

Sediment from uncontrolled storm water and erosion will clog our lake.

Your property values, your community identity and your enjoyment of Lake Monticello are affected by the health of the lake and the streams that feed it.

Every drop of rain that falls on our lake watershed must go somewhere. It can be absorbed into the soil where it is used by plants, or it can run off, carrying with it soil, leaves, animal waste, pesticides, fertilizers and other pollutants.

Heavy clay soil, roofs and paved surfaces increase the amount and speed of runoff.

You have storm water management and erosion problems on your property if:

- muddy or debris-laden water runs from your property into your drainage culvert, ditch, stream or the lake.
- you have clogged or deteriorated drainage ditches and pipes.
- there are undermined areas around buildings, driveways, walkways, patios.
- water from downspouts and drains or eaves is not properly directed.
- steep areas, shorelines or stream banks are not protected with rocks, plants or trees.
- bare soil has not been covered.



Preventing erosion and protecting our lake will minimize damage to our individual properties and help preserve the health of our lake and the Rivanna and James Rivers, as well as the Chesapeake Bay.

What you can do:

- ✓ Keep ditches, culverts and roadside right-of-ways clear of leaves and debris.
- ✓ Line ditches with rip rap or plantings.
- ✓ Use plants, stones, terracing or grading on steep surfaces.
- ✓ Plant ornamental grasses, shrubs, trees, etc. along the edges of the lake or streams.
- ✓ Use stones, mulch or plantings in bare areas.
- ✓ Cover piles of dirt until mulch or plantings can be installed.
- ✓ Seek professional help to restore eroding stream beds.
- ✓ Control runoff from eaves and gutters.
- ✓ Keep unpaved driveways adequately covered with gravel.
- ✓ Avoid paving driveways, walkways, etc.
- ✓ Sweep paved areas and clean gutters frequently.
- ✓ Rake leaves, grass clippings and litter away from stream banks, the shoreline, and ditches.
- ✓ Place the debris from raking into the garden, compost bin or trash receptacle, but not into the lake or near a stream.



You are the key to keeping our lake healthy.

Please help stop uncontrolled storm water and erosion that choke our lake.

For More Information:

Virginia's Erosion and Sediment Control Program: <http://www.state.va.us/der/sw/e&s.htm>
Provides valuable help for controlling erosion and sediment in waterways and gives additional useful resources, websites and downloads.

"Landowner's Guide to Managing Streams in the Eastern United States," Virginia Cooperative Extension publication, which provides methods for protecting stream banks, including guidelines for proper plantings. Available at <http://www.ext.vt.edu/pubs/forestry/420-141/420-141.html#L2>

"Reducing Erosion and Runoff," Virginia Cooperative Extension Publication #426-722. Available at <http://www.ext.vt.edu/vce/publications/>.

Extension Service publications also are available at the Fluvanna Office in Palmyra or by calling (434) 591-1950.



This is the fifth in a series of publications that have been developed as a cooperative educational program to assist you and your neighbors in keeping our lake, the Rivanna and James Rivers and the Chesapeake Bay healthy, now and in the years to come.

Our thanks to the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, the Chesapeake Bay Program and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for their support through the Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants Program.

Thanks also to you, the members of the Lake Monticello Owners' Association. The Lake Health & Storm Water Management Program is an example of your dues at work for our community.

For more information about this educational program and how you can help, contact the

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Don't Muddy the Waters

***You Can Help Keep
Your Lake from
Suffocating under Sediment***