



City of New Ulm

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

Responsible Lawns for Healthy Rivers



Tips for Fertilizing Your Lawn

- Clean up granular fertilizer spills – Never wash spills into the street or other hard surfaces
- Close the gate on the spreader when crossing hard surfaces



Use phosphorus free lawn fertilizer to protect lakes & Rivers

- It is illegal to apply fertilizers containing phosphorus to lawns in Minnesota
 - Exceptions are if a soil or plant tissue test indicates that it is needed, or if you are establishing a new lawn by sodding or seeding.
- Grass clippings contain phosphorus, so keeping clippings on your lawn is free fertilizer.



Keep Grass clippings off street and other paved areas

- It is against City Ordinance to blow or sweep materials onto streets or sidewalks.
- Curbside storm sewers can transport grass clippings and other debris to the Minnesota River, Cottonwood River, and nearby wetlands.



Home Rain Gardens

- Constructing a rain garden in your yard can be a simple and easy way to contribute to a cleaner watershed.
- Rain gardens filter the sediment and debris from the “first flush” of a rainfall, and infiltrate the rainwater to reduce the amount of water discharging into our storm sewers.
- Additional technical information and links regarding rain garden construction can be found at: <http://www.bluethumb.org/raingardens/>



Rain Barrels & Compost Barrels

- Rain Barrels are a cost effective way to reduce rain water discharge to our city's storm sewer system, and a way to store free water for lawns and gardens.
- If 1/3 of the houses in the City of New Ulm used rain barrels, roughly 100,000 gallons of rainwater would be prevented from entering the city storm sewers from a 1/2" rainfall.
- Compost Barrels are an easy way to reduce your waste to the landfill, and a cheap source of fertilizer for your garden and flowerbeds.
- Rain Barrels and Compost Barrels are available for purchase through Brown County. More information can be found at <http://www.co.brown.mn.us/composting-information>

Brought to you by the City of New Ulm on behalf of their Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

For more information contact **Joseph Stadheim** in the City of New Ulm's Engineering Department at 359-8245