

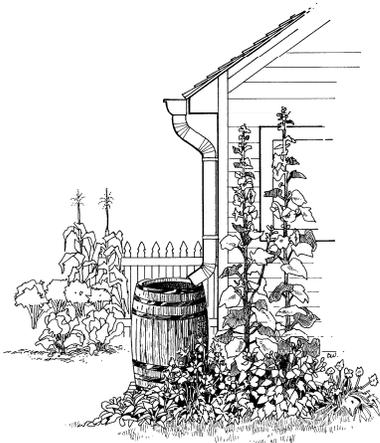
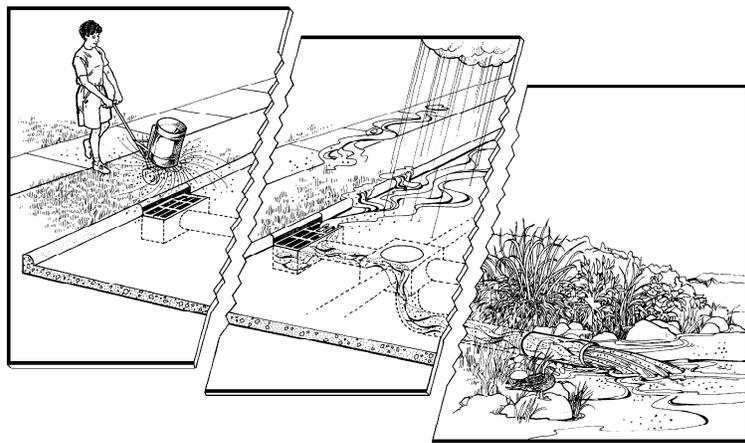


RICE CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT

FROM STREETS TO STREAMS: WHATEVER IS IN THE STREETS GOES STRAIGHT TO OUR STREAMS VIA STORM-SEWERS

KEEP THE STREET IN FRONT OF YOUR HOUSE CLEAN

Grass clippings and leaves that are washed into our water bodies are like dumping fertilizer in our lakes. Clean up oil, pet waste and correct erosion.



MINIMIZE WATER FLOWING OVER HARD SURFACES

- Redirect downspouts into your yard and install rain barrels to collect the roof run-off.
- Plant native plants (deep roots absorb more water, provide habitat and help stabilize soil).
- Create rain gardens (low areas with tolerant plants to absorb excess water).
- Use pervious pavements (where the water soaks in) whenever possible.

YOUR ACTIONS MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

- The MN Phosphorus Lawn Fertilizer Law, now in effect, prohibits the use of fertilizers containing phosphorous in the Twin Cities unless your soil test indicates that you need it or you are starting a new lawn. THE MIDDLE NUMBER OF YOUR FERTILIZER BAG SHOULD BE "0".
- Fall is the best time to fertilize, but get a soil test first! (Go to www.extension.umn.edu and follow the "Yard and Garden Line" link or call 612-625-3101.) Read the U of M Extension's latest research on lawns.
- Mow your grass to 3-inches (to help shade out weeds - minimizing herbicide use).
- Volunteer! Contact RCWD to get your group involved storm drain stenciling or water monitoring.

