Chesapeake Bay Watershed



Loudoun County lies within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Land use, agricultural activities, and stormwater pollution in Loudoun County affect the health of the Bay.

FOR STORMWATER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Department of General Services Steve Plante, Chief, Stormwater Management steve.plante@loudoun.gov (571) 258-3227

FOR CONCERNS/COMPLAINTS RELATED TO EROSION CONTACT:

Erosion & Sediment Control hotline: (703) 737-8746

OR VISIT:

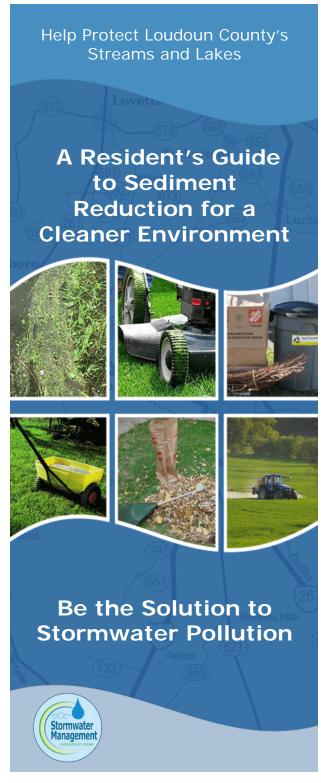
www.loudoun.gov/stormwater-complaint

FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES, VISIT:

Chesapeake Bay
Foundation http://www.chesapeakebay.ne
t/issues/issue/sediment/

Loudoun County appreciates your help in protecting our valuable water resources.





the problem

things in them, healthy. to keep our streams and the living washing off of your property you help By keeping soil and debris from

What you can do:

Yard Work

the

solution

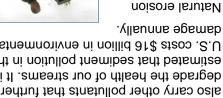
- yard where there is exposed soil. Plant and mulch the areas of your
- and storm drains. streets, curbs, drainage ditches, Keep leaves and grass out of
- mulch or gravel. of shade or heavy foot traffic, use maintain healthy plants, because In areas where it is difficult to

Around the House

- car wash. or street, or take it to a commercial the grass rather than the driveway Wash your car while it is parked on
- before strong storm events. contain the loose soil, especially or your contractors cover or back of the house; make sure you an irrigation line, bumping out the creating a new garden, repairing Whenever you disturb the ground,
- sediment in our streams and rivers. areas so that it does not become dirt, sand and debris off the paved property. Keep those particles of and drainage areas around your and salt; sweep sidewalks, curb roads have been treated with sand After snow and ice events, where
- sediment loading to nearby waters. but it contributes unwanted to wash down areas is tempting, around your home. Using the hose sweeping to keep things tidy Always opt for raking and

transported during a single stormy period. sediment moved during a year might be storms that over one-half of all the So much sediment is carried during than they carry during a low-flow period. they are carrying a lot more sediment are more muddy-looking during storms slow-moving waters. This is why rivers and moves particles more easily than Fast-moving water picks up, suspends, boulders can be moved by stormwater. as tiny clay particles and as large as brings along other things -- things as small streams and waterways. That runoff also can flow quickly off property and into Intense storms produce a lot of water that

U.S. costs \$16 billion in environmental estimated that sediment pollution in the degrade the health of our streams. It is also carry other pollutants that further Bits of debris and dirt, or sediment, can





70 percent. for the remaining activities accounts result of human waterways as a washed into Sediment that is the United States. total sediment in bercent of the broduces only 30

the facts

for prolonged periods. areas in your yard where soil is exposed building projects. It can also come from activities, including relatively minor homereleases come from construction The most concentrated sediment

> discharges into a natural body of water. storm drain. The water eventually silt, clay, salt, and debris -- and into the driveway and sidewalks-picking up sand, rooftops and over the lawn, down the When it rains, rainwater flows off of

to stormwater pollution. instead of sweeping them up, contributes events to enter the storm drain system, treatment efforts during snow and ice yard trimmings or sand and salt from street Allowing grass clippings, fallen leaves, and

structures, reducing their effectiveness. aquatic life and fills up flood protection streams and rivers harming fish and excessive amounts of sediment clouds decomposing plants and animals, from weathering rocks and Although sediment naturally occurs



following ways: your property can affect the County in the Allowing excessive sediment to flow off of

- the potential for flooding. away from roads and homes, increasing basins that are intended to carry water Sediment fills up storm drains and catch
- aquatic life. disrupts the growth and health of grow underwater, can clog fish gills and impacting the ability for vegetation to Sediment makes stream water cloudy,