

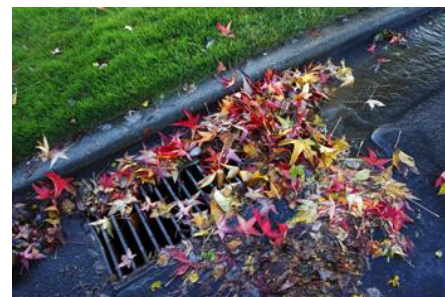
# ENJOYING THE FALL SEASON

## *BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR FALL*

It's that time of year again- fall is here! The Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy would like to give you some tips to help you manage stormwater during the fall season.



**WHAT IS STORMWATER?** Stormwater is formed when rainwater makes its way into storm drains or run off our properties directly into our streams. On its journey to the stream, stormwater can pick up harmful substances that pollute our watershed.



### **PREVENTING STORMWATER POLLUTION THIS FALL:**

Fall is the time for raking leaves as well as seeding and fertilizing your lawn. Here are some tips for managing your lawn while preventing stormwater pollution:

- 1) Dispose of leaf litter and yard waste in a compost pile and never in the street or stream!** You can shred yard waste to use as mulch or fertilizer for your yard and garden. Or, check with your municipality for yard waste collection opportunities.
- 2) Do not use fertilizers immediately before a rainstorm, and do not apply them in excess.** Always follow the directions on the bottle for safe application and disposal whenever you use a chemical product. Reduce outdoor and household chemical use as much as possible.
- 3) Add native plants to your yard.** Now through Thanksgiving can be the best time to put native plants into the ground. Many plants go dormant in the fall and winter and will not require much maintenance to survive until spring. Native plants aid in the infiltration of stormwater and provide important food and habitat for wildlife.

