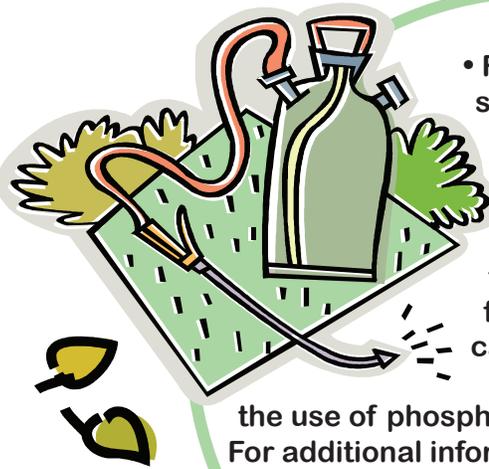


Fall Clean Water Tips



- Fall is the best season to fertilize your lawn and control common weeds. Use fertilizers and pesticides conservatively and always read and follow product instructions carefully. Minnesota passed a law in 2002 that restricts

the use of phosphorus containing fertilizers. For additional information about the law and its exceptions, visit the Minnesota Department of Agriculture web site at www.mda.state.mn.us/protecting/waterpollution/pholaw.htm.

- Check your car and lawn equipment for leaks. A good rainstorm can send gasoline and oil drips from automobiles, lawnmowers and power equipment into waterways.



- Consider using alternative lawn-care techniques in addition to, or even instead of, pesticides. Try these: pulling weeds by hand, or spot-treating weedy areas instead of your entire yard. More yard-care information is available under the garden section on the University of Minnesota Extension Services' Web site www.extension.umn.edu.

- Have a storm drain near your home? Do your part and keep it free from litter and leaves.

- Don't rake into the lake! Feeding a lake or river too many leaves or other yard waste creates a bumper crop of algae turning lakes into pools of pea-green sludge with too little oxygen for fish.

- Sweep up grass clippings and fertilizer from driveways, sidewalks, and streets. Use the sweepings as mulch and compost yard waste. Don't forget to sweep along the curb. Remove leaves from your gutters, ditches and driveways, sidewalks and street.

