



From Storms TO STORMWATER



2025

Prepare for the Aftermath

A Foxy Choice: To Feed or Not to Feed...

According to the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, “the major problems associated with foxes involve their ability to invade houses or trash cans. They are very adaptable to urban areas, and they are nocturnal, meaning they come out mostly at night. Note, however, that just seeing them during the day is not a sign of rabies. Foxes are commonly seen

during the day in urban and suburban areas and are usually attracted there by a food source or an easily accessed area to make a den such as under porches/decks, crawl spaces, or out-buildings. The best way to prevent them from becoming a problem is to not give them a reason to come. Follow these tips to keep foxes and other critters away from your home:

- If you are feeding wildlife, stop! Feeding wild animals will cause them to lose their natural fear of humans.
- Keep trash inside until the morning of trash pick-up or place trash in an animal-proof container, such as a metal trash can with latches on the lids.
- Do not leave pet food outside; keep pet feeding areas clean.
- Remove bird feeders when problem species have been seen around them.
- Close up all openings under and into your buildings. Animals look for places to den and raise their young, so don't give them that opportunity.
- Clear fallen fruit from around trees.

Please, pass along this information to your friends and neighbors. If anyone in your neighborhood is directly or indirectly feeding wildlife, it can cause trouble for everyone.

Note that it is illegal in the State of Virginia to trap and relocate an animal to another area.

Contact your local health department if a fox or other wild animal exhibits signs of rabies such as stumbling, foaming at the mouth, or aggression.

If these techniques do not solve the problem, contact a licensed trapper or a critter removal service.”¹

¹Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources.
<https://dwr.virginia.gov/wildlife/nuisance/foxes/>



December 2024

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Martin Luther King Jr. Day					
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NOTES



The HEART of Roanoke County is. . .

The "RIVAH"

Keep it CLEAN

- Limit lawn fertilizers.
- Contain trash and litter.
- Throw NOTHING in a storm drain.
- Bag pet waste, then put it in a trash can.
- Cover bare dirt with mulch, or seed and straw.
- Bag or compost leaves and grass clippings.
- Apply absorbent materials to oil leaks or spills.
- Remove leaves from roadside gutters and swales.



The Roanoke River

Keeping the Roanoke River pollution-free is vital to the well-being of the localities through which it travels, especially Roanoke County. WHY? A healthy river helps maintain the quality of life that residents have come to expect; provides safe water-related recreational opportunities; attracts nature-loving tourists; keeps wildlife healthy; and supports the vital local industries that depend on it.

January 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025

March 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Groundhog Day						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
					Valentine's Day	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Presidents' Day					
23	24	25	26	27	28	

NOTES

- Pick up trash
- Do not release balloons
- Sweep gutter pans
- Keep trash can lids ON
- Do not litter
- Only rain down the storm drain

SAVE A TURTLE

February 2025

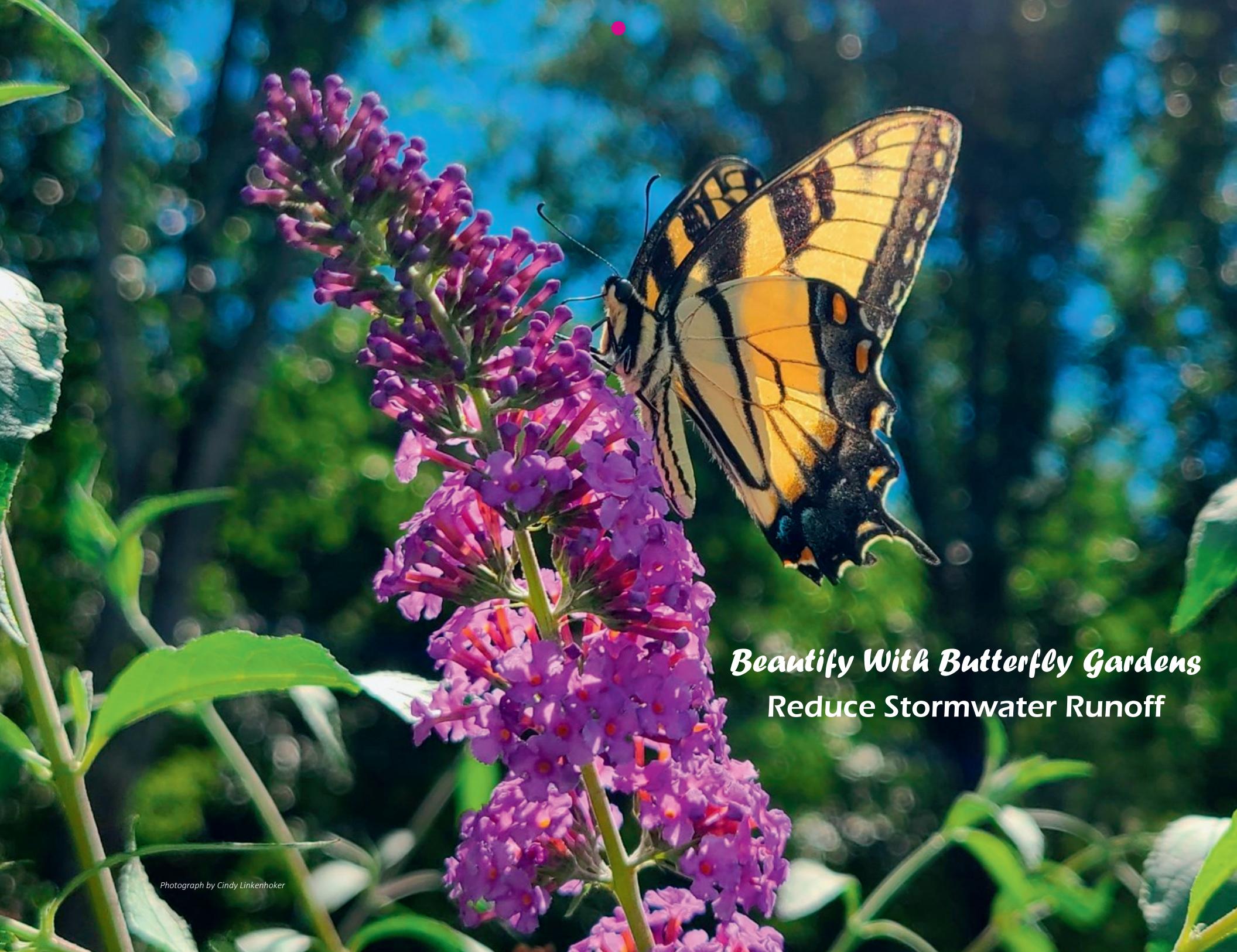
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

April 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Ash Wednesday			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Daylight Savings					Total Lunar Eclipse	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	St. Patrick's Day			Spring		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	NOTES				



Beautify With Butterfly Gardens
Reduce Stormwater Runoff

Photograph by Cindy Linkenhoker

March 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2025

May 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Palm Sunday					Good Friday	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Easter						
27	28	29	30			

NOTES





April 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

June 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 National Day of Prayer	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Mother's Day	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Memorial Day						

NOTES

POOL MAINTENANCE TIPS

DID YOU KNOW?

Discharging pool chemicals to the storm drainage system is ILLEGAL, as such chemicals are toxic to the environment, wildlife, and fish.

See the tips below to ensure your pool discharge is safe.

Pool Maintenance TIPS:

- Let pool water sit for several days without treating it to allow chemicals to dissipate. Once the chemicals have dissipated, it is allowable to discharge to the storm drainage system.
 - ⇒ Add sodium thiosulphate, a salt that breaks down chlorine, to the water for faster results. (Levels should be below 0.1 milligrams per liter of chlorine or bromine.)
 - ⇒ The pH of the water should be between 6.5 and 8.5 before it is drained.
 - ⇒ Avoid the use of algaecides, such as copper and silver, by proper maintenance of your pool's chemicals.
- Drain pool water that still contains chemicals to grassy areas, where it will soak into the ground rather than flow to nearby storm drains. (The lawn and soil will serve as natural filters.) NOTE: Discharging saltwater into yards may cause some browning.



May 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025

July 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

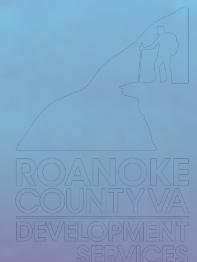
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Father's Day				Juneteenth	Summer	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

NOTES





Ask Us How Your Project can win Roanoke County's **STORMWATER CLEAN AWARD**



June 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July 2025

August 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
					31	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
					Independence Day	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOTES

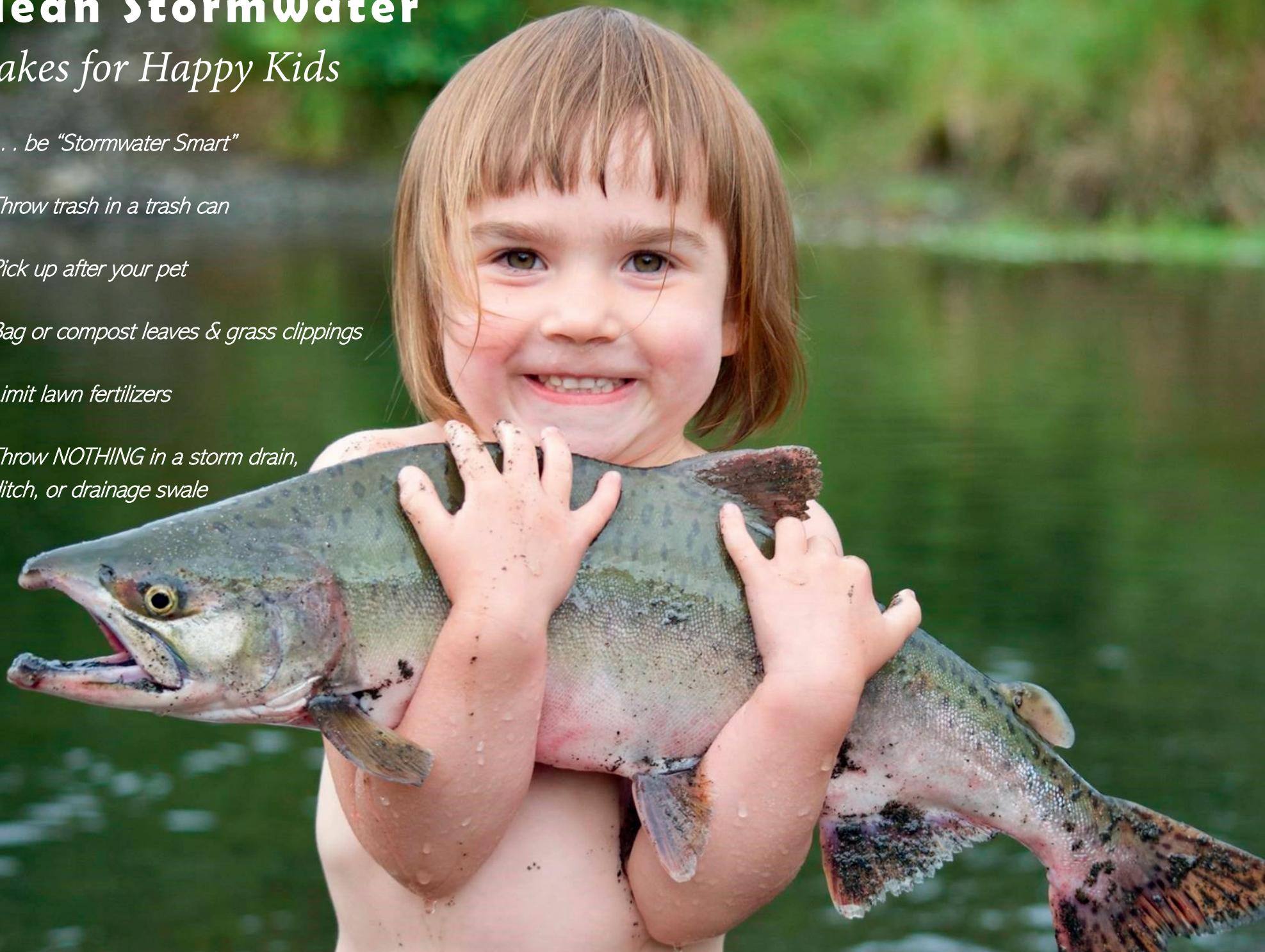


Clean Stormwater

Makes for Happy Kids

So . . . be "Stormwater Smart"

- Throw trash in a trash can
- Pick up after your pet
- Bag or compost leaves & grass clippings
- Limit lawn fertilizers
- Throw **NOTHING** in a storm drain, ditch, or drainage swale



July 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August 2025

September 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	NOTES					

Report Illicit Discharges



Report Illicit Discharges at
www.roanokecountyva.gov/ReportID or call the
Stormwater Program Manager at 540-772-2036.

Because stormwater runoff is untreated, any pollutants that it picks up along its travels are transported **and then discharged** into the nearest receiving waterway. Pollutants include a wide variety of materials, such as cigarette butts, leaves/grass clippings, trash, oil/grease, PCBs, sediment, pet waste, and more.

If you see someone placing anything into the storm drainage system, which includes storm drainage inlets, curb and gutter systems, roadside ditches, and underground drainage pipes, please report the activity to the County by clicking the link or calling the number below. If possible, take a picture of the illicit discharge activity when it is occurring and then send it to the County's Stormwater Program Manager in the Department of Development Services, Stormwater Division, 5204 Bernard Drive, Roanoke, VA 24018 or email it to clinkenhoker@roanokecountyva.gov. County staff will investigate the incident and attempt to resolve it.

Also, to learn more about the harmful effects of illicit discharges on the area's receiving waters, please see the County's various public education videos, which are posted on the Stormwater webpage. Please click the following link:

<https://www.roanokecountyva.gov/1598/Stormwater-Public-Education-Videos>

Only Rain Down the Drain

August 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

October 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Fall	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

NOTES



FREE Septic System Pump-Out Program

Roanoke County has partnered with the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission to provide a no-cost septic tank pump-out program for Roanoke County residents.

Septic systems that have not been maintained are a possible source of nutrient and bacteria pollution that may lead to stream impairments throughout Roanoke County. Septic systems that fall into disrepair can back up into homes or overflow into yards, creating costly issues for homeowners. Families with an annual household income at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line are eligible to apply for the program. This grant-funded program aims to reduce the environmental impact and property damage caused by failed septic systems.

Program participants will also have the opportunity to attend a septic system workshop to learn how septic systems function and how to maintain their system in the future. For additional information, please visit the website via the link below:



Learn How Your Septic System Works

- Septic systems are designed to treat household wastewater on-site for homes without connection to a centralized wastewater treatment system.
- Learn more with the [animated, interactive model of how a household septic system works](#) created by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority.
- Additional information about septic systems can be found on the [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) website or from [Roanoke County's Stormwater Management](#) webpage.
- See Roanoke County's [Stormwater Newsletter from June 2021 \(page 4\)](#) for an article about the importance of septic system maintenance.

Benefits of Septic System Maintenance

Keeping your septic system maintained benefits your household, your community, and the environment. Septic systems should be inspected every 1 to 3 years and pumped every 3 to 5 years, depending on use. This will help prevent your system from falling into disrepair and causing costly fixes. More information can be found on the [Virginia Department of Health's Environmental Health](#) website.



September 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025

November 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
						30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	Halloween

NOTES



ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN

Fall is a beautiful time of year in the Roanoke Valley! Bright colors, glorious views, crisp mountain air. But, once the annual leaf drop begins, the number of drainage and flooding complaints made to the County dramatically increases. **WHY?** Because folks often mismanage the leaves that end up on their property by improperly raking them or blowing them into the street, drainage swales, drainage ditches, curb and gutter systems, or nearby creeks. **THE RESULT** is clogged drainage structures and drainage-ways, and increased street flooding.

BAGGED LEAF COLLECTION

As a service to residents and to help prevent the above situation, Roanoke County offers bagged leaf collection during regularly scheduled bulk/brush collection days. To find your bulk/brush collection day, please visit "Find Your Collection Day" on the following webpage: <http://www.roanokecountyva.gov/index.aspx?NID=94>.



REMEMBER

- Bags must be to the curb by 7:00 a.m. on the bulk/brush collection day.
- Leaves MUST be contained in either tied bags or sealed boxes.
- Bags cannot weigh more than 30 pounds, as bags that are too heavy tend to rip during collection.
- Do not wrap loose leaves in tarps or plastic sheeting.
- Roanoke County does not provide vacuum services for loose leaves. Please do not leave loose leaves at the curb or in the drainage ditches. Flooding and drainage issues occur when leaves are blocking the drainage inlets, ditches, and gutters.

OTHER WAYS TO MANAGE LEAVES

If you prefer a more environmentally-friendly approach to leaf management, you can let the leaves "work for you" by using either of the following options:

- **Mulch/mow** - using a standard rotary or a mulching mower, chop the leaves in your yard and leave them in place. They won't hurt the lawn but might limit weeds!
- **Collect leaves and compost them** - compost is a great additive for gardens and flower beds, and it is virtually free! To effectively compost leaves and other yard waste, consult the Virginia Cooperative Extension's publication 426-70, entitled "Making Compost from Yard Waste" on the following webpage: <https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/426/426-703/426-703.html>.



Excess leaves may smother lawns and clog drainage ditches and inlets.

DID YOU KNOW? Leaves that are deliberately swept, raked, or blown into the street, ditches, swales, drainage inlets, or receiving creeks, streams, or rivers constitute an illicit discharge into the County's drainage system! Please bag, mulch/mow, or compost your leaves.

Report Illicit Discharges on the County's website at <https://www.roanokecountyva.gov/306/Stormwater-Management>. Click on "Report Illicit Stormwater Discharges" and provide a specific location (address of nearest residence) and any other appropriate information.

To learn more about the harmful effects of illicit discharges on the area's receiving waters, see the County's public education videos, entitled *Illicit Discharge, Detection and Elimination - A Grate Concern*, at <http://www.roanokecountyva.gov/index.aspx?NID=1598>.

For questions contact:

Roanoke County Stormwater Program Manager
540.772.2036 or clinkenhoker@roanokecountyva.gov

October 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

December 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Fall Back (DST)						
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		Veterans Day				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	NOTES					



I Keep You Safe

YOU Scoop My Poop

*Our Missions are
CLEAR!*



COUNTY OF ROANOKE
Development Services Department
Stormwater Management Division
5204 Bernard Drive, SW
Roanoke, VA 24018
540-772-2036
roanokecountyva.gov/stormwater

November 2025

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

January 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Winter			Christmas Eve	Christmas Day		
28	29	30	31			
			New Year's Eve			

NOTES



CAR WASHING TIPS

ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN

Keep the Roanoke River and its streams clean and pollution free with these easy tips:

- Use high-pressure, low-flow nozzles with an automatic shut-off valve.
- Collect all trash and debris to keep it from getting into storm drain inlets.
- Recycle rinse water, and collect and discharge all wash water into the sanitary sewer system, NOT the storm drainage system.
- Do not discharge any car wash water to storm drains, ditches, streets, or streams, as it is polluted with sediment, oil, detergent, and heavy metals.



~ BE STORMWATER SMART: KEEP SOAP OUT OF THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM ~

County of Roanoke - Department of Development Services - Stormwater Management - 5204 Bernard Drive; Roanoke, VA 24018
(540) 772-2036

2026

January 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Storm Drain Stenciling Program: Seeking Volunteers

Roanoke County is actively seeking volunteers to participate in its annual Storm Drain Stenciling Program. Stenciling storm drain inlets is an easy way to provide a visual reminder that stormwater goes untreated to nearby waterways. And, it is a direct and cost-effective project to remind people not to dump anything into the storm drainage system. This educational activity will raise awareness and educate citizens about stormwater runoff and nonpoint source pollution. Sign up for your project today!

*Who Should Participate?

- **Business and Industry:** Show your commitment to water quality in the community by stenciling storm drains at your place of business.
- **Conservation Organizations:** Stencil storm drains to help protect Virginia's natural resources and reduce nonpoint source pollution.
- **Educators:** Stencil storm drains as a service learning project or a student field trip.
- **Girl and Boy Scouts:** Stencil neighborhood storm drains to earn a conservation badge.
- **Individuals:** Stencil inlets in your neighborhood to raise awareness that stormwater is untreated.
- **Neighborhood Associations, PTAs, Churches:** Stencil storm drains as a community-based service project to protect water quality.

Volunteer storm drain stenciling projects offer an educational pollution prevention activity with a lasting effect. Storm drain stenciling is a practical, positive, easy first step toward public education, involvement, and support. Stenciled storm drains help raise citizen awareness and educate the public about stormwater runoff and nonpoint source pollution. Stencils tell people not to dump and why.

For more information about the program, click here: <https://www.roanokecountyva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/25190/Storm-Drain-Stenciling-Program?bidId=>

To schedule your event please contact:
Cynthia S. Linkenhoker, MPA
Stormwater Program Manager
540-772-2036
clinkenhoker@roanokecountyva.gov

Choose from a variety of stencils for your next stenciling project!

KEEP IT CLEAN



DRAINS TO POND

ONLY RAIN



DOWN THE DRAIN

DUMP NO WASTE



DRAINS TO CREEK