

# Please

do not dump  
your leaves,  
grass clippings,  
or brush



## ***Decaying yard waste kills aquatic animals in streams***

Decaying yard waste in streams depletes the oxygen that aquatic animals need to survive. Leaf piles and grass clippings decompose in the streambeds by using the oxygen that other organisms such as dragonfly larvae, crabs, and fish need to live.

## ***Yard waste on stream banks smothers natural vegetation***

When you dump leaves or grass on the shoreline, you block sunlight and smother the natural plant life that provides food and cover to animals such as turtles, ducks, chipmunks, and deer.

## ***Dumping yard waste contributes to stream algae and odors***

The leaves and grass clippings do not have to be dumped directly into the creek for this to occur. Seepage from the piles on the banks will slowly make its way into the water. When the nutrients are plentiful, algae proliferate and form large, green mats on the surface of the water. These unsightly mats give off odors and also use oxygen as they decay.

## ***Dumping yard waste in or near streams is against the law!***

The final reason not to dump your yard waste in or near the Creek is because it is against the law. RSA 482-A:3