

# REALITY



**L**ife is more comfortable if we accept some inevitable harsh realities and avoid unnecessary anxiety.

Lake Barcroft inevitably receives the stormwater flow of its relatively large upstream watershed. Peak storm flows deliver sediment and debris to the lake. The practical solution is to make a strenuous effort to minimize this pollution by avoiding upstream erosion and trapping and removing sediment and debris before it reaches the lake. One effective technique is to reduce the intensity of these storm flow peaks by providing upstream temporary stormwater detention. However, it is unrealistic to expect 100% elimination of such pollution. More to the point is the development of new and better controls coupled with consistent vigilance.

It isn't helpful to jump to conclusions. When you see a styrofoam cup floating on the lake with the name of a fast food restaurant, usually this has been thrown out the window of a car by the customer rather than being the result of incompetence on the part of the restaurant. WID makes a practice of inspecting upstream

commercial operations periodically and applying pressure when necessary.

Technical language can produce unnecessary anxiety. Terms such as *heavy metals* and *coliform bacteria* are helpful in monitoring and other pollution control processes. WID has a professional computerized monitoring and laboratory analysis system with a continuous schedule of tests and data analysis. Lake Barcroft water is safe for swimming except after large storms. WID has a system of lab analysis which has produced decades of data indicating that various significant pollution parameters are within customary professional acceptable limits.

However, there are ways that WID and Lake Barcroft community residents can help.

- Use WID's **No-Phos fertilizer** instead of phosphorus rich fertilizers;
- Don't let a lawn care service or your handyman douse your lawn with herbicides and pesticides;
- Don't dump your storm drainage on your neighbor.

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***Call WID if you have a problem you don't understand.***

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