

Keep an eye out for exotics

By controlling exotic species we can protect our native plant communities

- Exotic plants provide little benefit to wildlife.
- Exotic plants may look harmless, but they can crowd out native plants.
- If you would like additional information on identifying and controlling exotic species, please contact the City of Lakeville's Environmental Resources Department.

Watch out for . . .



Purple
Loosestrife



Common
Buckthorn

Minnesota DNR

A few things you can do to improve water quality in Lakeville



For more information:
City of Lakeville
Environmental Resources
20195 Holyoke Ave.
Lakeville, MN 55044
Phone: (952) 985-4528



Keep chemicals out

Anything that enters a storm drain goes directly to local ponds, wetlands, lakes, and streams; it does not go to a waste water treatment facility



- It is illegal to dump chemicals such as paint, motor oil, and cleaning solutions into the storm drains.

🌐 Visit the Dakota County Environmental Mgmt. Website for information on household hazardous waste at:

[www.co.dakota.mn.us/
enviro/household_waste.htm](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/enviro/household_waste.htm)

🌐 Call 1-800-CLEANUP or visit www.cleanup.org to find a place near you to dispose of your leftover chemicals.

🌐 Storm drain stenciling kits are available from the City to raise awareness in your neighborhood.



Things you can do to improve water quality in Lakeville

Practice good lawn care

Your lawn care choices directly affect water quality

- Yard waste should not be dumped into or near waterbodies. Yard waste contains phosphorus that will affect water quality.

🌐 Keep in mind that leaving grass clippings on your lawn is equal to one application of fertilizer.



Blueflag Iris

- Limit the amount of chemicals you use on your lawn. Those excess chemicals will eventually make their way into the water.

🌐 Remember that fertilizers containing phosphorus are no longer allowed.

- Keep the pavement clean. Sweep all grass clippings and fertilizer off driveways, sidewalks, and streets; then spread them back on your lawn.



Butterfly Milkweed

Plant native plants

Native species of plants are beautiful and help the environment

- Native plants are hardiest in our climate; therefore they will last through the winter and will be able to live through conditions that each season brings.
- Once the plants are established they require low maintenance.
- Native plants are resistant to most diseases and pests.
- Your native plants will attract many beautiful birds, butterflies and other insects.



Swallowtail on Beebalm

Leave a buffer

A buffer is a strip of tall native vegetation that will improve water quality in many ways

- A buffer filters contaminants from your yard and driveway prior to reaching the water.
- The vegetation will stabilize the soil to help prevent erosion.
- A buffer will discourage geese and ducks from using your property as a gathering place.

DUMP NO WASTE
DRAINS TO LAKE



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