

Best Management Practices

- Dispose of waste and chemicals properly. Don't pour hazardous chemicals down drains or into storm sewers or directly into water sources.
- Use environmental friendly cleaners as alternatives.
- Read labels on Fertilizers and Pesticides. Use only what is necessary. Use plants that don't require fertilizer.
- Pick up pet waste from yards.
- Fence off livestock from entering the water ways.
- Leave corn stubble on the land to prevent erosion of soils.
- Keep cars tuned up. Fix leaking vehicles as soon as possible.
- Plant prairie grasses along roadsides and waterways. Trees and grasses can create a natural filtering system and can prevent soils from entering into bodies of water, these are called *Buffer Strips*.
- Keep soil on land. Use erosion fences, sediment basins (temporary ponds designed to catch soil); silt fences, plant buffer strips.
- Pick up litter and garbage. Provide garbage cans to discourage littering.
- Adopt a roadside to remove litter.
- Install a wetland to collect runoff, nutrients, and sediment. Wetlands can naturally filter water, and then drain cleaner water into local waterbodies.
- Add a flow control structure— slows down the flow of water in a stream drainage channel or pipe.