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
- Dicamba

**Nutrients:**
- Phosphorus
- Nitrogen
PESTICIDE
Anything meant to control (or kill) something

PESTICIDES
Insecticides (bug killers)
Herbicides (weed killers)
Fungicides (fungus killers)
Pesticides harm aquatic animals

Dragonfly larvae

Dragonfly
Pesticides are toxic to marine animals

Lobster
Bay shrimp
Cod
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 3rd
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Falmouth Public Library