

# How to Stay Green

## When the Leaves Change Color

Autumn lawn care tips for keeping our waterways healthy.



### Don't over-fertilize your lawn.

Excess nutrients from fertilizer are a major source of water pollution when they are carried by rain runoff into stormdrains and local waterways. Apply fertilizer based on a soil test.



### Don't rake leaves down storm drains or into streams.

When leaves are washed into streams they decompose there and degrade water quality. Compost them or bag for proper disposal.

### When you mow your lawn, don't dispose of grass clippings down a storm drain.

Like decomposing leaves, grass clippings degrade water quality. Leave them on your lawn.



[www.rivanna-stormwater.org](http://www.rivanna-stormwater.org)