

River and Coastal Water Quality Begins at Home!

Kitchen	DO sort/recycle trash. DO NOT use drains for medicine/toxic chemical disposal. Use pharmacy, Town "Take Back Day" for safe disposal.
Bathrooms	TOILET: Septic-friendly paper; DO use for pet waste; DO NOT use for medicine/toxic chemical disposal.
Laundry	Biodegradable, phosphate-free detergent. Lowest needed water volume (load size, rinse).
Garage	Bring oil, grease, paint, paint thinner, pesticides, electronics to Town "Hazardous Waste Day".
Basement/Foundation	Seal to prevent flooding, mold, pest infiltration; sump pump; ultrasound to deter mice. Keep shrubs trimmed back from house. Monitor regularly.
Exterior Foundation	No wood/shingles touching ground; no shrubs, vines, trees touching house (stops rot, insects)
Roof & Gutters: managing runoff	Keep clean, repaired. Direct gutter to rain barrel, rain garden, lawn. Place stone below roof drip line.
Driveway	Use porous materials. Direct runoff to swales, rain garden. Use cat litter, NOT rock salt, as ice melt. Wash car at commercial car wash.
Power washing: house, deck, patio furniture, car	Work on lawn, not driveway; use non-caustic, eco-friendly detergents. Wash car at commercial car wash.
Pest control for house, lawn, garden	Always choose organic alternatives (i.e. diatomaceous earth, for carpenter ants); cap chimney to prevent raccoon infestation; ultrasound to deter mice.
Lawn & Garden fertilizing, watering, leaf clean-up	Choose organic; use mulching mower; limit sprinkler; compost or use Town yard waste site, NOT waterways. Test soil to avoid over-fertilizing.
Pet Waste	Pick up and use toilet or trash for disposal.
Septic, Cesspools, Oil Tank, Well	Clean septic every 2-5 years; close out abandoned cesspools, oil tanks; test well water annually.