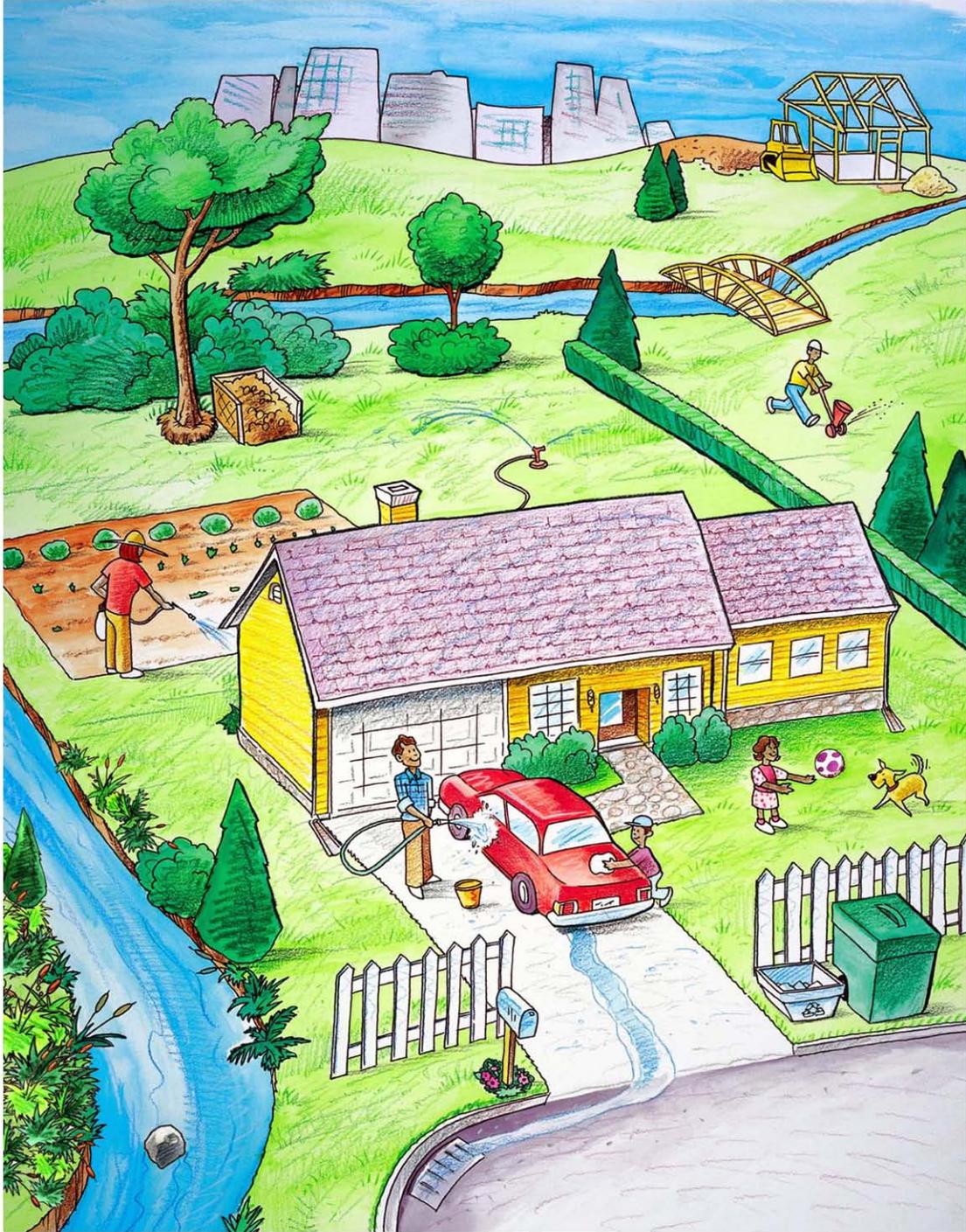


# You're the Solution to Water Pollution!



# Storm Drain



**Did you know that storm drains deliver surface water run-off directly to a stream?**

Major Pollutants:

Soil

Grass clippings

Fertilizers and Pesticides

Litter

Motor oil/ Auto Fluids

Pet waste

Organize a storm drain stenciling project Learn to monitor your stream Contact the FS/HAAF DPW Environmental Division at 912-767-2010

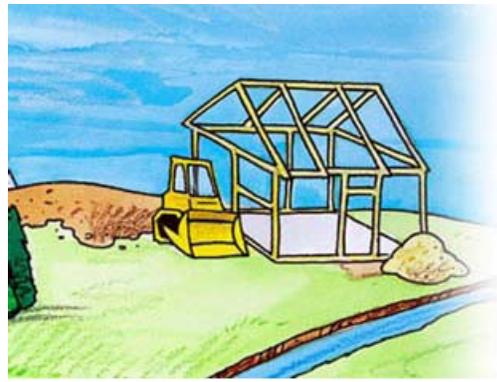


# Fertilizer

**Limiting fertilizer use will avoid nutrient overload in streams.**

- Plant vegetation native to your area (suited to soil type, slope, available sunlight, and climate).
- Prior to fertilizing, take a soil test to determine what nutrients your soil may need.
- Mow your lawn 1/3 of the total grass height only, mow when dry-with sharp mower blades, and leave the clippings on the lawn.
- During summer months, cut grass higher to help retain soil moisture.

# Erosion



**Sediment (clay, silt) is the #1 source of water pollution. Bare soil easily washes into storm drains and streams, clouding the water and suffocating aquatic life.**

- Never leave soil exposed! Place straw over newly seeded areas.
- Cover your garden during winter months.
- Sod, seed, grow plants, or build terraces on slopes.
- Rock gardens can also be effective for slowing the flow of water and minimizing erosion.



# Pest Management Integrated Pest Management

**If it will kill a bug in your lawn, it may kill fish in your stream! Use pesticides sparingly by practicing “integrated pest management.”**

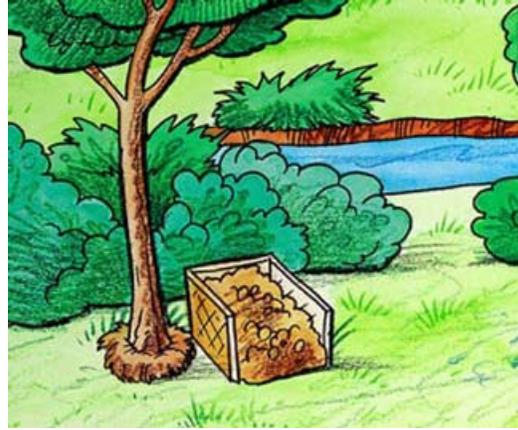
**1<sup>st</sup> PLAN FOR A HEALTHY LANDSCAPE**

**2<sup>nd</sup> GET TO KNOW BUGS!**

**3<sup>rd</sup> UTILIZE PHYSICAL/ BIOLOGICAL CONTROL**

**LAST: USE CHEMICALS SPARINGLY AND ONLY WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS!**

# Yard Trimblings



**Don't put yard trimmings in a stream! Compost trimmings or take them to a local composting program.**

- Chop or shred waste into small pieces.
- Add equal amounts of a carbon source (dried material) to a nitrogen source (green plant material).
- Turn the pile regularly and maintain slight moisture.



## Pets

**Scientists believe that fecal matter from pets is a major source of bacteria in urban waterways.**

- Flush fecal material down the toilet or wrap it up and place it in the trash.
- Restrict pets from streamside area.
- Also-Control fleas with minimal pesticide use.

# Driveway

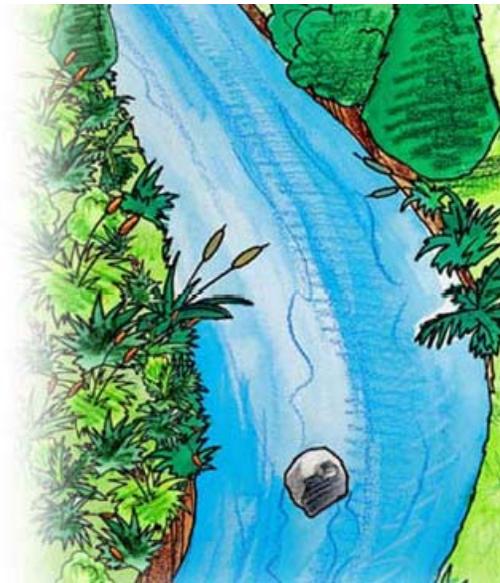


## **Reduce contaminant run-off from your driveway!**

- Do not wash oils or other spills down the storm drain!
- Wash your car at a designated car wash or (at least) wash with a low-phosphate soap in an area where the water will soak into the ground.

## **NEW CONSTRUCTION:**

Utilize "**green infrastructure**" or "**low impact development**" techniques, such as disconnect roof drains from stormwater system, vegetative swales, infiltration basins, Bioretention cells, rain gardens, and porous pavement instead of impermeable pavement for wheeled vehicles and pedestrian walk or bike paths.



## Streamside

### **Keep streams healthy! Control runoff contamination!**

- Landscape yard to provide areas where water will soak into the ground.
- Leave 25' buffer strips of thick native vegetation along streams.
- Pick up litter.
- Monitor your stream for pollutants and help to determine the source.

# Recycling, Waste Disposal



**Do not allow wastes to enter a storm drain or stream. They can injure or kill fish and wildlife!**

- Do not burn or bury trash! Reuse and recycle **Everything** possible!
- For information on where to recycle: contact the FS/HAAFDPW Environmental Division at 912-767-2010-- Recycling Coordinator or Solid Waste Management.



# HHW

**Household Hazardous Wastes (HHW), especially auto fluids, are a common contaminant found in waterways. Never pour products on the ground or down a storm drain!**

- Have your vehicle serviced at a garage where fluids will be recycled or properly disposed.
- If doing it yourself, recycle auto fluids, oil filters, batteries, and tires.

# HHW (Cont.)



**Other examples of HHWs include: Paint products/ fuels/ solvents/ pesticides/ and mercury-containing products. Here's what you can do:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> **REDUCE:** Buy the least hazardous and only the quantity that you will use.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **REUSE:** Give it to someone to use for its intended purpose.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **RECYCLE:** Utilize leftover products whenever possible.

Contact the FS/HAAF DPW Environmental Division at 912-767-2010.

1-800-CLEANUP or visit [www.1800cleanup.org](http://www.1800cleanup.org) for a list of recycling locations and/or the number of your local city recycling coordinator.

# Further Questions?

## "WHEN SHOULD YOU CALL THE DPW ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION, PREVENTION & COMPLIANCE BRANCH?"

Contact the Environmental Prevention & Compliance Branch (912) 767-2010:

- *for information about what can and can't go into the sanitary or industrial sewer*
- *to find out whether you need to pretreat wash water before it goes down an indoor drain (especially when degreasing or using harsh cleaning compounds).*
- *before altering drains or sewer lines.*
- *to report a spill of hazardous materials, such as petroleum's, oils or lubricants*
- *to report illicit discharges into the stormwater collection systems*
- *prior to any conveyance system maintenance*
- *to report damages or repairs needed to the stormwater collection system*

### **\*Additional Information Sources\***

#### **Georgia Environmental Protection Division:**

EPD Nonpoint Program 404-675-6240

EPD Toll free 888-373-5947

#### **Where can I find this information online?**

[www.ganet.org/dnr/p2ad](http://www.ganet.org/dnr/p2ad)

#### **How else can I help protect my stream?**

Participate in Georgia Adopt-A-Stream. 404-675-6240

#### **Who do I call for recycling information?**

**Local level:** FS/HAAF DPW Environmental Division- 912-767-2010; County or city recycling coordinator.

**State level:** Department of Community Affairs (DCA) 404-679-4940

[www.dca.state.ga.us](http://www.dca.state.ga.us)

**National Hotline:** including information for Georgia: 1-800-CLEANUP and

[www.1800cleanup.org](http://www.1800cleanup.org)

#### **Who do I call for gardening and landscaping information?**

**Local level:** County Extension Agent; listed in the government section of the phone book under "Extension Agent."

**State level:** UGA Experiment Station 770-229-3367 (Landscape IPM Manual and experiment garden tours available)

#### **Who do I call for composting information?**

Keep Georgia Beautiful 404-679-4940.