

How can you help?

Cut your lawn no shorter than 2-1/2" to 3", and leave the trimmings on the grass.

This not only reduces water use, but it keeps the lawn cooler and provides nutrients to the microbes in it.

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Sweep grass trimmings up and dispose of them properly.

Never dump cuttings into or along waterways.

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Plant native species and avoid invasives.

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Clean up animal waste from your yard and always pick it up when you are out with your pet.

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Create more pervious areas so runoff can soak into the soil and recharge groundwater.



A bark path allows more water to soak into the ground.

Remember

Excess chemical runoff and vegetation (i.e. grass clippings) encourage the growth of vegetation in our creeks and lakes.

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This reduces the oxygen available for fish, and can cause algae blooms, which further deplete oxygen.

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Invasive plant species can outcompete native species.

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Animal waste is one of the leading causes of fecal coliform in our waterways. This further impacts water quality and provides unneeded nutrients.

For More Information:
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Photo credits: Cheryl Pape (daffodils), Cherie Northon (loons, salmon, yards), USDA (native flowers), Oregon State University Cooperative Extension (bark path), and thundafunda.com (Lake Hood).



What is the relationship between your yard and the nearest waterway?

It can be this...



Or, this...

