



# Be part of the *Solution to Stormwater Pollution!*



As stormwater flows over driveways, lawns, and sidewalks, it picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants. Stormwater can flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river or wetland. By practicing healthy household habits, homeowners can keep common pollutants like pesticides, pet waste, grass clippings, and automotive fluids off the ground and out of stormwater.

## Healthy Household Habits include...

- Use pesticides and fertilizers sparingly and avoid application just before rainfall.
- Grow native plants and grasses that require less water, fertilizer, and pesticides.
- Sweep yard debris, rather than hosing areas down and compost or recycle yard waste when possible.
- Water during the cool times of the day, and don't let water run off into the storm drain.
- Cover piles of unused dirt and mulch to prevent pollutants from blowing or washing off your yard.
- Vegetate bare spots in your yard to prevent soil erosion.

Contact the City of Elgin to learn more or to report illegal discharges at (847)697-3160.

*For more info visit: [www.cityofelgin.org/green](http://www.cityofelgin.org/green)*



**The City of Elgin Sustainability Commission meets the second Tuesday of the month, 6 PM  
at the Centre of Elgin's West Conference Room, 100 Symphony Way, Elgin, IL 60120**



Insert prepared by The City of Elgin and Baxter & Woodman, Inc. Consulting Engineers.  
For more information, visit: [www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater) or  
[www.epa.gov/nps](http://www.epa.gov/nps) Source: USEPA