

## The Right Plant for the Right Place

- Use appropriate plants for your yard. Match sun/shade and moisture conditions to your yard.
- Try SW Oregon natives. NW Oregon natives can be used in shady, moist areas.
- Consider xeriscaping: landscaping and gardening in ways that reduce or eliminate the need for supplemental water from irrigation.

### For more information on plants and planting:

**Rogue Valley Council of Governments  
Natural Resources Department**  
(541) 423-1370

[http://rvcog.org/MN.asp?pg=NR\\_Riparian\\_Planting\\_Plan\\_TOC](http://rvcog.org/MN.asp?pg=NR_Riparian_Planting_Plan_TOC)

### Medford Water Commission

Irrigation Tips:

Irrigation hotline: (541) 774-2460

<http://medfordwater.org/Page.asp?NavID=90>

### Washington State University's Plant Finder Searchable Database

<http://pnwplants.wsu.edu/Default.aspx>



## YARD CARE AT HOME: SOMETIMES LESS IS MORE



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Bear Creek Stormwater Communities*

## Where does the water go?

Any water that enters a storm drain is discharged **untreated** into the nearest stream or river. That means that anything that goes into the drains (e.g., fertilizers, dog poop, grass clippings, oil) can end up in Bear Creek and the Rogue River.



### Water Quality Impacts: Yard Care

- Excess nutrients (fertilizers) can lead to the growth of algae in streams.
- Algae consumes oxygen which can stress or kill fish and macroinvertebrates (e.g., crayfish).
- Pesticides can be directly toxic to aquatic life.

## What can you do?



### Fertilizer and Pesticide Use

- Follow label instructions for use.
- Use store bought non-toxic or natural alternatives.
- Use homemade pest control and fertilizer.
- Don't fertilize before a rain storm.



### Watering

- Conserve water. Suggested watering of about one inch per week for a healthy lawn.
- Water early in the morning (before sunrise) or after dark.
- Use plants that require less water.

## Yard Debris and Composting

- Use green bins for yard waste.
- Compost. "How to" guides, local resources, and other information are available online.
- Use a mulching mower.



### Contact Us

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