

checklist to reduce water pollution

keep it clean



car care

- ✓ Walk more to reduce vehicle pollution in waterways
- ✓ Keep tires inflated to prevent tire particles in waterways
- ✓ Wash your car at a car wash or over grass / gravel
- ✓ Place an absorbent pad or pan under leaky vehicles



yard care

- ✓ Mulch mow grass by removing the bag on your mower
- ✓ Dethatch or rake dead grass in the spring before over seeding
- ✓ Add grass seed to lawn in spring or fall and rake in compost
- ✓ Remove weeds by hand in early spring, then overseed
- ✓ Try organic, slow release fertilizers and avoid weed & feed



home care

- ✓ Store bark chips & soil on a tarp and cover – not in the road or sidewalk
- ✓ Store all chemicals, paints or fertilizers under cover
- ✓ Keep a spill kit with absorbent pads or kitty litter at home to handle spills
- ✓ If pressure washing, sweep up materials & dispose in trash not storm drains
- ✓ Try baking soda to prevent roof moss or moss killer without copper



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slow it down & soak it up



home care

- ✓ Disconnect your roof downspouts to release into vegetated areas
- ✓ Install rain barrels on your downspouts to reuse rain water
- ✓ If replacing a driveway, consider using permeable pavement
- ✓ Become Little Habitat certified with Marion SWCD



yard care

- ✓ Install a rain garden to filter roof & driveway runoff
- ✓ Cover bare soil with mulch or native plants to reduce runoff
- ✓ Try an ecolawn, by replacing grass with clover seed
- ✓ Reduce your lawn by adding a native or pollinator plant boarder
- ✓ Replace your lawn with native or pollinator plants
- ✓ Aerate your lawn in fall or spring to increase water infiltration
- ✓ Leave the leaves in fall to cover bare soil and add beneficial nutrients
- ✓ Adjust your sprinkler heads to avoid watering the pavement
- ✓ Water your lawn 1" per week or skip water and let lawn go dormant

