

Clean water is everyone's business!



WHAT IS YARD WASTE?

Yard waste includes grass clippings, leaves, tree and shrub trimmings, and plant materials from vegetable and flower gardens.

YARD WASTE AND POLLUTION

The creeks and ditches within our city play an important role in safely draining water from our community. These waterways help the City provide flood control by carrying excess water away from our community into Lake Erie . Not only is it important that these waterways stay free of excess yard waste in order to **prevent water from backing up and causing flooding**, but did you know that organic yard waste can actually contaminate our surface water?

That's right! As vegetation decays in water, it can lower the amount of oxygen in the water leading to fish kills, strong odors, toxin production, and unsightly surface scums. It can even limit the safety of using the water for recreational activities like swimming and boating.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

It's simple!

- **DO NOT** dump yard waste onto the banks of or into any creek, ditch, street, or storm drain.
- Sweep grass clippings off paved areas and back into the lawn.
- Leave grass clippings on your lawn with a mulching mower.
- If composting at home, locate the pile away from waterways.

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON YARD WASTE DUMPING

Contact the Engineering Department at (440) 204-2003.



UPCOMING DITCH CLEANINGS

Over the coming months, City staff will be out maintaining the waterways within the city.



CITY OF LORAIN CODIFIED ORDINANCE CHAPTER 917.05 PROHIBITS

- Interfering with the City in the exercise of the duties and responsibilities set forth in this chapter.
- Altering, erecting, constructing, obstructing, or filling any ditch, watercourse or drainage improvement within the City without the approval of the City Engineer, the Planning Commission, and Council.
- Dumping or disposal of trees, rocks, dirt, brush, grass clippings or other debris in any form in any ditch, watercourse or drainage improvement, unless approved by the City Engineer, in writing.

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON DITCH CLEANING

Contact the Sewer Department at (440) 204-2200.

City of Lorain Storm Water Management Program

Engineering Department, 200 West Erie Avenue, Lorain, Ohio 44052, 440-204-2003