

# Be A Lake Steward

*A lake steward takes the extra step every day to ensure the water quality in our lakes. By adopting these simple activities your family can be lake stewards too.*



## Regularly scoop up after your pet.

Cleaning up after your pet is as easy as 1 - 2 - 3.

- 1) Scoop It,
- 2) Bag It,
- 3) Trash It.

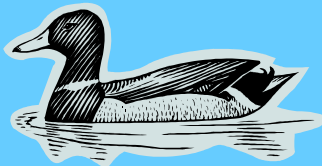


## Go native.

Planting native drought tolerant plants in your yard or garden will reduce the need for fertilizers and excess watering. Native plants also provide valuable habitat for birds and wildlife.

## Don't feed the ducks or geese.

Beyond being unhealthy for the birds, feeding the waterfowl increases the resident time of waterfowl at our lakes and may encourage them to over-winter rather than migrate. The result can be unhealthy levels of fecal matter and bacteria getting into the lake.



## Use a mulching lawn mower.

By using a mulching lawnmower you can decrease your use of fertilizers by 25 percent.



## Don't pour it down the drain.

Properly dispose of your automotive and household hazardous wastes. Wastes like paint, pesticides, cleaning solutions, oils and antifreeze can legally be disposed of at local hazardous waste disposal sites. For locations and times call 206.296.4692 or visit [www.lhwmp.org/home/hhw/disposal-locations.aspx](http://www.lhwmp.org/home/hhw/disposal-locations.aspx).



## Wash your car in your yard or preferably at a licensed car wash.

Car wash water contains dirt, road grime, oils and soaps, which are toxic to aquatic life.

## Avoid using weed and feed.

It's better for the health of your family and the health of our streams and lakes. If you must use pesticides, treat the weed, not the entire lawn.



## Don't compost near the shoreline.

Compost bins should be located at least 25 feet away from the shoreline to prevent excess nutrients from leeching into the lake.



## Use organic, time-release fertilizers.

Organic, time release fertilizers slowly release nutrients to your lawn, reducing the amount of pollutants washed into

our waterways, and adds to the biotic integrity of your lawn. More information is available at: <http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/naturalyardcare/index.asp>.



## Be thoughtful when cleaning and maintaining docks and piers.

Use non-toxic wood treatments and ensure excess paint, stain or varnish does not pollute the lake.



*For additional information, call the Conservation Outreach Coordinator 206.973.4763.*