## **Top 10: For A Cleaner River**



## 10 Things You Can Do

- 1) Improve your soil quality to prevent urban runoff, to hold storm water, to help filter chemicals and provide a healthy green landscape.
- 2) Reduce your lawn size, replace grass by landscaping with native plants.
- 3) Mow your lawn a notch higher.
- 4) Leave grass clippings on your lawn; the clippings act as organic fertilizer.
- 5) Don't over fertilize your lawn. The best time to fertilize is in spring and late fall.
- 6) Keep fertilizers and chemicals on your lawn. Sweep up fertilizer off streets, sidewalks, and driveways.
- 7) Redirect your downspouts away from foundations onto permeable surfaces.
- 8) Add a rain garden of native plants to your landscaping to hold water, filter chemicals, and add beauty.
- 9) Install rain barrels to catch stormwater.
- 10) Keep pet wastes, trash, and yard wastes from streets and storm sewers.

## Why it Matters:

Recent water crises across the US have elevated awareness regarding the importance of water and rivers for communities. By being proactive, we can avoid the struggles and costs associated with the maltreatment of an important resource. This is why monitoring water quality and providing data to decision makers is important for economic growth & development, recreation & tourism, safe local water, and the health of the community & wildlife.

