



# ADAIR VILLAGE NEWS

## October, 2020

### THINGS WE CAN DO TO PROTECT OUR WATERSHEDS

**1. Always Conserve and Reuse Water Wisely**

Use low-flow faucets, shower heads, reduced-flow toilet flushing equipment, and water saving appliances such as energy star dish and clothes washers. Repair leaking faucets, toilets, and pumps. Do not over-water your lawn or garden. As a general rule, lawns only need watering every 5 to 7 days in the summer. Use slow-watering techniques such as trickle irrigation or soaker hoses when watering your garden.

**2. Soil Test Before Your Apply Fertilizers & Use Natural Systems to Limit Pesticide & Fertilizer Use**

Over fertilization is a common problem, and the excess can leach into ground water or contaminate rivers or lakes. Nutrients from fertilizer cause excess weed growth which depletes the oxygen supply for fish and aquatic insects and makes the water unusable for boating and swimming. Leave lawn clippings on your lawn so that nutrients in the clippings are recycled and less yard waste goes to disposal. Compost yard trimmings and use to naturally fertilize the lawn. Avoid using fertilizers near surface waters. Do not apply pesticides or fertilizers on areas where the potential for water contamination is high. Dispose of excess pesticide at hazardous waste collection centers. Test your soil and determine just how much fertilizer you really need.

**3. Use Native Vegetation and Eliminate Turf Grass**

Landscaping with native wildflowers and grasses improves the environment by attracting a variety of birds, butterflies and other animals. Once established, native plants do not need fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides or watering thereby improving the environment and reducing maintenance costs. Select plants that have low requirements for water, fertilizers, and pesticides. Cultivate plants that discourage pests.

**4. Dispose of Pet Waste Properly**

Clean up after your pets. Pet waste contains pathogens that can contaminate surface water. Scoop up pet waste and flush it down the toilet, seal the waste in a plastic bag and throw it in the garbage, bury small quantities in your yard where it can decompose slowly, or use a pet waste compost bin.

**5. Direct the Water to the Lawn**

Wash your car only when necessary; use a bucket to save water. Use low flow or no phosphate soap. Or, go to a commercial carwash that uses water efficiently and disposes of runoff properly.

**6. Maintain All Vehicles-Eliminate Leaks and Spills**

Recycle used oil and antifreeze by taking them to service stations and other recycling centers. Never put used oil or other chemicals down storm drains or in drainage ditches. One quart of oil can contaminate up to two million gallons of drinking water.

**7. Recycle and Dispose of Household Chemicals Properly**

Many household chemicals are toxic. Buy products labeled biodegradable, non-toxic, non-phosphorus, and non-surfactant. Use non-toxic substitutes wherever possible. Soap, baking soda, vinegar, washing soda, ammonia, borax, alcohol, cornstarch, and certain food ingredients may be used to lift out spots and stains, deodorize, polish wood or metal, disinfect, scrub, repel pests, clean pets, wash and starch clothes, and to perform other household tasks. Take unwanted household chemicals to hazardous waste collection centers; do not pour down the drain or on the ground. Use low-phosphate or phosphate-free dishwasher detergents.

**Upcoming Events:**

**City Council Meeting**  
Tuesday, October 6, 2020  
City Hall

**Planning Commission Meeting**  
Tuesday, October 20, 2020  
City Hall

**Adair Living History**  
TBD

**Adair Village Mission Statement**

To build a safe, attractive, vibrant environment with a welcoming sense of community.