

TRASH IS ONE OF THE LEADING SOURCES OF WATER POLLUTION:

The biggest contributor to water pollution today is not industry. It is estimated that 60% of water pollution comes from trash, litter, excess fertilizer, and pet waste. When plastic bags, bottles, cigarette butts and other waste is thrown on the ground, it gets washed into storm drains and directly into our waterways. This waste can choke, suffocate, or disable aquatic life like ducks and birds. It also decreases oxygen levels in the water when it decays which causes fish kills.

Litter is one of the most unsightly forms of pollution in our local waterways, but it can easily be prevented. Below is a list of small things each of us can do to reduce litter.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- **DO NOT LITTER!** Carry a bag for waste along in the car to eliminate the temptation to throw it out the window. Put litter in your pocket until you can find a recycling container or trash can.
- Reuse and recycle items whenever possible.
- Make sure your trash bins have lids that can be securely attached. Do not put out open containers or boxes filled with debris.
- Keep litter out of pick-up truck beds and cover loads so items are not blown off to the ground.
- Pick up **ONE** piece of litter every day. That's 365 fewer pieces of trash on our streets, in our parks, and around our schools thanks to you.