

# Maintaining Your Yard This Fall

Fall is the time for raking leaves and fertilizing your lawn. Here are some tips for keeping your lawn healthy while still preventing stormwater pollution:

- 1) Dispose of leaf litter and yard waste in a compost pile, never in the street or stream!** You can shred yard waste to use as mulch or fertilizer for your yard and garden. Or, check with your municipality for yard waste collection opportunities.
- 2) Do not use fertilizers immediately before a rainstorm, and do not apply them in excess.** Always follow the directions on the bottle for safe application and disposal whenever you use a chemical product. Reduce outdoor and household chemical use as much as possible.
- 3) Add native plants to your yard.** Now through Thanksgiving can be the best time to put native plants in the ground. Many plants go dormant in the fall and winter and will not require much maintenance to survive until spring. Native plants aid in the infiltration of stormwater and provide important food and habitat for wildlife.

For more info visit our website:  
[www.perkiomenwatershed.org](http://www.perkiomenwatershed.org)



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