

THERE'S A NEW LAW IN TOWN!

The ILLICIT DISCHARGE ORDINANCE

- *Town of Chapel Hill Code of Ordinances Chapter 23, Article V* - helps the Town comply with the federal Clean Water Act.



Protect our water for the health of people and the environment. Below are ways in which you and your residents can prevent pollution and contribute to clean drinking water sources while keeping your properties healthy and attractive places in which to live.



POOLS & SPAS



Pool chemicals, chlorinated water, filter backwash and saltwater pool discharges are prohibited in storm drains and drainage channels leading to streams.

- ◆ Contact OWASA at 919-968-4421 for approval to pipe backwash, pool or spa water into the sanitary sewer system. No saltwater allowed.
- ◆ To drain pool or spa water, remove solids and allow pH to reach 6.5-8.0; bromide <1 ppm, then discharge at least 50' away from creeks to landscaped areas, lawns or woods. Drain slowly to prevent erosion and to allow water to infiltrate the ground.

PET WASTE



It is law that dog walkers pick up after their pets and dispose of bagged waste in the trash. Poop pollutes, plus NOBODY likes to step in it!

- ◆ Provide residents with instructions for disposing of pet waste.
- ◆ Consider placing pet waste stations on multifamily properties.
- ◆ Call the Stormwater Management Program at 919-969-7246 for a free 6" x 9" sign to place on your property.

LANDSCAPE CARE



FERTILIZERS & GRASS CLIPPINGS will lead to rapid growth of algae, low oxygen and poor water quality if washed into creeks or lakes. Do not pile yard waste in or by drainage channels or creeks.

- ◆ Never apply fertilizer immediately before or during a heavy rain.
- ◆ Sweep up fertilizer that gets on the sidewalk or road.
- ◆ Blow grass clippings back onto the lawn.

HERBICIDES & PESTICIDES affect the quality of drinking water, and can travel up the food chain to someone's dinner plate. Never apply before or during a rain and use sparingly if at all. Consider safer alternatives by using Integrated Pest Management (IPM).



Property owners are responsible for storm drain maintenance on their properties. The Town is responsible for Town street rights-of-way drains. NCDOT is responsible for storm drain maintenance on State roads.

HHW—SPECIAL WASTES



Household hazardous wastes such as florescent light bulbs, batteries, paint, auto fluids, pool chemicals, cleaners, and even used cooking oil are accepted at the Orange County HHW Collection Center on Eubanks Road. Please let your residents know about this service and that disposal of such wastes is not permitted in the regular trash. Items may be accepted from small quantity generators.

For more information, call 919-968-2788 or visit bit.ly/CHAPELHILLHHW

TRASH AND RECYCLING



Dumpsters and recycling carts can add bacteria and other pollutants to waterways if not properly maintained. Residents are more apt to leave garbage outside of containers if waste disposal areas are not kept clean.

- ♦ Place waste containers away from storm drains or drainage channels.
- ♦ Keep plugs, lids and side panels closed to prevent rain from becoming leaky dumpster juice, full of bacteria, viruses and water pollutants.
- ♦ Sweep areas often and never allow wash water to enter storm drains.

CAR WASHING STATIONS



Detergents are prohibited in storm drains and drainage channels leading to streams. Soaps, oils, grease, and automotive dirt entering streams will kill fish and other aquatic creatures.

- ♦ Direct runoff from the car wash area into grass or landscaping.
- ♦ Storm drains must be protected if wash water flows toward them.
- ♦ Do not allow use of acid-based wheel cleaners.

PRESSURE WASHING



Pressure washing is a necessary part of maintaining buildings and other hard surfaces. However, please take the required precautions:

- ♦ Dry sweep areas first to remove debris. Dispose of waste in trash.
- ♦ If using plain water (no chemicals), first remove surface contaminants, then screen debris or particles from runoff entering storm drains.
- ♦ If using cleansers, protect storm drains and collect wash water.
- ♦ Contact Stormwater Management for a guide to outdoor washing.

AUTOMOTIVE LEAKS



Rainbows belong in the sky, not on the ground. Leaky automobiles will send oil and gas into storm drains and creeks during storms, causing significant damage to water quality and stream life. Ask residents to keep vehicles maintained. If you notice leaks, notify the automobile owner and ask for the vehicle to be fixed immediately.

- ♦ Place absorbent pads, cardboard, or kitty litter under the leak to temporarily absorb fluids. Dispose of used absorbents properly.
- ♦ **DO NOT PRESSURE WASH** fluids into storm drains! Use absorbent, then sweep and dispose of absorbent. If the amount is large, take used absorbent to HHW.