

# ***Village of Hillside***



## ***Water Pollution and Conservation Pamphlet***

Fall 2012

## ***Facts About Storm Water And What You Can do to Help Keep Our Water Clean!***

***Fact:*** That the rain water collected by the local drains and ditches flows directly to the rivers and lakes of Illinois without treatment.

***How to Help:*** Be mindful that anything dumped in the storm drains leads directly to the water systems of Illinois.

***Fact:*** Soap from washing your car at home flows through the storm system and pollutes the streams and rivers.

***How to Help:*** Your local car washes are equipped with special traps to contain the soaps and detergents from entering the storm system.

***Fact:*** When it rains, leaking oil and antifreeze from your car is washed into the storm system and then to the rivers and lakes.

***How to Help:*** Have your vehicle checked regularly for maintenance. Special agents can be used to absorb leaking oil and antifreeze before they enter the storm system. Sweep your driveways and walkways instead of hosing them down.

## ***Facts (Continued)***

***Fact:*** Pet waste can pollute our waters. Uncollected pet waste has been found to contribute to polluting our waterways.

***How to Help:*** Kindly clean up after your pets and dispose of the waste appropriately. Waste disposed of in the landfills is restrained from polluting the storm water.

***Fact:*** Plastic Waste in water and coastal areas kills up to 100,000 marine mammals each year.

***How to Help:*** Please Recycle! Recycling plastic containers can help reduce our carbon footprint and help save aquatic wildlife.

***Fact:*** Lawn clippings and yard waste in the storm system turn to fertilizer for plant growth in our ponds and streams. Too much plant growth reduces the oxygen levels, suffocating aquatic life.

***How to Help:*** Mulching or composting your yard waste can provide many benefits for your lawn plants, providing essential nutrients without the need of fertilizers.

## ***Additional Information on Water Pollution & Conservation Links:***

[www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

[www.epa.state.il.us](http://www.epa.state.il.us)

<http://wateruseitwisely.com>