



### LAWNS AND LOBSTERS

#### Healthy Lawn Care for Falmouth

Jami Fitch, Education & Outreach Manager Cumberland County Soil & Water Conservation District

#### WATERSHED

Land that drains or "sheds" water to a lake, stream, river, or the ocean





### STORMWATER RUNOFF

Rain or melted snow that flows over the land plus anything carried along with it





### Pollutants on the land can reach water bodies miles away

When it rains, water washes pollutants off the land and into:

- Lakes
- Streams
- Rivers
- Bays





# Common Pollutants Include:

• Soil





# Common Pollutants Include:

- Soil
- Pet Waste





## Common Pollutants Include:

- Soil
- Pet Waste
- Winter Salt





## Common Pollutants Include:

- Soil
- Pet Waste
- Winter Salt
- Lawn Chemicals (fertilizer, weed & bug killers)



# Lawn chemicals are getting into our water

Samples collected from around the region found:

Pesticides:

- 2, 4-D
- MCPP
- Dicambia

**Nutrients:** 

- Phosphorus
- Nitrogen





#### PESTICIDE

Anything meant to control (or kill) something

#### **PESTICIDES**

Insecticides

Herbicides

Fungicides

(bug killers)

(weed killers)

(fungus killers)



### Pesticides harm aquatic animals





Dragonfly larvae

Dragonfly



#### Pesticides are toxic to marine animals





### Pesticides can harm our pets





### Pesticides can make us & our children sick







#### A word of caution:

### Organic does **NOT** mean safe!



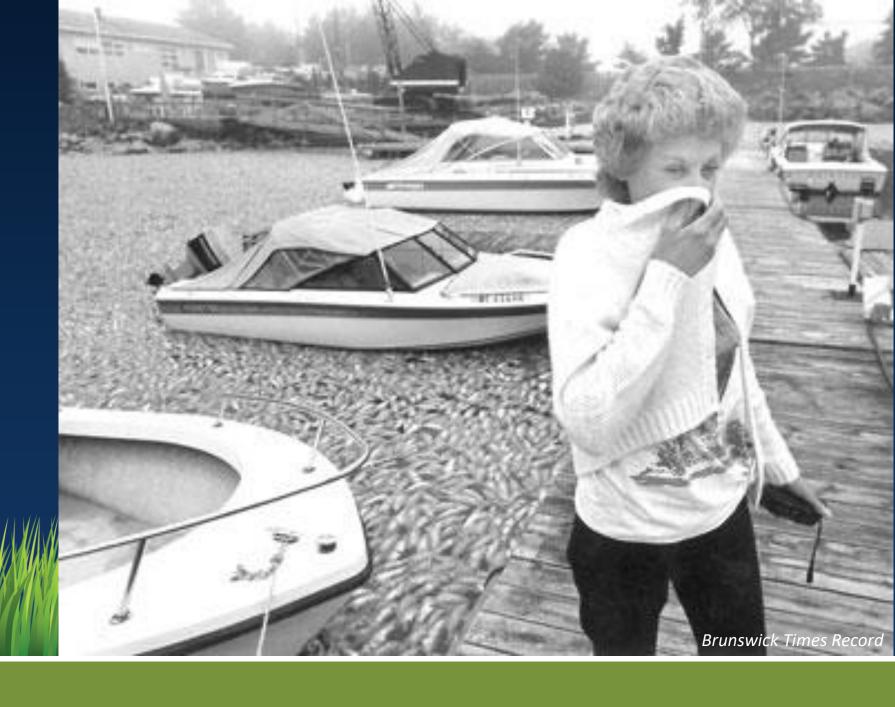


# Nutrients can turn our water green...





# ...and lead to fish kills





Nutrients may impact shellfish





### Practice Healthy Lawn Care:

- Set mower blades at 3"
- Overseed to outcompete weeds
- Focus on healthy soil topdress with compost
- Fertilize in the fall, and only after a soil test





### Healthy Lawn Care Workshop

Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Falmouth Public Library



