



Spring is here, and we think about spring cleaning. Cleaning out the clutter in our homes and beautifying our landscapes by raking our yards and possibly some of us fertilizing the yard. This spring, please take steps that will reduce phosphorus loadings to our beautiful Trout Lake, streams and Wastewater Treatment facility.

Here are a few tips to reduce phosphorus from entering Trout Lake:

1. Collect leaves and grass clippings from the street drains and gutters. Check spring leaf pick up dates to take advantage of City yard waste collection.
2. Use phosphorus free lawn fertilizer.
3. Use lawn mowers with mulching blades that will leaves grass clippings on the lawn reducing the need for fertilizer and keep clippings from being thrown in the street and gutter.
4. Clean up animal feces and throw in the trash, do not thrown in the street or gutters.
5. Wash your vehicles on the lawn to prevent phosphorus laden soap and rinse water from running into the storm sewer.
6. Restore natural shore land or streambank habitat to reduce phosphorus laden runoff from entering surface waters.

Tips to reduce phosphorus loadings to our Wastewater Treatment Plant:

1. Thrown food scraps in the garbage instead of rinsing down the drain.
2. Find sources for low or non-phosphorus dishwashing liquids and hand soaps.
3. Use low or non-phosphorus laundry detergents.