



YOU

can help

IMPROVE

the water quality of
our local lakes by

doing

**6 SIMPLE
THINGS!**

Sponsored by:
Center Lakes Association
Chisago – Lindstrom Lakes Association
Green Lake Association

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Improvement District



Six easy things you can do:

1. Compost grass clippings and leaves or use as mulch around your landscaping

- Remove clippings from hard surfaces like streets and driveways
- Leave your grass at 3 inches or higher
- Pick up leaves before they blow away
- Compost locally - Check your local city webpage for location

2. Use zero-phosphorus fertilizer – it's the Law!

- Area soils are already phosphorus rich
- Phosphorus accelerates algae growth
- Algae growth impairs our water resources

3. Reduce storm water runoff from your property

- Direct downspouts away from hard surfaces
- Create a rain garden or lakeshore restoration - get help from Chisago SWCD 651-674-2333 or www.chisagoswcd.org

4. Use native plants

- Drought and winter tolerant, adapted to our climate
- Examples: little blue stem, blazing star, dogwood, sedges, blue flag iris, etc.
- More information: www.extension.umn.edu

5. Remove invasive, non-native plants

- Buckthorn, reed canary grass, purple loosestrife
- More information: www.bluethumb.org

6. Properly dispose of household hazardous waste

- Gasoline, motor oil, cleaning solvents, paint, pesticides, antifreeze and others contaminates water
- FREE Disposal at Household Hazardous Waste Facility: 39649 Grand Ave. North Branch, MN 651-213-8920