

## ***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 by the soil for nourishment or it can run off, carrying soil, leaves, animal waste, pesticides, fertilizers and other pollutants into our lake.

Roofs, paved surfaces and heavy clay soil increase the amount and speed of runoff.

### ***Do you have storm water management and erosion problems on your property?***

#### ***You do 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 eaves, downspouts and drains 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 rights-of-way clear of leaves and debris.
- ✓ Line ditches with rip rap or plantings.
- ✓ Use ground cover plants, large stones or terracing 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, and collect rainwater by using rain barrels.
- ✓ 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.



***Help keep our lake healthy by stopping uncontrolled storm water and erosion that choke our lake.***

## ***For More Information:***

"LMOA Stream Restoration Guide" provides information and help to slow erosion in stream beds and ditches: [http://www.lmoa.org/library/General%20Information/Lake%20Health%20Education/2007\\_Stream\\_Restoration\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.lmoa.org/library/General%20Information/Lake%20Health%20Education/2007_Stream_Restoration_Guide.pdf)

Virginia's Erosion and Sediment Control Program provides valuable help for controlling erosion and sediment in waterways and gives additional useful resources, websites and downloads: [http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil\\_and\\_water/e&s-ftp.shtml](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil_and_water/e&s-ftp.shtml)

"Landowner's Guide to Managing Streams in the Eastern United States," Virginia Cooperative Extension publication that 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://pubs.ext.vt.edu/426/426-722/426-722.html>.

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

For more help and guidance with storm water management problems, call the LMOA Environmental Control Office at (434) 591-0196.

*Updated October 2010*

*This is the fifth in a series of educational publications that were developed to assist you and your neighbors in keeping our lake, the Rivanna River and the Chesapeake Bay healthy, now and in the years to come.*

*These publications are a part of the Lake Monticello Owners' Association Lake Health & Storm Water Management Program, an excellent 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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Lake Health Publication #5



# ***Don't Muddy the Waters***

You Can Help Keep  
Our Lake from Suffocating  
under Sediment!