

# CITY OF LAPORTE MS4 PROGRAM

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**LA PORTE**  
I N D I A N A

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## WASHING CARS IN THE DRIVEWAY

Washing the car in the driveway lets dirty, sudsy water run into the street, and into the storm drains. Those drains outlet directly into lakes, ponds and creeks. That dirty, sudsy water can contribute to fish kills.

If you are washing your car at home instead of washing it in the driveway, pull the car into the grass so the water can be filtered by the grass and soil.

Also try and use biodegradable soaps, use hoses with nozzles that automatically turn off when left unattended, or use a commercial car wash.





## Blue-Green Algae

**Blue-green algae can ruin your fun at the lake and/or river during the summer months. Here are some ways you can help prevent it:**

- **Use phosphorus free fertilizer & test before fertilizing**
- **Don't fertilize at the edge of a waterway**
- **Don't dispose of grass clippings near a waterway**
- **If your home has a septic system please take the time to maintain it**
- **Pick up and dispose of pet waste**

## Have Green Space – Plant Pollinator Flowers and Plants!

**Pollinators provide a vital service to our local ecosystems. They carry pollen on their bodies from flower to flower to help plants reproduce. In recent years, pollinator populations have been declining due to threats like habitat degradation, pollution, changes in land use, etc.**

**Tips for a good pollinator garden:**

**Plant with a goal in mind – are there specific pollinators you want to attract?**

**Plant strategically – Try to replicate nature. Plant flowers that appear near each other in the wild.**

**Location, location, location – areas like sidewalks and roadsides are great since animals and insects follow those paths.**



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