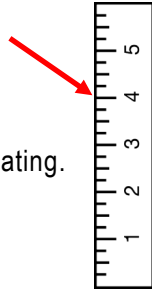
Guidelines for Residents & Businesses



Provided by:
Washington Soil & Water Conservation
City of Belpre
City of Marietta

Mow High

- Long grass = strong grass,
 - ⇒ Make it work for you!
 - ⇒ 4 inches is good.
- Prevent weed seeds from germinating.
- Grow deeper roots.
- Absorb & filter more rainfall.



Grass Clippings

- Sweep, discharge, or blow back to the lawn.
 - ⇒ Your grass loves the extra nutrients & organic matter.
 - ⇒ Consider a mulching mower.
- Don't discard to:
 - ⇒ Streets, Storm Drains, Ditches, Streams, or River Banks.
 - ⇒ Avoid a fine & clean up cost.
(Marietta—Codified Ordinance 921.15)
(Belpre—Codified Ordinances 521.15 & 557.02)
- Compost or take to Greenleaf Compost Farm.
 - ⇒ See guidelines.

Leaves

- Mulch into your lawn.
- Compost or take to Greenleaf Compost Farm.
 - ⇒ See guidelines.
- Prep for Marietta City fall collections.
 - ⇒ Rake to the curb. NOT IN STREET.
 - ⇒ Street crews will thank you.
- Check the Marietta Web Site for:
 - ⇒ Collection guidelines.



Fertilizers & Pesticides

- Use sparingly. Waste not—Pollute not.
- Follow manufacture's guidelines.
- Avoid using near water or storm drains.
- Pesticide Application on public land requires ODA certification.
- Pesticides:
 - ⇒ Choose the right one.
 - ⇒ Identify the need.
 - ⇒ License to spray required on public land.
- Fertilizing:
 - ⇒ Use when growing—spring or fall.
 - ⇒ Fall is best for vigorous roots.
 - ⇒ Consider soil testing first.
 - ⇒ Try phosphorus—free.



Woody Debris

- Trees & Shrubs -
 - ⇒ Compost or take to Greenleaf Compost Farm. Some cost may apply.

Greenleaf Compost Farm Guidelines

- Accepts leaves, grass-clippings, weeds, brush, tree trimmings, wood chips. (*trash free*)
 - ⇒ Go to Greenleaf Garden Center @414 Muskingum Dr. for a permit slip to determine fee.
 - ⇒ Proceed to Greenleaf Compost Farm @ 800 SR 821 - self unload.
- Marietta City Residents
 - ⇒ Grass Clippings, Leaves, & Woody Debris under 2" Diameter is free.
 - ⇒ 2 Cubic yd./day Maximum
 - ⇒ Monday - Friday (Garden Ctr Hrs. Only)



Water

- Rainwater is much better for plants / lawn.
- Consider a covered Rain Barrel for storage.
- Be efficient—try a soaker hose.
- Direct downspouts to "green areas".
- During drought:
 - ⇒ Lawns will go dormant.
 - ⇒ Grass will grow again with rain.
- Stream bank erosion?
 - ⇒ Avoid mowing close to the water's edge.
 - ⇒ Try stream side plantings or rip rap.

Landscaping

- Mulch & seed bare spots.
- Consider more trees & shrubs.
 - ⇒ Great for your health.
 - ⇒ Roots hold soil.
 - ⇒ Consider native species.
- Wet areas? Consider a Rain Garden.
- Reduce erosion.
 - ⇒ Try a stream buffer zone of uncut grass or vegetation.
 - ⇒ Avoid mowing short on slopes.
- Contact Washington Soil & Water Conservation for suggestions. 740-885-3312

