

## Don't Leaf Belmont Water to Chance This Fall!



Fall leaves and yard waste can cause pollution and flooding when dumped or stored near wetlands, waterways or storm drains.

*Did you know, fallen leaves are loaded with natural fertilizer, which can cause water pollution that harms people and animals?*

Dumped leaves can also block storm drains and waterways, causing flooding.



Keep Belmont's waterways clean and healthy this fall with a few simple steps.

- **Never** dump leaves in wetlands or waterways
- Bag leaves in paper bags for disposal by the town (details on back) or better yet, use leaves as mulch in gardens.
- Or compost your yard waste at home in an area away from wetlands and storm drains
- Keep paved areas and storm drains clear of leaves
- Make sure your lawn service is properly disposing of all your waste



More tips at [www. http://www.nmstormwater.org](http://www.nmstormwater.org)

## Working Together to Prevent Stormwater Pollution

Many towns in Massachusetts are covered with acres of pavement and concrete.

When rain hits these hard surfaces, it washes pollutants like pet waste, bacteria, oil, litter, fertilizer, and grass clippings into storm drains.

Storm drains lead to streams. Water and pollution that flow into them is NOT treated—it goes directly into streams and ponds, affecting the health of drinking water, wildlife and recreation.

Belmont is committed to meeting new stricter water pollution standards issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for towns in Massachusetts.

**More at [nmstormwater.org](http://nmstormwater.org).**

