

# WELCOME TO THE TOWN OF LELAND

## *From the Stormwater Management Division*



We would like to be among the first to welcome you to our town. Coastal North Carolina is a great place to live and this is mainly due to our wonderful natural resources. We all want this area to maintain its beauty and continue to thrive. That is why we must all do our part to protect our natural resources and keep Leland clean.

Did you know that the rain water that runs off of roofs, parking lots, roadways and other hard surfaces runs directly into local waterways with no treatment? This runoff is what we refer to as stormwater. As this water flows across hardened (impervious) surfaces, whatever oil, grease, gas, fertilizers, cigarette butts, leaves, and other pollutants that are present are picked up and carried into our waterways.

Here are some helpful tips on what you can do to stop stormwater pollution and help protect the environment.

### **STORM DRAINS**

Leaves and other debris in storm drains can cause algal blooms, habitat destruction and poor water quality in our local creeks, streams and waterways. They also increase the potential for flooding by blocking pipes. Dispose of debris properly.

- Remove debris from the top of storm drains.
- Put yard waste in a bag or container and take it to a yard waste disposal facility.
- Recycle grass clippings by leaving them on the lawn. (*Clippings will break down and provide nutrients to the soil.*)
- Use a mulching lawn mower.
- Compost grass clippings and leaves and use as a mulch for plant and flower beds.
- **DO NOT** sweep or blow leaves, trash, yard waste or dirt into storm drains, drainage ways or streets.
- **DO NOT** put grass clippings, leaves, yard waste, or other debris along retention ponds,



### **MOTOR OIL AND OTHER FLUIDS**

- It only takes one gallon of used motor oil to pollute a million gallons of fresh water. That's an entire year's supply of drinking water for 50 people.
- If you have to add a quart of oil once a month to replace that which has leaked, in four months you will have left enough contamination on the ground to pollute a million gallons fresh water.
- If your buddy dumps his used oil down the drain after changing it himself, he has done the equivalent of ruining a year's supply of drinking water for 50 of your friends and relatives.
- Regularly check your car or truck for drips and oil leaks and fix them promptly.
- Keep your vehicle tuned to reduce oil use.
- Use ground cloths or drip pans under your vehicle if you have leaks or are doing engine work.
- Clean up spills immediately (you can use kitty litter or sand to soak up the liquid) and properly dispose of cleanup materials.
- Collect all used oil in containers with tight-fitting lids, such as old plastic jugs.
- **Never** dump motor oil, antifreeze, transmission fluid or other engine fluids into road gutters, down the storm drain or catch basin, on the ground or into a ditch.
- Recycle used motor oil. The electricity expended to retrieve one gallon of virgin oil from the ground is enough to run the average household for almost 24 hours.



**PET WASTE** contains bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can threaten human health and cause shellfish bed closures, algae blooms and recreational water closures.

- Clean-up after your pets using a scooper or plastic bag. It's the law.
- Seal the bag before placing it in the trash.
- Install a pet waste digester on your property.
- Use a covered litter box for outside cats.
- Do not flush pet waste down the toilet.



**COOKING OIL & GREASE** poured down household drains builds up on the sanitary sewer pipes and can cause wastewater to overflow directly into the environment or back into homes.

- Do not pour oil or grease down household drains
- Put oil and grease in a container, seal it, and place it in the trash



**PESTICIDES & HERBICIDES** are poisonous and pose a health threat to humans, animals, plants and beneficial insects.

- Weed by hand and use natural predators, such as ladybugs, to control pests.
- Use native plants that are pest and disease resistant.
- Use pesticides as a last resort, read the label, use sparingly and spot treat only.
- Never apply pesticides before it rains.



**SEDIMENT** impacts aquatic life, habitat and water quality and can lead to flooding.

- Re-seed bare lawn or soil areas.
- Mulch exposed soil in gardens and flower beds.
- Plant groundcover, shrubs and trees to hold soil in place, reduce erosion and filter pollutants from runoff.
- Collect dirt and sediment off of driveways, sidewalks and other hard surfaces.
- Follow construction laws and practices.



**FERTILIZERS** contain nitrogen and phosphorus; primary nutrients of algae growth. As algae decays it uses up the oxygen in the water that fish and wildlife need to survive.

- Grasscycle! Leave grass clippings on the lawn to act as a natural fertilizer and soil conditioner.
- Get a soil test kit to determine lawn nutrient needs and proper application rates. Save time and money spent on unnecessary fertilizer. FREE soil test kits are available at the Brunswick County Cooperative Extension (910-253-2610).
- Never Fertilize before it rains.
- Use a drop spreader instead of broadcast spreaders for more precise application.
- Keep fertilizer off of sidewalks, streets and driveways.



**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW)** such as paint, cleaners and other household chemicals often contain toxins, heavy metals and nutrients. When these pollutants reach the waterways, they impact water quality, wildlife and human health.

- Properly dispose of all HHW. Collection days are held annually.
- Read labels carefully and use products correctly.
- Use non-toxic product alternatives.
- Do not pour HHW down storm drains or household drains.



## YARD DEBRIS

The Town of Leland offers free yard debris disposal for town residents at 187 Old Lanvale Rd every Wednesday and Saturday from 8:00am to 12:00 noon (except holidays). No construction debris is allowed. This service is for Town of Leland Residents only and you may be asked for identification. Landscapers and contractors may not dispose of debris at this site.



## TRASH & RECYCLING

Most residential units within the Town of Leland are served by curbside recycling. Trash is collected every week and recycling is collected every other week on the same day as trash. These collections may be at different times during the day as separate trucks are used for trash and recycling. Trash service is provided by Brunswick County through Waste Industries and recycling is provided by the Town of Leland through Waste Industries.

**Accepted Items:** Newspapers, Magazines, Junk Mail Inserts, Windowless Envelopes(only), Mixed Paper (copy paper, ledger paper, computer paper, etc.), #1 -6 Plastic Containers, Aluminum Cans, Steel Cans, Brown, Green and Clear Glass Bottles



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

or to contact Stormwater Management Staff

Call (910) 332-4652

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