



## **Lawn and Garden**

Your yard can look beautiful without using the pesticides and fertilizers that contribute to water pollution in our local creeks and bay. It's easy to effectively reduce or eliminate the use of broad-spectrum pesticides in your garden. For example, a healthy garden with a variety of flowering plants will be more resistant to significant pest damage. A healthy garden will attract important beneficial creatures such as dragonflies, ladybugs, lacewings, syrphid flies and "miniwasps," which feed on pests.

Other ways you can help prevent water pollution include:

- Adopt organic or "green" gardening methods and purchase less toxic gardening supplies.
- Mix and use garden chemicals according to label instructions, and never when rain is forecast within 24 hours.
- Compost leaves and yard clippings, or recycle green waste through your yard waste recycling program.
- Water only your lawn and garden, not the sidewalk.
- Divert rainspouts and garden hoses from paved surfaces onto grass or landscaping.
- Prevent dirt and debris from being carried into the storm drain.
- Use a broom to clean up outside, not a hose.
- When using a gardening service, be sure they follow the guidelines above.