

- ◆ **Non-point sources** are not related to an identified point-source discharge. They are carried off the land or into groundwater by rainfall runoff and infiltration. Non-point sources include:

- Home septic systems
- Animal manures from livestock (even pets)
- Fertilizers from pastures, crops, lawns, gardens

## How can we prevent nutrient pollution?

### Be an active urban citizen:

- ◆ Support improved waste treatment by your city or town. Demand strict compliance with regulations of the Oklahoma Dept. of Environmental Quality and EPA.

**Urban/home uses of fertilizers are often at higher application rates per acre than farm use!**

- ◆ Clean up after your pets.
- ◆ Test your lawn and garden soil, and follow fertilizer recommendations.

**Never apply more fertilizer than needed, and keep it off the pavement.**

### Be a responsible rural neighbor:

- ◆ Install and maintain your septic system. Pump your tank regularly!
- ◆ Livestock and poultry producers - follow your Animal Waste Management Plan (AWMP) or Pollution Prevention Plan (P3).
- ◆ Farmers and ranchers - follow your Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) for crops and pastures.
- ◆ Soil test farm fields before applying manure or fertilizer. Additional P may not be needed, if fields have been fertilized regularly.

- ◆ Manage farm fields to prevent erosion (sediment carries phosphorus!).

## Where can I get help?

◆ **County Conservation Districts (CCD)** and their affiliated **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**: technical help, AWMPS, CNMPs, and information on cost sharing. Look for the CCD under your county phone listings.

◆ **County OSU Cooperative Extension Service**: soil testing, fertilizer and animal waste recommendations, and information on septic tank maintenance.

◆ **Oklahoma Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ)**: information on septic system installation and maintenance. Phone 1-800-0206.

◆ **Oklahoma Blue Thumb Program**: volunteer opportunities for people to join stream teams, monitor local waterways, and help educate the public about nutrients and other water quality issues. Call 918-280-1598.

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