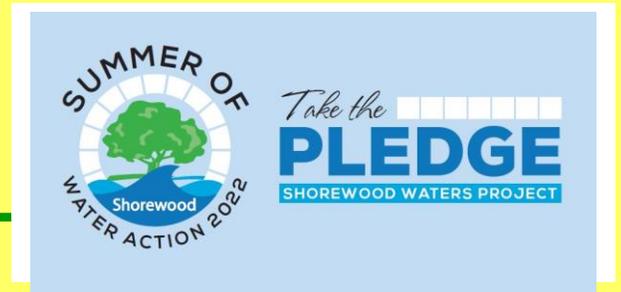


TOP 15 ACTIONS TO PROTECT OUR WATERS



Prevent Pollution

1. Never dump anything into storm drains – many go directly into our waterways.
2. Keep grass clippings and leaves out of the streets and sewers – their nutrients can contribute to algae blooms.
3. Pick up dog waste! Check-out these [facts](#) about what’s in poo and how much dog waste is getting into our waterways.
4. Limit the use of herbicides (kills weeds), pesticides (kills insect & animal pests) and commercial fertilizers. Maintaining healthy gardens and lawns allows the natural process to keep weeds down and beneficial bugs in balance.
5. Don’t litter and pick up litter you see – especially plastic and cigarette butts that don’t break down and impact fish and wildlife!
6. Reduce toxic cleaners in your home. Learn more at the upcoming *Natural Shorewood – Green Cleaning and Yard Care* workshop this fall.
7. Use compost, a gardener’s “Black Gold”, to fertilize your gardens and lawn. You can make it or buy it and there’s less phosphorous to contribute to algae blooms!
8. Check your car for leaks and fix them ASAP. Wash your car at a car wash to eliminate detergents in the sewers and our waters.
9. [Adopt Your Drain](#) in your area to make sure we’re keeping an eye out to keep the drains and sewers clean!
10. Dispose of hazardous household chemicals and medications properly! Visit the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District for a [list](#) of products and locations.

Reduce Stormwater Runoff

Stormwater picks up everything on the land - dirt, litter, pet waste and chemicals - and flows into storm drains and sewers that go directly into our waterways!

Stormwater is the #1 pollutant to our waterways!

1. Install a rain barrel or direct rainwater to a rain garden to collect excess rain
2. Plant native plants – their deep roots, especially of grasses, can help water infiltrate into the ground.
3. Plant a shrub or tree – their leaves do a great job of holding excess rainwater.
4. Install impervious pavers to allow water to seep into the ground.
5. Aerate and thatch your lawns to allow more water to infiltrate.

Remember, what’s on the land goes into our waters, and Lake Michigan is the source of our drinking water!



Take the Shorewood Waters Pledge and learn more @ the [Shorewood Waters Project](#).
Contact - Call: 414-588-0617 or Email: swp@shorewoodwi.gov