

# SPRING STORMWATER SOLUTIONS



SPRING 2026

In addition to flowers, spring showers can also bring stormwater runoff! As rain flows over lawns, driveways and streets, it carries pollutants like fertilizers, soil, oil and litter into our waterways. See below for simple steps you can take this spring to protect clean water and reduce flooding.

## SIMPLE STEPS YOU CAN TAKE AT HOME TO PROTECT LOCAL STREAMS & CREEKS!

### SPRING STORMWATER TIPS FOR YOUR PROPERTY

- **Clean Gutters & Downspouts:** Remove leaves and debris so rainwater can flow freely. Direct downspouts to grassy areas or gardens instead of driveways.
- **Plant Natives:** Add native trees, shrubs and perennials to help soak up spring rains. Consider planting a rain garden in low spots of your yard where water naturally collects.
- **Mulch Garden Beds:** Mulch helps to prevent weed growth, reduce erosion, keep soil moist and reduce runoff. Make sure to use un-dyed mulch!
- **Install a Rain Barrel:** Rain barrels are designed to capture stormwater from your roof. You can use the collected water for gardens and landscaping!



Learn more at:

[www.perkiomenwatershed.org](http://www.perkiomenwatershed.org)

# SUMMER STORMWATER SOLUTIONS



SUMMER 2026

Stormwater runoff is rainwater that flows over lawns, driveways and streets, picking up pollutants along the way and carrying them straight into our waterways. This summer you can help to reduce stormwater runoff by following the tips below!

## SUMMER STORMWATER TIPS FOR YOUR PROPERTY

- **Water Wisely:** Water lawns early in the morning or late evening to reduce water loss through evaporation. Avoid overwatering which can lead to runoff.
- **Use Fertilizers & Pesticides Sparingly:** Only apply when necessary and follow label instructions. Never apply before rain is expected!
- **Mow Smart:** Keep grass longer (3") to absorb more water. Leave clippings on the lawn as a natural fertilizer - never blow into streets or storm drains!
- **Wash Cars the Right Way:** Take your car to a commercial car wash where water is treated. If washing at home, do it on grass or gravel so water can soak in.
- **Try a Summer-Friendly Project:** Plant native flowers, shrubs or trees that soak up rain. Install a rain barrel to collect and reuse stormwater!

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# FALL STORMWATER SOLUTIONS



FALL 2026

Stormwater doesn't soak into hard surfaces like pavement or rooftops. Instead, it flows into storm drains and streams, picking up leaves, fertilizers, trash and other pollutants along the way. You can help to reduce stormwater pollution this fall by following the tips below!

## SIMPLE STEPS YOU CAN TAKE AT HOME TO PROTECT LOCAL STREAMS & CREEKS!



## FALL STORMWATER TIPS FOR YOUR PROPERTY

- **Manage Fall Leaves Naturally:** Mulch leaves into your lawn to return vital nutrients to the soil, rake them into garden beds or compost them for spring gardening.
- **Add a Rain Garden or Buffer:** Plant native species along low spots in your yard. These plants help to slow down rainwater, reduce flooding and trap pollutants before they reach waterways.
- **Keep Storm Drains Clear:** Check storm drains near your home and remove any leaves, litter or debris. Clogged drains cause localized flooding, which carries more pollutants downstream.
- **Pick Up After Pets:** Always collect and properly dispose of pet waste, even in the backyard. Pet waste contains bacteria and nutrients that can contribute to unsafe water conditions.

Learn more at:

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# WINTER STORMWATER SOLUTIONS



WINTER 2025 / 2026

As snow and ice accumulate, winter maintenance can have a big impact on our streams, rivers and drinking water. When snow melts, it carries everything in its path - road salt, pet waste, automotive fluids and litter - directly into storm drains and waterways. See the tips below for how you can help keep our community's water clean this winter!

## WINTER STORMWATER TIPS FOR YOUR PROPERTY

- **Shovel First, Salt Last:** Clean snow early and often to reduce the need for salt. If you must use salt - do so sparingly and sweep up left over salt after ice melts.
- **Choose Eco-Friendly Deicers:** Avoid products containing sodium chloride (rock salt) which harms plants, pets and aquatic life. Use sand or non-clumping kitty litter for traction instead of chemical deicers.
- **Manage Snow Piles Wisely:** Pile snow on grassy areas where it can slowly melt and soak into the ground. Avoid stacking snow on top of storm drains or near waterways.
- **Store Chemicals Safely:** Keep deicing products, fertilizers and antifreeze in sealed containers. Store them off the ground and away from drains. Check your garage for leaks and clean spills immediately with absorbent material.

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