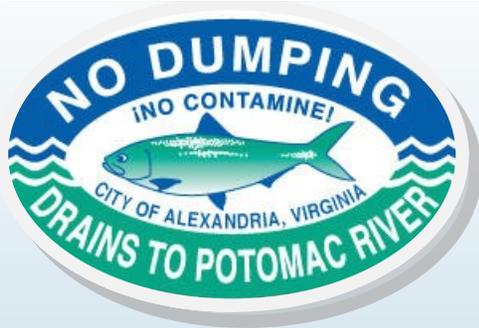


As part of the City of Alexandria's stormwater management program and on-going efforts to protect water resources consistent with the Eco-City Alexandria Environmental Action Plan (EAP), this brochure should remind businesses and individuals that storm drain inlets connect directly to our local streams and the Potomac River, as part of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

Residents can use the House Hazardous Waste site at 3224 Colvin Street. Businesses will need to make arrangements with a contractor. Visit www.alexandriava.gov/SolidWaste for more information.



REMEMBER:
**"Only Rain...
Down the Storm Drain."**

6 Things you can do to prevent water pollution

1. Never dump any wash-water into a storm drain or inlet
2. Bring wastewater to proper disposal facility or discharge to sanitary sewer
3. Secure chemicals, cleaners and paint during transport
4. Dispense away from storm drains or inlets and use tarps when working outside
5. Do not wash equipment outside, or to the storm drain
6. Call 911 if hazardous materials are spilled



Department of Transportation & Environmental Services
Office of Environmental Quality
301 King Street, Room 3000
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-746-4065
www.alexandriava.gov/Environment

ALTERNATIVES TO DUMPING WASTES



Pollution Prevention Ideas
For: Lawn Care,
Carpet Cleaning,
Duct Cleaning,
House Cleaning, and
Painting

Eco-CITY ALEXANDRIA

www.alexandriava.gov/Eco-City

Alternatives to Dumping Wastes to Prevent Water Pollution

Lawn Care

Most people like well-maintained, lush lawns, but fertilizers and pesticides contain chemicals that are harmful to the environment, wildlife and humans. Be careful not to spread on



sidewalks (or other hard surfaces), and don't apply right before a rain. The Chesapeake Bay is impaired for nutrients found in fertilizers and yard wastes. Pesticide runoff can contaminate drinking water supplies. Unused portions of fertilizer and pesticides should be properly disposed. Yard wastes (grass clippings and leaves) can be left in place or used as mulch.

Do not blow **grass clippings or leaves** into the street or gutter. They clog the drains, and impact dissolved oxygen and nutrient levels in waterways.



Carpet and Duct Cleaning

Carpets and ducts are cleaned in many homes and businesses to prolong the life of the carpet and performance of the HVAC. Unfortunately, these cleaners can damage the environment if they are dumped into a stream. Most carpet cleaners contain detergents and other potentially harmful chemicals. They can be toxic to aquatic life or promote rapid growth of aquatic vegetation, which has a negative impact on the environment. Never dispose of cleaning water by dumping down a storm drain. Always dispose of cleaning wastewater properly.



House and Office Cleaning

Some cleaning products and wastewater associated with cleaning operations contain chemicals that are harmful to the environment, wildlife and humans. Household and commercial kitchen appliances and other equipment should not be cleaned outside, where wash water may enter the storm drain system. Mop water and other wash water must be properly disposed of in a sink or tub that goes to



the sanitary sewer. Unused cleaning agents should not be disposed of in the trash, but should be disposed of properly. Non-toxic or less hazardous products should be considered for employee health and the health of our streams.

Painting

Paint and cleaning agents contain chemicals that are harmful to the environment. Follow some simple rules to prevent water pollution and protect water quality: Never clean painting equipment or dispose of unused paint in the street, the trash, or a storm drain; Use tarps to catch paint or cleaners when working outside; Secure paint and chemicals during transport to avoid spillage; Clean up outside spills immediately; Dispose of paint and waste properly.



Improper disposal or dumping of anything in a storm drain besides stormwater is illegal. City Code (Title 11, Ch. 13, Sec. 11-13-2) states that: *It shall be unlawful for any person to dump any waste on any property, in any waters or in any sanitary sewer or stormwater system, except as authorized by law or by applicable permit.*