Clean Water begins at home!

Waste Disposal & Composting

Improper storage of food and solid waste at home can not only cause water pollution problems but can attract neighborhood pets and vermin.

Much of this solid waste and food waste can be diverted from the landfill by properly composting or recycling it. Composting has the beneficial side effect of contributing to healthy flower and vegetable gardens. You may even save money by requiring less frequent garbage pick-up at home! The following recommendations can help make your home a clean and healthy place:

WASTE DISPOSAL

- Recycle whenever possible. For information on recycling specific materials, please visit www.RecyclingA-Z.com.
- Keep lids secure on outside waste containers.
- Replace leaking waste containers.
- Store solid waste containers under cover or on grassy areas to prevent any leakage from being washed into the street and down a storm drain.

COMPOSTING

Many organic waste products can be composted, which reduces the strain on landfills. Your flower beds will flourish with the finished compost.

DO COMPOST: Fruit and veggie scraps, coffee grounds and filters, grains and pasta, egg shells, yard and grass clippings (small amounts), leaves, and dryer lint.

DON'T COMPOST: Meat, fat, oil, bones, dairy, or inorganic waste (plastic, foil, etc.).

- Compost piles should be placed on an unpaved area where runoff can soak into the ground, at least 25 feet away from wetlands, streams, or other drainage paths.

- Cover your compost pile to prevent rainwater from carrying nutrients into waterways, and to prevent excess water from impeding the decomposition process.

- Worm composting is a fun alternative to traditional composting. Keep a small worm composting box just outside the kitchen - the worms will do all the work for you!

For more information on composting, call Clark County Master Composters/Recycling at (360) 397-6060.

For more information, please call the Clark County Clean Water Program at (360) 397-2121 ext. 4345 or visit www.clark.wa.gov/water-resources.

For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office: **Voice** (360) 397-2322; **Relay** 711 or (800) 833-6388; **Fax** (360) 397-6165; **E-mail** ADA@clark.wa.gov.