



Caring for the "Natural State"

HERE'S WHAT **WE** CAN DO.

CONSERVE WATER:

- Prevent overworking your system.
- Fix leaky faucets.
- Run only full loads in washing machine & dishwasher.
- Shorten shower time (2 minutes less= 700 gallons/month).

MAINTAIN SEPTIC SYSTEMS:

- Inspect every 1-3 years.
- Pump the holding tank out every 3-5 years to remove sludge and scum.
- Repair or replace malfunctioning or outdated septic systems.

TRASH, DON'T FLUSH:

- Pharmaceutical products.
- Personal hygiene products.
- Motor oil (recycle at gas stations).
- Household chemicals.
- Paint:
 - Let paint dry in the can and put in trash if there is no local recycle program.
 - Use water-based paints.
 - Clean brushes with water in bucket and dispose of away from well & septic system.
 - Re-use paint thinner.
 - Prevent paint or toxic material from entering storm drains.



HERE'S MORE **WE** CAN DO.

AUTOS.

- Recycle used motor oil (Wal-Mart, Tire & Lube Express, AutoZone, and many other service stations).
- Use a commercial car wash (drains into waste water treatment).
- Wash vehicles on the grass (filters grimy road dirt and soapy waters).
- Turn off hose when not washing or rinsing.
- Drain radiator and anti-freeze liquids in container for disposal rather than draining onto ground (toxic to groundwater and harmful to animals).

TRASH:

- Recycle reusable materials (cardboard, paper, plastic, metals).
- Throw away your trash in garbage cans (not in streets, ditches or roadsides).

LAWNS:

- Use lawn chemicals sparingly (pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and others).
- Get expert advice for pest management (contact your County Cooperative Extension Service).
- Perform soil analysis (contact your County Cooperative Extension Service) to determine what is needed for your lawn and do only what is necessary.
- Compost grass clippings, leaves and kitchen scraps for use as an excellent soil conditioner.
- Adjust sprinklers to reach lawn and garden surfaces only or use drip irrigation.

PURCHASE “Natural Products” whenever possible.



*For more information contact the
Friends of the North Fork and White at
www.friendsoftherivers.org*

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