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Water Wise

Do your part to keep our waterways clean, preserve nature, reduce erosion and protect wildlife!

Avoid Using Pesticides and Herbicides in your yard. Try nontoxic pest control methods — like crop rotation and row covers — first. If you must use pesticides, remember to read the label; some pesticides can harm bees. Use chemicals properly and spray at night, when pollinators are least active.

Foster Natural Habitats. Seventy percent of bees live in ground nests, while others live in clumps of grass or tree limbs and stumps. Leave uncovered dirt in your yard, and leave some fall leaf cover until spring, to provide habitat and protection over the winter. If you buy mason bee or butterfly houses, choose those you can take apart and clean properly to protect nesting pollinators from parasites.

Discard Medications Safely. Traces of pharmaceutical drugs are turning up in fresh water supplies. Utilize the Upper Dublin Police Department's drop off box for safe, proper disposal. Drop box is located at the new temporary location: 510 Virginia Drive, next to the Library.

Protect the Waters. Install a washing-machine filter to capture micro-plastics emitted from synthetic textiles.

Avoid Single Use Plastics; here are just a few suggestions:

- Invest in a reusable glass or stainless-steel water bottle.
- Bring your favorite mug or travel container to the coffee shop for filling up.
- Skip **the** <u>plastic straw</u>. If a straw is a must, purchase a reusable stainless-steel or glass straw.
- Stock up **on reusable grocery bags**. Americans use and discard some 102 billion plastic bags annually. Each of these can take 1,000 years to degrade.
- Decline **plastic flatware** with your takeout orders; pick up bamboo or other reusable flatware.