

Storm Water & Our City

City of Evansdale Special Storm Water Insert – Spring 2018



Yardwaste & Grass Clippings

Please do not place yard waste (leaves, small twigs, grass clippings, etc.) in your garbage cans. The land fill does not consider these items regular garbage and they can require higher fees from Black Hawk Waste for disposal. If Black Hawk Waste is forced to pay higher tipping fees, they will most likely pass those extra costs on to the city and the city may be required to pass those higher fees on to the residents. None of us want that!

What to do with your yard waste? The city has a free to Evansdale residents yard waste disposal area located near the sanitary sewer plant in Deerwood Park that is open from 7 am to 7 pm daily. Additionally, you can compost most of these materials in your own yard for great soil or we do allow open burning under certain conditions.

Now that mowing season will soon be here, I am asking all residents to please not blow your clippings into the street. These clippings eventually end up in our storm water system which can lead to clogged lines. Even if they don't clog the lines the clippings eventually end up in our waterways, especially Meyers Lake. The clippings and nutrients associated with the clippings can lead to algae blooms in the lake which has a severe negative impact on the water quality of the lake. As a reminder, blowing clippings in to the street is a violation of our city code of ordinances; so if you want to avoid a visit from our code enforcement officer please keep your clippings on your lawn.

Thank you for your cooperation and have a safe and happy summer.

Doug Faas, Mayor

Visit us online: www.evansdale.govoffice.com

Let's work together in keeping our community clean.

Water Conservation

10 Ways to Conserve Water

A family of four in the United States uses 400 gallons of water every day. That's a lot of water – enough to take 10 baths! By being smarter about our water use, not only can we save water, energy, and money, we can help our rivers, too. When we use water more efficiently, we leave more water in rivers and streams to support fish and wildlife and recreation.

Here are 10 simple tips for saving water and helping rivers. Got a new tip to share? Let us know!

*Turn the water off while you brush your teeth and save over two gallons a minute.

*Fix dripping faucets and running toilets. A leaky faucet that drips at a rate of one drop per second can waste up to 2,700 gallons a year.

*Save water and money by choosing efficient showerheads, dishwashers, and other appliances. Look for the WaterSense label.

*Only run your washing machine and dish washer when they are full.

*Dispose of chemicals properly at a hazardous waste drop off center – don't pour them on the ground, in to the sewer, or down the drain.

*Avoid using pesticides or herbicides on your yard and garden – chemicals can contaminate groundwater and streams, and can also hurt kids and pets.

*In the yard, use mulch to keep moisture from leaving the soil and minimize the need to water.

*If you must water the lawn, water in the early morning or evening, and try to avoid watering on windy days. This will limit the amount of water that is evaporated by the sun or blown onto sidewalks and driveways.

*Plant a rain garden to add beauty to your yard, while absorbing and filtering runoff. Water absorbed in a rain garden will filter pollution otherwise headed for streams.

*Use a rain barrel to collect rain and help water your plants. Forty percent of the average homeowner's water use is outdoors. Rain barrels reduce the stress on municipal water systems during the dry summer months.

Street Sweeping

The city is pursuing the possibility of purchasing a good quality street sweeper so our spring sweeping may be delayed. Generally, the Street Department normally will be street sweeping in the spring and fall.

Street sweeping helps remove sediment, debris and sand from the street to help prevent the materials from getting into our storm water system.

Adopt a Storm Drain

If you feel inspired ~ adopt your nearest Storm Drain. Adopting the Storm Drain entails making sure your storm drain is free of debris, like litter, leaves and grass clippings! This not only helps protect water quality but reduces the likelihood of localized flooding on your street.

STORM WATER POLLUTANTS AND SOURCES INCLUDE:

Oil, grease, and antifreeze from car leaks, gas stations and industrial areas

Carelessly discarded trash such as cigarette butts, paper wrappers, and plastic bottles, *Don't* be a litter bug!

Illicit connections to storm sewers

Illegally dumped pollutants

Nutrients from lawn fertilizer

Pesticides and fertilizers from lawns, parks, and roadsides

Bacteria from pet waste and septic systems

Sediment from construction sites

Grass clippings and leaves

April is Keep Iowa Beautiful Month

April 2018 will be the 6th year for Keep Iowa Beautiful Month. It is the time of year to celebrate the start of season to clean-up and improve the looks of our community. The time is right to fix-up, paint-up, clean-up, and plant-up our hometown!