



Yard Care is For the Fishes

Healthy Yard, Healthy Fish

Dos ★

- Use Organic Fertilizer
- Nourish Plants With Compost
- Use Fertilizer Sparingly
- Use Water Sparingly
- Pull Weeds
- Use Insecticidal Soaps
- Mulch Your Lawn

Don'ts ✘

- Use Herbicides
- Overwater
- Over Fertilize
- Don't blow leaves or grass into the street
- Don't water your lawn mid-day



Get a clue: Who wants dog doo?

Clean Parks, Clean Water

Dos ★

- Scoop It, Bag It, Trash it!
- Use compostable bags to scoop poop before throwing it in garbage
- Help passersby understand why it is important to scoop dog poop
- Always carry extra bags on walks—just in case

Don'ts ✘

- Forget poop in the grass
- Let your pet poop near a stream
- Assume someone else will pick up after your pooch
- Think just 1 time won't make a difference



Commercial Car Washing

Only *rain* down the drain

Dos ★

- Go to a commercial car wash; the soapy water is treated *before* going down the drain
- If forced to wash at home, use buckets & wash on the lawn to prevent runoff pollution
- Conserve water
- Be conscious of oil and silt on your car: send nothing down the drain!

Don'ts ✘

- Ever let soap wash down the drain
- Pour anything into a storm drain
- Use harmful chemicals that could run down the driveway

Q: Why is it bad to wash my car at home?

A: When you're at home, there is no filtration system between your car and your storm drain. Thus, anything you use to wash your car runs straight into the street, down the storm drain and directly into your streams and lake.

Q: Why is it better to frequent a commercial car wash?

A: Commercial car washes are required to have separate treatment systems installed before the water passes through the storm drains. This means that no soapy water goes directly into our water systems. They also use less water and often are able to recycle water.

Q: If I have no other option than to wash my car at home, how should I do it?

A: Remember: there is no treatment system for anything you wash down your driveway. So if you have to wash your car at home, try doing so on your lawn or on gravel so that any soaps used are absorbed in the grass and soil.

Q: I'm not convinced—isn't the storm drain connected to the sewer system?

A: No. It is an entirely separate pipe, and there really is no filter between what enters your catch basin and what drains directly into our lakes and streams.

Want more information? Visit the Department of Ecology's educational site:
http://www.ecy.wa.gov/washington_waters/carwash.html

Questions or Comments? Contact the City of Lake Forest Park: (206) 368-5440

Q: What should I use to scoop the poop?

A: Try "BioBags" certified compostable bags. They are made from renewable crops and are sold individually at all PCC markets or in bulk at Costco Wholesale.



Q: Why can't I compost my dog's poop?

A: Pet waste is full of harmful bacteria! You do not want to mix that bacteria into your home compost. Instead, throw that poo away and ensure both your pet's and your family's safety.

Q: Does 1 dog's poop really make a difference?

A: Yes; even a small amount of pet waste can contain thousands of harmful parasites and bacteria.

Q: What should I do if I forget my bag on our walk?

A: Come back to it! It is easy to mark your location and return with a bag either by foot or by car. If you don't, you run the risk of contaminating your lakes and streams by letting the "forgotten poop" drain into the streets when it rains.

Want more information? Visit
http://www.ecy.wa.gov/washington_waters/dog_poop.html

Questions or Comments? Contact the City of Lake Forest Park: (206) 368-5440

Q: How should you fertilize your lawn?

A: Use a 21-7-14 or 15-5-10 fertilizer sparingly four times per year.

1. Nov. 15—December 7
2. April 15
3. June 15
4. September 1

Q: How should you water your lawn?

A: Water in the early morning when the top two inches of soil are dry.

Q: How should I remove Weeds?

A: Pull weeds first and use weed killers as spot treatments. The best way to eliminate weeds is to properly water in lawns, fertilize, and mow regularly. Do not use a fertilizer/weed killer product because it spreads herbicides where they are not needed.

Q: How should you eliminate unwanted insects from your garden?

A: Use insecticidal soaps to kill unwanted bugs. Insecticidal soaps wash away the protective coating on the surface of soft-bodied insects and kill them, leaving behind the beneficial insects like lady beetles. Insects must come in direct contact with spray droplets for the treatment to be effective.

Want more information? Visit the Washington State University Master Gardener website: <http://gardening.wsu.edu/>

Questions or Comments? Contact the City of Lake Forest Park: (206) 368-5440