

# We need your help!

## Environmental Awareness Survey

Your city's Storm Water Coordinator is encouraging local citizens to participate in a survey to help assess the level of awareness residents have with regard to common household activities and their potential impact on the quality of our local water resources.

Answers provided will serve as a tool to develop water quality educational materials and will help to determine appropriate methods for delivery of educational messages to targeted audiences. Over time, the survey will help gauge the success of educational programs and ensure the effective spending of public funds.

To take the survey, go to our website  
[www.cuyahogawcd.org](http://www.cuyahogawcd.org)

**Deadline to submit the survey is  
February 13, 2009.**

Your participation is greatly appreciated. Results of the survey will be made public shortly after the deadline has passed.

Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District's mission is to promote conservation of land and aquatic resources in a developed environment through stewardship initiatives, education programs, and technical assistance.

*Leading Conservation since 1949!*

6100 West Canal Road  
Valley View, Ohio 44125



## Seven Simple Steps to Clean Water



**Follow these steps to help protect our rivers, streams, and Lake Erie.**

**Only rain down the storm drain!**



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# Remember, it all drains to Lake Erie

## Seven Simple Steps to Clean Water

### 1. NO DUMPING IN THE STORM DRAIN

Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the waterbodies we use for swimming, fishing, and our drinking water. Polluted runoff is the nation's greatest threat to clean water.

### 2. FERTILIZE SPARINGLY AND CARINGLY

When use is necessary, apply these chemicals in the recommended amounts. Avoid application if the forecast calls for rain; otherwise, chemicals will be washed into your local stream. Consider a soil fertility test.

### 3. PROPERLY DISPOSE OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Use hazardous substances like paints, solvents, and cleaners in the smallest amounts possible and follow the directions on the label. Clean up spills immediately, and dispose of the waste safely. Contact the Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District for more information, 216.443.3749

### 4. CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET

When walking your pet, remember to pick up the waste and dispose of it in the trash. Leaving pet waste on the ground increases public health risks by allowing harmful bacteria and nutrients to wash into the storm drain and eventually into local waterbodies.

### 5. PRACTICE GOOD CAR CARE

Use a commercial car wash or wash your car on a lawn or other unpaved surface to minimize the amount of dirty, soapy water flowing into the storm drain.

### 7. CONSERVE WATER

Turn off the water when you brush your teeth, take shorter showers, fix leaks, wash only full loads in the dishwasher and laundry, or consider installing a rain barrel to collect rain water to water your outdoor plants.

### 6. LANDSCAPE WITH NATIVE PLANTS

Select native plants and grasses that are drought and pest resistant. Native plants require less water, fertilizer, and pesticides.

**Our Water. Our Future. Ours to Protect.**