



**The following gardening and lawn care tips can help protect our streams and rivers from pesticide pollution.**

- **Selection:** Select the least toxic option for getting rid of pests and improving the quality of your soil. All-natural compost does wonders. Find a list of non-toxic or less toxic alternative products at the Our Water Our World Website: <https://ourwaterourworld.org>
- **Use bait stations or insecticidal soaps:** Consider using bait stations or insecticidal soaps and oils.
- **Moderation:** Spot-apply pesticides or chemicals only to the area that needs treatment.
- **Timing:** Application timing is important to allow all chemicals enough time to be absorbed and not run off into storm drains. Follow product directions—they often specify not to mow or water immediately before and after application.
- **Don't use if it's going to rain:** Do not use pesticides if rain is forecast within 24 hours.
- **Irrigation:** When watering your lawn, prevent landscape irrigation from running off your yard and into the streets and the storm drain system. Irrigation runoff transports pollutants, including pesticides, to the storm drain system and ultimately to local creeks and rivers.
- **Disposal of ready-to-use containers:** Empty containers that held ready-to-use chemicals can be thrown in the trash without rinsing them out.
- **Proper disposal:** Residents can drop off leftover pesticides at the local household hazardous waste (HHW) for FREE at the [Household Hazardous Waste Facility](#), 3195 Athens Avenue in Lincoln.

