The Bacteria Pollution Iceberg

Small actions can have big consequences

Failing Septic Systems

Regularly inspect and flush sanitary pipes to ensure that there are no leaks in the system and that the system is properly functioning.

Improper lawn irrigation and watering

Over-watering lawns has been shown to be an important source of bacteria to streets and sidewalks. Implement appropriate watering practices to avoid runoff from pervious surfaces where animals (e.g. birds, mammals) are active.







Excessive Lawn Rubbish

Prevent yard waste from entering storm sewer systems and water bodies by either composting or using curbside pickup services and avoiding accumulation of yard waste on impervious surfaces; keep grass clippings and leaves out of the street.

Wildlife waste

Wildlife and bird waste can also harbor bacteria. Refrain from feeding wild animals and birds, especially near water and urban areas.

Pet waste

When left on the sidewalk or grass, rain water can wash pet waste into storm sewers where it flows into our lakes and rivers. Pet poop carries bacteria and diseases, which make water unsafe for swimming or drinking.

What you put in the water may look **small** until you look a little **deeper**



Visit **Respectourwaters.org** to learn more about the way **forward**!