

The Sierra Club Woods & Wetlands Group also recommend:

- Fertilizer should not be applied to sidewalks, driveways or streets. It will run off these areas during the next rain and pollute our lakes and streams.
- Solid fertilizer is washed off rains and pollutes our streams. If fertilizer is needed, liquid fertilizer is preferred. Fertilizer can not be absorbed by your grass until it dissolves. Liquid fertilizer soaks in and does its job immediately.
- Native plant beds do not need fertilizer, and don't require toxic pesticides and herbicides. Many of these chemicals wash off and pollute our lakes and streams. Replacing more lawn areas with native perennial flower beds will reduce phosphorus runoff and protect our waters.
- A wide border of native plants and grasses planted along lakes and streams will discourage an excessive Canadian Goose population. Their excrement contains phosphorus.
- Whatever enters the storm water drains ends up in our creeks and lakes. Phosphorus causes algae growth in our lakes which hurts fish and can be toxic. There is an ongoing program to permanently label storm drains with a reminder for everyone to keep pollutants including phosphorus, out of these storm water drains. Get in touch with us if you would like to help label the drains in your neighborhood.

Sierra Club Woods and Wetlands Group
<http://illinois.sierraclub.org/w&w>

Additional links:

<http://www.lakeswcd.org/Soil%20Testing.htm>

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/citizens/green-tips.html#garden>