

HELP *the* LAKES *at* HOME

Plant Native & Diverse Vegetation



Deep-rooted native plants and trees help absorb water and hold topsoil in place during rain events. As an added bonus, they will add beauty to your property and provide habitat for songbirds and butterflies.

Create a Rain Garden



Not only will rain gardens capture stormwater runoff and beautify your property, they also provide biodiversity that helps butterflies and bees survive.

Redirect Downspouts



This simple action allows you to redirect rainwater to your lawn or garden, while also reducing the amount of stormwater that goes to streets and directly into the lakes via storm sewers.

Pick Up Pet Waste & Litter



This simple act helps reduce the potential of *E. coli* pollution from washing into our lakes and closing our beaches after rain events. If you don't have a pet, simply pick up trash you may see on your walk to reduce pollution and make our community more beautiful for everyone!

Reduce Salt Use



Winter salt runoff into our lakes can be toxic to aquatic plants and animals. Reducing salt does NOT need to compromise public safety. By shoveling snow, using sand, and limiting salt use, you can be lake friendly and safe at the same time.

Start Home Composting



Turn your food trash and yard waste into valuable, nutrient-rich soil that reduces fertilizer use and provides you with a cost-saving solution for use in your garden, planters, or rain garden!

Install a Rain Barrel



By capturing rainwater from your roof, rain barrels reduce the amount of stormwater runoff that reaches the lakes and also provide you with stored water that can be used on gardens and lawns.

Plant Home Food Gardens



Planting a garden will provide food for you and your family. Gardens also reduce transportation costs, provide a place for mulch and compost use, and help infiltrate stormwater.

Inspire a Friend or Neighbor



Leading by example creates a large ripple effect! Can you inspire friends, family, and neighbors to adopt these actions at their own homes? Share what you're doing or bring someone to a Clean Lakes Alliance event so they can learn more about helping our lakes.

Rake for Leaf-Free Streets



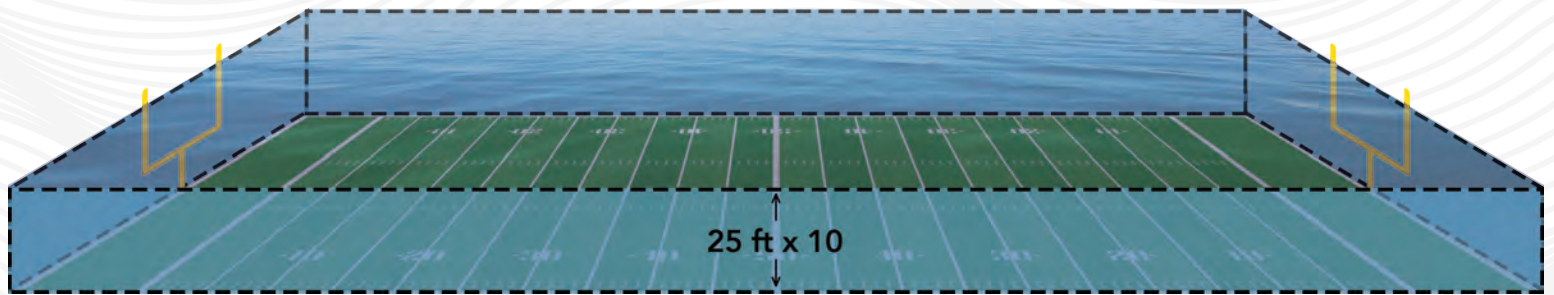
Leaves contain phosphorus. When left in the street, stormwater passes through leaves like a teabag and brings the phosphorus with it. Raking leaves from the street edge (3 feet from curb) and onto lawns will help fertilize the grass and reduce cyanobacteria blooms in our lakes!

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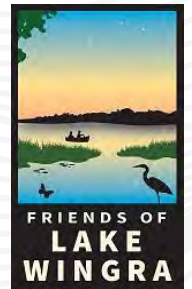
MANY SMALL ACTIONS = BIG IMPACT

If every single-family home in Dane County installed **just one 55-gallon rain barrel**, we could capture **7.5 MILLION GALLONS** of runoff from a single rain event!

That's enough to fill **10 FOOTBALL FIELDS** with water **25-FEET DEEP**



Thank you to our collaborators!



Middleton ^{WI}
The Good Neighbor City



Weed Man



VISIT CLEANLAKESALLIANCE.ORG/TOPI0 TO SHARE YOUR PROGRESS!