

## Keep Spring Runoff Clean



Spring Lake and Upper Prior Lake are designated as "Impaired Waters" due to high phosphorus content, and Lower Prior Lake is also at risk of becoming impaired. Phosphorus is a nutrient that stimulates excess algae and plant growth. Some algae blooms (blue-green algae) may even be hazardous to pets and humans. Excess leaves, grass clippings, eroded soil, and other phosphorus-containing materials wash down storm drains in the streets and into our lakes.

We can all do our part to reduce the amount of phosphorus reaching our lakes. Please help to keep leaves and grass clippings off of streets, driveways, and other paved surfaces.

In addition to water quality treatment, stormwater ponds provide wildlife habitat. Much of our street and lawn runoff enters these ponds, which then drain to our natural water resources (lakes, streams, and wetlands).



## Flooding in the Street?

This time of year, city maintenance crews are on the lookout for street flooding. Localized flooding normally occurs at intersections and low spots where catch basins can become blocked by ice, snow, or debris.



Call **952-447-9800** to report street flooding

Working Together to Protect Our Quality of Life

## Clean Water Seasonal Series:



# SPRING

### Timely Tips for Clean Water

*It's time to think spring! Keeping our lakes, streams, and wetlands healthy is a year-round pursuit. Use these tips to do your part for our waters and improve your property at the same time!*



Spring snowmelt and rain funnels down streets into storm sewers that carry it to our waters.





## Get the Phosphorus Out (it's the law!)

Zero-phosphorus fertilizer is the LAW in Minnesota. Most lawns in this area have adequate soil phosphorus and remain healthy without adding more. You may only use fertilizer with phosphorus on your lawn if:

- A soil test shows a need for phosphorus
- A new lawn is being established



## Annual Spring Cleanup Event



During the month of May, the City will again partner with Buckingham Companies to host a City-wide Spring Cleanup Event. Residents of Prior Lake, Spring Lake Township, and Credit River Township are eligible. Nominal fees may apply.

- **Acceptable materials:** Tires, batteries, appliances, scrap metal, electronics, furniture, power equipment, and propane cylinders, and more. See also, <http://www.cityofpriorlake.com/news-item.php?id=388>
- **Unacceptable materials:** Hazardous waste (paint, oil, antifreeze, fertilizer, etc.).

Visit [cityofpriorlake.com/Recycling.php](http://cityofpriorlake.com/Recycling.php) for more information.

## SMSC Organics Recycling Facility (ORF)

The Shakopee Mdwakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) operates an organics recycling facility available for Prior Lake Residents to drop off yard waste.

All plant waste is accepted: food waste, leaves, grass clippings, sod, brush, branches, garden plants, logs, straw, and more.

**Every Sunday in April and May, beginning April 8, is a free yard waste recycling day for Scott County residents from 8 AM to 2 PM. ID is required.**

### Regular hours, April 1 to November 30:

Monday - Friday, 7 AM - 6 PM  
Saturday 8 AM - 4 PM  
[minimum \$10 residential drop-off fee]

Located 1.4 miles north of Co. Rd. 42 on County Rd. 83, at 1905 Mystic Lake Drive South in Shakopee. Look for the "Organic Recycling Facility" sign on the east side of the road.

More information:  
(952) 233-9191  
[www.smscorf.com](http://www.smscorf.com)



MINNESOTA WATER  
LET'S KEEP IT CLEAN

# SPRING Lawn Care

## Restore Your Lawn

- Reseed bare spots. Boulevard areas may require a salt-tolerant grass seed mix.
- Lightly cover newly seeded areas using straw or the compost you made from last fall's leaves.
- Don't put yard debris in the regular trash—it's illegal! Contact your waste hauler for disposal options, or take it to the SMSC Organic Recycling Facility.

## Good Lawn Maintenance Starts in the Spring

- Don't apply any fertilizer or herbicides to frozen or saturated ground in the early spring; much of this material will wash away without being used.
- Lightly rake to remove snow mold patches; grass is easily damaged in the early spring.
- Consider aerating your lawn to reduce compaction.
- Time herbicide applications correctly to avoid waste and to avoid wet weather