



# STORMWATER NEWS

## Spring Addition: Managing Spring Stormwater

### *Preventing Stormwater Pollution*

Warmer weather is on the horizon! Increasing temperatures mean longer days, budding leaves, blooming flowers and spring rain. While rain showers are important for the environment, they also have the ability to lead to harmful stormwater pollution. Below are some tips for preventing pollution this spring:

- **Only rain belongs in the drain!** As you're cleaning up your yard this spring, remember that storm drains are not garbage disposals. Never dump anything, including leaves and grass clippings, into a storm drain.
- **Use lawn chemicals sparingly.** Always follow the application instructions and never use before it rains. Switch to organic fertilizers where possible or mulch leaves and grass clippings into your yard to add nutrients back into your soil.
- **Replace turf grass with natives!** Lawns have little to no environmental benefits and turf grass requires lots of maintenance to stay green. Swap your lawn for native perennials by adding more garden space in your yard! Not only do natives require less maintenance than turf grass, they are vital for the health of our environment and the survival of pollinators, birds and other wildlife.



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[www.perkiomenwatershed.org](http://www.perkiomenwatershed.org)



### *Helping Wildlife this Spring*

Spring means increased activity for wildlife, with many species busy gathering food, building nests and caring for their young. You can take small steps at home to provide important food sources and habitat for our local wildlife during the spring months:

- **Plant for pollinators.** Plant with a variety of native species that flower throughout the year to provide pollinators with vital food sources.
- **Recreate outdoors responsibly.** Spring is a great time to explore the great outdoors! Be respectful of wildlife during your visit by sticking to paths, keeping dogs on leash and taking litter home.
- **Provide food and water for wildlife.** Early in the season, food may be scarce and water sources can still be frozen. Make sure replenish and clean feeders and bird baths regularly.
- **Plant trees and shrubs.** Trees and shrubs have immense benefits for wildlife! Leaves, flowers, bark and branches provide vital resources for a wide variety of species.

