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| **Salt**  Salt is a great tool for deicing surfaces but excessive salt is wasteful and harmful to our environment. Below are some best practices that can save you money and protect our waterbodies.   * Use green snow pro certified contractors. * Measure your sidewalk and driveway so you know how much you need, typically only 1-3 cups per 1,000 square feet. * Use either salt or sand. Using both will melt the ice causing the sand to end up beneath the ice once the surface refreezes. * If there are salt piles left over, you’ve used too much. Consider how much you’ve applied and how you can reduce it next time. * Create a plan to remedy common icy areas so you can deice less in the future.   Graphic of splashing water.  **Pool Draining**  Pool water is clean to swim in but can be harmful to our environment. Use these best practices to avoid polluting when draining your pool.   * First dechlorinate the water and bring the pH to neutral (6-8) * Drain your pool slowly. * Drain onto lawn, to allow the soil to act as a natural filter. * If you have a salt water pool, drain in increments and pour fresh water onto the lawn after draining. |  |  | Town of Bedford  Stormwater Management Information  Stormwater Management Information  Stormwater Management Information    **Our community cares about clean water. Here are some easy ways that you can help keep our water clean, all year round!**  **Bedford Stormwater Website**  For more information on how the Department of Public Works is protecting our waters visit our Stormwater Website!  https://ms4-and-storm-water-management-bedfordnh.hub.arcgis.com/–  This outreach message helps Bedford to comply with requirements of the EPA MS4 Stormwater Permit. |

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| **Leaf Litter**  What you do with your leaves has a direct impact on our environment and water quality. Proper disposal of leaves will keep our water clean.   * Remove the bag from your lawnmower or use a mulching lawnmower. Leave the clippings to add nutrients to your soil. * Drop off yard waste at the Transfer Station for composting, located at 77 Chubbuck Rd. * Never dispose of leaves in or near storm drains, drainage channels, wetlands or waterbodies. * Do not place leaves or clippings in household waste.   **Lawn Care and Chemical Use**  Pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers can get blown or washed into waterways, which can lead to excessive algae growth and create dead zones in our waterbodies.   * The best time to use these products is in the fall (dry season) * Don’t apply chemicals to hard surfaces. * Use non-water-soluble products. * Follow the manufacturer’s instructions. |  |  | **Septic**  Lack of maintenance can cause the leach field to flood or leak and contaminate ground water.   * Get septic system pumped regularly. * High-pressure water jetting every 5 years can help eliminate solids and debris in the drain pipes. * Use a bacteria additive. * Clean or replace the effluent filter every time your septic system is serviced. * Avoid planting near your drain field. * Avoid parking cars over drain field. * Dispose of cooking grease, coffee grounds, and fats in the trash, not the garbage disposal. * Conserve water. * Do not flush items or chemicals. |



**Pet Waste**

Rain events can wash left behind pet waste down storm drains and into our waterways. Pet waste contaminates water with harmful bacterial such as fecal coliform and E. coli which makes water bodies unsafe for recreational activities and uninhabitable for aquatic organisms.

* Clean up after pets every time.
* Use plastic bags to pick up the waste.
* Do not leave pet waste on the lawn.
* Do not throw it in the woods or into drainage ditches.
* Bag it and trash it.



