

A **riparian** is a person who owns a parcel of land which borders a natural body of water within the boundaries of the State of Michigan.

Riparian Responsibilities

Riparians have a special responsibility to prevent pollutants from entering the lake or stream. Some common pollutants include: lawn fertilizers, runoff from driveways, roofs and walkways, lawn clippings and leaves, soil from the shoreline or streambank, lawn & garden pesticides, oil & gas from autos (and boats), and septic system effluent.

What you can do to prevent pollution from entering the waters:



Practice healthy lawn and garden practices -

- Maintain a minimum 15-foot no-mow, fertilizer-free buffer area adjacent to water body.
- When using fertilizer, choose a slow-release nitrogen and no-phosphorus formula (depending on the results of the soil test).
- Mow grass high- a 2/12-3 inch blade is optimum for water conservation and promoting root growth.
- Avoid weed-n-feed products- combination products often add unnecessary herbicides to the environment. A better approach is to identify the weed of concern and selectively spot treat the weed(s) with appropriate herbicide.
- Dispose of yard waste properly per Village requirements or try home composting - **NEVER DUMP YARD WASTE IN WATERCOURSES!**