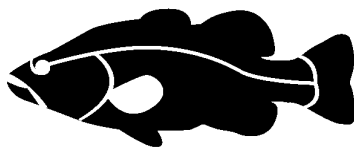




- ◆ **Remember that storm sewers discharge directly into a nearby body of water - the same water you swim in, fish from and enjoy for the natural habitat it supports.**
- ◆ **Remember that the water we drink is also fed by storm water.**
- ◆ **Soil erosion and sedimentation degrades more lakes and streams in Illinois than any other source of water pollution. Storm sewers are a major pathway for soil and sand to enter our waters.**
- ◆ **Nutrients are the second major pollutant. Use lawn and garden chemicals sparingly. Test your soil and use only the minimum amount needed. Do not let lawn chemicals fall onto paved surfaces which drain to streets and storm sewers.**
- ◆ **Wash your car over grass or take it to a commercial car wash. Grass will capture dirty wash water and reduce the contaminated runoff from getting into storm sewers.**
- ◆ **Pick up your pet's poop. A pet "septic" system can be built by burying in your backyard a plastic bucket with holes, or dispose down the toilet or with other organic solid waste.**
- ◆ **Compost your leaves and lawn clippings well away from sewer inlets and stream banks. Leaves, lawn clippings and other debris, though natural, will significantly contribute to water pollution.**
- ◆ **Maintain a natural, woody vegetation buffer strip along the edge of lakes and streams. Thick vegetation intercepts surface runoff and helps remove many pollutants carried by storm water runoff. Woody plants have complex root structures which hold soil. Overhanging vegetation provides shade and shelter for fish, and food from falling insects. Shade also maintains cooler water temperatures which is important for the survival of many fish species.**
- ◆ **Report illegal dumping (847-297-5225) and document it with photographs or videos.**

**DON'T DUMP!**



**DRAINS TO  
RIVER**