

Best Management Practices for your Yard this Summer



What is a Best Management Practice (BMP)?

Stormwater pollution prevention measures proven to reduce costs and mitigate the damaging effects of runoff (EPA).

Putting BMPs to work for you:

- * **Install native plants in your yard**— native plants have deeper roots than non-natives. These roots break up the soil and allow rain water to infiltrate, reducing runoff and recharging groundwater. For added , look for native plants that benefit pollinators. Here are some good choices:

- * Milkweed varieties (*Asclepias*)
- * Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)
- * Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea*)
- * Blazing Star (*Liatris spicata*)



Milkweed

Purple Coneflower



- * **Make your lawn sustainable-**

- * Raise your mower height to at least 3 inches to enable your lawn to slow and absorb more stormwater.
- * Increase your garden area and decrease your mown area (perennials and shrubs have deeper roots systems than turf grass).
- * Add nutrients back to your lawn by letting grass clippings lay or composting them.
- * Use pesticides sparingly and never before rain.

