



*WID's earlier Hazardous Wastes Cleanup Day produced tons of old house and garden chemicals which were trucked away to Fairfax County's sort-and-dispose facility.*

**P**oisonous chemicals will do us in if we aren't careful. There is a natural human tendency to buy something poisonous to solve almost any problem.... ugly lawn.... pests.... stopped-up sink.... including paint, solvents and chemicals.

WID, as part of its clean water program, cautions Lake Barcroft folks to avoid pesticides, herbicides and other hazardous materials. The most flagrant violations are perpetrated by lawn care services and insensitive do-it-yourself homeowners. The average lawn-care company has one primary objective - to make money. They exude synthetic wisdom about multi-season fertilization programs. Usually, the mixes they spray on your lawn are laced with both herbicides to eliminate weeds and pesticides to do away with grubs and other little creatures. While some of these are short-persistence chemicals, others are not and leach into storm drains ending up in the lake.

WID's experience with lawn care companies has been a living disaster. Even the ones which espouse "natural" lawn care become hysterical when WID suggests its No-Phos Fertilizer. WID has discovered only one such company which really applies sound practices such as fall-only fertilization, the use of aeration and elimination of toxic chemicals. If you want details, call or write WID to receive a copy of its carefully prepared Please Don't Feed Our Streams booklet. Also, Ken Kopka and Davis Grant will be happy to advise you on 820-1300. Leave your name on the machine if they are busy elsewhere.

The key observation is that Barcroft lawns don't need more phosphorus which is the nutrient which stimulates algal blooms. A 50 pound bag of WID's No-Phos Fertilizer, which is sufficient for most Barcroft lawns, costs you only \$30 delivered to your home by WID. You can't buy it in stores. If you want a chamber of horrors, visit a lawn care store and read the labels on the bags.

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***Avoid poisons and lawn care salesmen.***

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