



Nonpoint Source Control Is the Backyard Solution to Pollution

Our landscape used to be covered with tall prairie grasses and oak savannahs. As we have gradually replaced more and more of the natural vegetation and porous soil surface with rooftops, driveways, decks, patios, and streets, the amount of water running off toward nearby lakes and streams has increased dramatically.

Each time it rains, stormwater flushes all sorts of wastes off lawns and streets into lakes and streams. This flushing action is representative of a relatively unrecognized type of pollution called *stormwater runoff* or *nonpoint source pollution* (meaning that the pollution cannot be traced to a single, point source but is the accumulation of a variety of sources).

Runoff accounts for as much as 90% of the pollution that ends up in our rivers, lakes, and aquifers, according to the Department of Natural Resources. Stormwater washes everything in its path into local waterways: oil and grease from cars; fertilizers and pesticides from lawns and gardens; and eroded soil from fields and construction sites. Bacteria counts in stormwater runoff can be as high as in raw sewage.

The DNR offers these examples of stormwater problems and solutions:

Problem: If downspouts empty onto driveways, pollution from the roof joins with oil, grease, and metals from the driveway and street before finding its way to a local waterway.

Solution: Direct downspouts away from paved areas and onto densely covered ground so the water can soak in without eroding soil. Use a rain barrel to catch downspout water and use it for your garden. Rain water is slightly acidic, which helps plants take up important minerals from the soil.

Problem: Fertilizers, weed killers and pesticides that don't fully incorporate with the soil and vegetation end up in runoff.

Solution: Apply pesticides only on dry, calm days, and do not overapply them. Do not apply them when a heavy rain is expected soon. Get a soil test before fertilizing. Don't apply insecticides "just in case", and find out the right time of year to apply weed killers. Keep residues and spills off paved areas, where they can wash into waterways more easily. Sweep, don't wash, fertilizer and soil off driveways and sidewalks.

Problem: Stormwater runoff from leaves, grass clippings and other yard wastes encourages aquatic weed and algae growth.

Solution: Compost yard wastes, till them into the garden, or collect them and drop them at a composting site. If a lawn is cut frequently, just leave the clippings on the grass. They won't contribute to thatch, which is roots and sheaths, but will decompose quickly and actually fertilize your lawn for you. Leaves and other yard waste should be kept out of gutters and off paved areas to reduce leaching of nutrients into runoff.

As of January 3, 1993, yard wastes have been banned from all licensed landfills and licensed incinerators that do not recover energy in the entire state. The ban is expected to reduce the state's waste by as much as 17%. Alternatives to burying yard wastes in landfills include:

- planting more perennials to reduce the amount of waste generated
- using grass clippings, leaves, and chipped woody material as a mulch
- leaving grass clippings on the lawn to recycle the nutrients

- composting yard waste, either in your backyard or at a community compost site
- spreading yard wastes, composted or uncomposted, on farm fields, where they can provide organic matter to the soil and nutrients to the crop.

Other tips to reduce water pollution from your home, yard, and neighborhood:

- maintain a healthy lawn. Healthy lawns are porous and reduce runoff by soaking up rain water. Bald or thin spots can contribute soil to runoff water, as well as fertilizers and pesticides that remain on the surface.
- install gravel trenches alongside driveways and patios so rain water is caught and absorbed instead of adding to runoff problems.
- use porous materials such as bricks and wooden planks for walkways and patios.

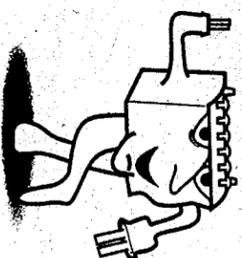
- for new homes, have the driveway and sidewalks graded to flow onto the lawn rather than into the street
- wash your car on the lawn instead of in the driveway
- use as little salt and deicer on your driveway and walks as possible. Whatever residue remains in the spring (which is probably most of it) goes straight into the nearest waterway.

- keep your vehicles in good running condition. In particular, take care of drips or leaks immediately. Oil, antifreeze, gas, and brake fluid that drip onto your driveway and neighborhood roads join the runoff problem during the next rainstorm.

Recycle lead-acid batteries

Recycling an old battery is easy as long as you handle it carefully — you don't want to spill the sulfuric acid that's in them.

Used vehicle batteries are hazardous because they contain highly corrosive sulfuric acid, lead and other toxic metals. When burned, these materials pollute the air. When thrown into a roadside ditch or dumped in a landfill, batteries can crack and deteriorate, leaking lead-contaminated sulfuric acid into the soil. Sulfuric acid is considered a hazardous waste, and it can leach into surface water and groundwater, polluting lakes, streams and drinking water supplies.



A standard automotive battery contains 18 pounds of lead and there are about 3.7 million of them in cars today. So, going by 1990 market prices, that's 33,249 tons, or \$23 million worth of lead. All of them can be recycled and used to make new batteries, cable coverings, light bulbs, electronic equipment, radiation shielding and other useful products.

Some of the sulfuric acid in batteries can be reused in new batteries or in fertilizer, but most of it is neutralized for safe disposal. Battery casings are recycled into new casings, wastebaskets and other plastic products.

Studies show that about 8.5 million, or up to 10 percent of all lead-acid batteries bought in the U.S. are not being recycled. If they're not being thrown away or recycled, where are they? According to the Battery Council International, they are accumulating in people's garages and basements: 20 percent of Americans are storing two or more old batteries.

If you have a "used battery collection" lying around, try recycling. Those batteries will do a lot more good being recycled than sitting in your garage, and you'll be ridding your home of a hazard.

Dry cell, alkaline and other household batteries are also hazardous. They contain mercury, cadmium, nickel and other potentially toxic chemicals. The Wisconsin Legislature is analyzing how the recycling law could provide more convenient statewide access to household-battery recycling facilities. Currently, these batteries are considered garbage and should be disposed of in the trash.

Handling Your Battery Safely

- If you remove the battery from your car, boat, tractor or other vehicle yourself, be careful. Lead-acid batteries contain explosive hydrogen, in addition to sulfuric acid.
- To avoid explosions and acid burns, keep open flames away from the battery and don't smoke near it.
- Wear safety glasses or goggles when working with batteries.
- Take care when using metal tools. You might accidentally make a direct connection and create a dangerous spark.
- If you drop a battery, use baking soda or lime to neutralize any spilled acid. Use gloves and avoid contact with skin, eyes and clothing.
- When taking a battery to a retailer, keep it right side up and carry it in a wooden box or leak-proof container.
- If you don't plan to deliver the battery right away, place it somewhere safe, away from children and pets.
- Don't store batteries outside in frigid weather. Frozen batteries can crack and leak sulfuric acid.



Grass clippings: Good as gold for your lawn

Why bag your grass clippings?

Consider for a moment *not* bagging your grass. Gone are the hassles of stopping every few minutes to empty the mower bag, raking, wrestling with expensive trash bags. Instead, by not bagging your grass, your clippings are working their way back into the soil and playing a very important role.

Clippings contain the nutrients your lawn needs to grow. Every bag of grass clippings contains up to 1/4 pound of usable organic nitrogen. You can reduce your fertilization costs by recycling lawn clippings back into the lawn.

You may say that not bagging your grass is unhealthy for your lawn... it will cause excessive thatch build-up and kill your lawn. The fact is, thatch is made up of grass roots, dead leaf sheaths, and rhizomes, which decompose slowly, not the grass leaves that are cut when you mow. Grass clippings decompose rapidly, and can help make your lawn more vigorous and durable.

Recycle your fertilizer

Successfully recycling grass clippings back to your lawn requires only the kind of attention all lawns should have on a regular basis. Mow when your grass is dry and 3 to 4" tall. Never

Grass clipping benefits

According to turf experts, grass clippings:

- reduce water evaporation from the lawn,
- reduce lawn wear by creating a cushioning layer, and
- facilitate better growth by providing nutrients and keeping the soil temperature cooler.

cut it shorter than 2 to 2½" in height. This height will allow your lawn to have a larger and deeper root system — making a stronger defense against weeds and droughts.

Use a sharp mower blade (a mulching mower if you have one). A sharp blade and frequent mowing will mean finer clippings that will decompose quickly. (If you have trouble using your mower without the bagger, call your hardware store or dealer for assistance.)

Avoid overfertilizing your lawn. If it becomes too dense with growth, your clippings won't reach the soil to decompose.

Remove excessive thatch before leaving your clippings on the lawn. Although a ½" of thatch is no problem, a thick layer will keep clippings

from reaching the soil.

Limit the use of lawn chemicals. Save money and allow soil organisms to return nutrients to the soil by first correctly diagnosing lawn problems and then applying corrective measures only when needed.

Compost your clippings

You may choose to collect your clippings every third time you mow... or every other time. If you want to collect your clippings occasionally, recycle them as a mulch in the garden or in planting beds. Mulching adds nutrients to soil, reduces weed problems, lowers the soil temperature and increases the moisture. Mulch also helps maintain good soil structure and minimizes erosion by protecting the soil surface.

However, avoid mulching with grass that's been recently treated with herbicides that can harm your plants. Chemically treated clippings should be left on the lawn or in your compost bin, where herbicides will breakdown in about six weeks.

If you can't use grass clippings in your own yard, find a neighbor who can... or take them to either the town compost pile at the transfer site or the county compost pile on Libby Rd. at Lake Farm Park.

Dane County Has Three Public Compost Sites

Dane County opened its three yard waste compost sites on Monday, April 5, 1993. These sites are available for dropping off non-woody yard waste, or for picking up finished compost. The use of the sites is free.

The site most convenient for Dunn residents is the Lake Farm site on Libby Road, just east of the county's Lake Farm Park. The hours are Monday through Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The Westport site on Highway 19 one-half mile east of Highway 113 is open Tuesday through Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and the Verona site on the east side of the county's Verona landfill is open Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Dane County's compost sites accept only nonwoody plant material. They do not accept brush, Christmas wreaths, or garlands (because of the metal wire), or trash of any sort including pieces of fences, plastic bags or styrofoam, plastic lawn edging or similar material.

The sites also provide free compost. Small users should bring their own containers and shovels. For large users, trucks can be loaded by the county if arrangements are made in advance.

Homeowners may find that home compost systems are more convenient, saving both the time and effort of using the county's facilities while producing usable compost. More information about home composting will be available at the annual Dunn Arbor Day Celebration and Potluck. Information is also available in this issue of the recycling guide, at local libraries, and garden and hardware stores, or from the county. For more information on the county compost sites, call the county hotline at 267-1502 or Al Czecholinski at 266-4139.

How to recycle used oil

DO use a dirt-free pan that can hold as many quarts as your car's crankcase and that has *not* been used for paint, cleaning solvents, antifreeze or anything besides motor oil.

DO drain the old oil filter by punching a hole in the top and inverting it over your drain pan. Dispose of the old filter by putting some paper towels over the hole. Put the old filter and paper towels in the box the new filter came in and put the box in the trash.

DON'T put used oil in garbage bound for a landfill. The contamination in used oil can leak into groundwater or collect in the landfill drainage system where it must be pumped out and hauled to a sewage treatment plant. Running used oil through a landfill is an expensive process that wastes a valuable resource, could cause pollution and accomplishes nothing.

DON'T pour used oil down a drain. If the oil is poured down a drain that leads to a septic system, it can hinder or stop the biological processes that make the septic system work.

If the drain leads to a wastewater treatment plant, the oil could reduce plant efficiency, causing more contaminants to flow out of the plant's discharge pipes and into a nearby lake or stream. At its worst, oil clogs plant machinery and may cause an unscheduled shutdown. Repairs are an expensive and avoidable use of taxpayer dollars.

DON'T pour used oil into a storm sewer. Storm sewers lead directly to lakes, streams and wetlands where oil spoils habitat for fish and wildlife and interferes with swimming, boating and other recreation. Pouring oil down a storm sewer is illegal.

DON'T toss used oil on the driveway, street or ground. Such practices lead to reduced soil productivity and, through percolation and runoff, contaminate lakes, streams, wetlands and groundwater.

DON'T spread oil to suppress dust or kill weeds. These practices harm land and water resources.

DON'T dispose of oil in lakes, streams or wetlands. It's illegal and harmful to fish, wildlife and outdoor recreation.

DON'T burn oil outdoors. Burning oil in a backyard barrel can result in toxic smoke that contaminates the air you and others breathe.

DON'T mix oil with other things. Just a small amount of something else can cause the contents of an entire 200-gallon collection tank to be classified as a hazardous waste that has to be delivered to a special, expensive hazardous waste recycling or disposal facility. Do not add antifreeze, solvents or anything else to oil bound for recycling.

Do it right at the Dunn Transfer Site

Continued from front page

Brush—only brush and limbs for the burn pile. We cannot take stumps or lumber, but the county's Rodefild Landfill will take stumps.

Tires—we charge \$3 each and they must be removed from the rim. We do not take tractor or other oversize or balloon tires. Tires can also be taken to the Rodefild Landfill for 85¢ each, for auto tires only, or \$85.00 per ton prorated for all tires.

Appliances—Neither the town nor Rodefild Landfill take appliances, but several private recyclers do, and they are willing to pick them up for a small fee. Check the table on this page for other appliance recyclers.

	Hours	Aluminum	Other metals	Appliances	Glass	Newspapers	Mixed paper	Corrugated cardboard	HDPE & PETE plastics	Other plastics	Motor oil	Batteries	Tires	Grass, leaves, etc.	Stumps	Limbs	Clean wood
Dunn Transfer Site CTH B	Wed. 8am-4pm Apr-Nov Sat. 8am-4pm All Year	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓1		✓	✓2	✓		✓	✓
Rodefild Landfill Hwy 18 McFarland 838-9555	M-F 7am-3pm Sat. 8am-11am																✓3
Dane County compost site Lake Farm Park Libby Rd.	M-W-F -S 7am-3:30pm Tu-Th 7am-10:30am													✓			
Recycle Worlds 2701 Packers Ave. Madison, WI 53704 244-5451	M-F 9am-5pm Sat. 8am-4pm	✓	✓									✓					
Madison Recycling Center 2200 Fish Hatchery Rd. Madison, WI 53713 251-2115	M-F 7:30am-5pm Sat. 8am-Noon	✓	✓									✓					
Ben Heifitz, Inc. 1802 S. Park Street Madison, WI 53713 255-0960	M-F 7am-4:30pm Sat. Closed Sun. 7am-Noon		✓	✓4								✓					
Century Acres 3705 Hoepker Road Madison, WI 53704 241-3156	Call																✓
J&S Recycling and Surplus 214 N. Main Street Deerfield, WI 53531 764-5358	After May 1st Mon&Wed 9am-Noon 4-6pm Sat. 9-1pm	✓	✓	✓5					✓								
Samuels Recycling 4400 Sycamore Ave. Madison, WI 53714 241-1571	M-F 7:30am-3:30pm Sat. 7:30-Noon	✓	✓6	✓7	✓8	✓						✓					
Reynolds Aluminum Recycling 3029 Milwaukee Street Madison, WI 53714 241-5789	Stoughton at Pamida Wed., Fri., & Sat. 9am-2:30pm Milwaukee Street M-F 8am-5:30pm Sat. 8:30am-3:30pm	✓															
Severson Scrap Metals 1707 Moorland Road Madison, WI 53711 222-4604	M-Sat. 7:30am-4:30pm	✓	✓	✓9								✓					
Larry's Used Furniture 2898 S. Syene Rd. Fitchburg 271-8162	4-8pm weekdays 10am-6pm weekends Call ahead	✓	✓	✓10	✓							✓					

- 1 Collecting for recycling, but still looking for a buyer. Place in separate bin.
- 2 Charge of \$3 per tire.
- 3 Only until 1:30 pm.
- 4 Remove capacitors from appliances; condensers from refrigerators.
- 5 Call for pick-up charge.
- 6 Automobiles and farm equipment also taken.
- 7 No microwave ovens; freon and compressors must be removed from refrigerators and freezers; no appliances with capacitors.
- 8 Bottles and jars only.
- 9 \$15 charge for refrigerators and freezers with freon, other appliances no charge.
- 10 Call first; charge for refrigerators and freezers.



Materials Banned from Landfills in Dane County
Items currently banned:

Brush	Grass
Leaves	Barrels and Drums
Newspaper	Hazardous Waste
Infectious Waste	Tires
Corrugated Cardboard	Glass Containers
Metal Containers	HDPE Plastic Containers
Lead-Acid Batteries	PETE Plastic Containers
Used Oil	Major Appliances

As of January 1, 1993:
Yard Waste (beyond grass, leaves, and brush)

As of January 1, 1995:
Magazines
Plastic Containers

Office Paper
Polystyrene Foam Packaging



Waste Management Asked to Clean City Disposal Site

From a local perspective, the cleanup of the City Disposal site on Sand Hill Road seems to be taking a long time, but Susan Pastor of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said the EPA is still doing legal work to get the responsible parties to pay for the cleanup.

Last week Pastor said a unilateral order had been issued to Waste Management, the largest of the parties responsible for the contamination, requiring them to do the design and cleanup work on the landfill and groundwater at the site.

The EPA signed a record of decision for the Superfund site in September 1992, outlining the final cleanup methods to be used. Under this order, Waste Management must extract and flare methane gas and volatile organic compounds, cap the landfill with two types of covers, and restrict

land use at the site. They must also pump and treat contaminated groundwater and discharge treated water to Badfish Creek.

If Waste Management complies with the order, they will be providing a work plan to the EPA explaining how they intend to proceed. That is expected this summer.

"Maybe later in the summer, they will be doing pump tests or learning more about the soils so that the cap can be designed," Pastor said. "I don't expect any work there this spring. It'll more than likely be this summer."

Failure to comply with the order would subject Waste Management to daily penalties of up to \$25,000 and damages of three times the cost of the project, according to EPA Deputy Regional Administrator David A. Ullrich.

Libby Landfill Update The End May Be in Sight (Again)

The fight to prevent the proposed Libby Landfill from being built along the northwest shore of Lake Waubesa may be finally turning in the town's favor.

Last week the Lake Waubesa Conservation Association, a grassroots citizen's organization that has raised funds to pay for legal fees and helped fight the proposed landfill, received information that the Wisconsin Court of Appeals accepted Friend of the Court Briefs from several influential organizations. Those briefs could help in an effort to reverse a July 1992 court ruling that favors Madison Landfills, Inc., the company hoping to build the Libby Landfill.

Acceptance of the briefs is important due to the weight these parties carry. Backing the local committee (and the town of Dunn) with separate Friend of the Court briefs are the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, the Wisconsin Towns Association and the Wisconsin Counties Association. In addition, a joint brief filed by Wisconsin Public Interenor, Wisconsin Environmental Decade and John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club has also been accepted by the court.

To put the acceptance of these briefs in perspective, here is a quick review of the legal battles of the past 18 months. In November 1991, Madison Landfills and the local negotiating committee met before the Waste Facility Siting Board in an arbitration hearing. That hearing was called

because the two sides could not agree on terms for building the landfill. Following three days in arbitration hearings, the WFSB selected the Madison Landfills offer, but deleted a portion of the offer that would have allowed Madison Landfills to bypass all local rezoning and permitting requirements.

In its ruling, the Waste Facility Siting Board concluded that it lacked the authority to take away local zoning because, in this case, such zoning was not discriminatory or arbitrary. If it had been discriminatory or arbitrary, and thus obstructing the construction of the landfill, the siting board could have kept it in Madison Landfill's offer.

Madison Landfills then proceeded to fulfill a promise to appeal any judgements against it and challenged the WFSB decision. In July 1992 their appeal was heard by Judge Gerald Nichols, who ruled that the WFSB did not have the right to alter the arbitration offer. With that decision, the local committee, which includes Dane County, the city of Madison and the town of Dunn, appealed Judge Nichols' ruling. Now, with the backing of the League of Municipalities, the Towns Association, the Counties Association, the Public Interenor, Wisconsin Environmental Decade and the Sierra Club, a favorable response to the local committee's appeal is more likely. Our next step is another wait

Volunteers Needed

Oregon Area Senior Center — 835-7100
contact Nell Mally

Substitute front desk receptionist — two shifts are available: from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m. Responsibilities include answering the phone, taking messages, relaying messages, and acting as greeter at the door. We need substitutes and people who could volunteer two to four times each month.

Meal deliverers — occasionally we need a driver to deliver noon meals to older adults living in the town of Dunn. There generally are about five meals and they can be delivered within a short amount of time. They are picked up at the center. Mileage reimbursement is available. Call if you could substitute.

Stoughton Senior Center — 873-8585
contact Barb Patterson

Meals on wheels drivers — regular or substitute drivers. Hours are fairly flexible and mileage reimbursement is available.

Driver escort — drive older adults to appointments

Kitchen assistants — help prepare meals at the senior center. Volunteers are needed to assist at the center's meals, at our pancake breakfast fund-raiser, or to come and bake cookies.

McFarland Senior Center — 838-3154
contact Susan Stumreiter

Driver escorts — The RSVP Driver Escort Program is in need of volunteers to drive older adults to medical appointments, the grocery store, or other events. The hours are flexible, and drivers should anticipate being available one to two times a week.

Senior Olympics volunteers — McFarland High School will be hosting the track and field events, the softball throw, and the basketball toss. Volunteers can help by measuring distances, recording scores, and organizing individual events. The event will be held during the first week in June.

Town of Dunn — 255-4219

Calligrapher — to make a roster of town officials.

Photo assembler — The 1991 aerial photos of the town are ready (and in color!) and need to be assembled on a board to replace the older version at the back of the town hall.

Libby Landfill Background

The proposed Libby Landfill, located just north of Lake Farm Park along Libby Road, has been the subject of an intense battle since it was first proposed in 1982. The landfill is proposed to be located 1,200 feet from Lake Waubesa and, if it is built, will be visible from McFarland, the South Beltline and almost every home on the lake.

The landfill received the preliminary engineering approvals from the DNR in February 1991 after a year-long delay because one of the investors, Tom DeBeck, a co-owner of the groundwater-polluting Refuse Hide-away Landfill in Middleton, fell under state bad-actor legislation because of his involvement with the Middleton landfill. Once DeBeck sold his ownership in the proposed Libby Landfill, the process continued to where it is today.

ing game. Appeals like this one the community to enforce local can take six months to a year to zoning, the 10-year battle to stop be heard, but with a successful the Libby Landfill may finally be appeal that restores the right of over for good.

Join in the Arbor Day Potluck on April 30th

Composting — what it is and how (and why) to do it — will be the topic of the annual Arbor Day Celebration and Potluck, Friday, April 30th, at the town hall. Mindy Habecker, Dane County Extension agriculture and natural resources agent, will be the featured speaker. This is a particularly timely topic, since the county's ban on yard waste in landfills went into effect this January 1. She will have a demonstration and plenty of tips, so you won't want to miss this.

Bring a friend or two, too! Lots of great, home-cooked food is guaranteed. Mindy's presentation will begin about 8:00 p.m. A special part of the Arbor Day celebration is the presentation of the annual Stewardship Awards to individual who have helped enhance and preserve our town. Last spring, the Stewardship Award was presented to Jane and Wes Licht for their leadership and roles as environmental educators.

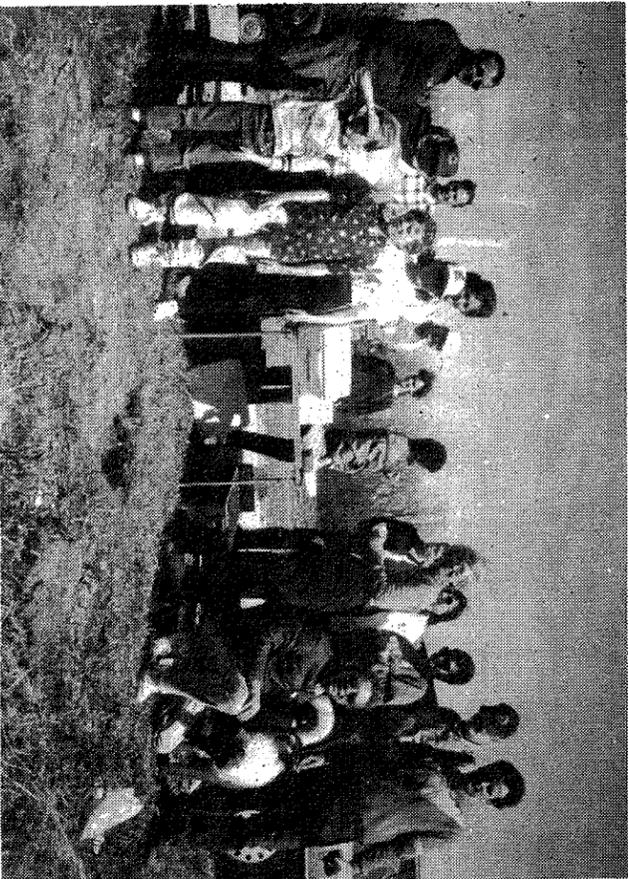
Spring Clean-Up Day is April 17; Rain date, 24th

The annual Arbor Day tree planting ceremony will be at Spartan Hills Park on Saturday, May 1, at 10:00 a.m.

As usual, the potluck dinner will start about 6:30 p.m. Bring a dish to pass and your own table settings.

Roadside Clean-Up Day will be April 17th this year, with Saturday the 24th as the rain date. Parks commission members will be at the Town Hall on Election Day to ask residents to volunteer to help clean up their favorite stretch of road. If no one is at the sign-up board, please pencil in your name by the road you picked.

Do your part this year by filling up a garbage bag (or pick-up truck) with roadside debris and recyclables from along town roadsides. Make a morning of it and enjoy the fresh air. Afterward, everyone is invited to the town transfer station at 2 p.m. to drop off the trash and recyclables and enjoy some refreshments and a group photo. Call the town hall for information if you miss the sign-up on Election Day.



Spring Clean-Up Day is plenty of work, but every year it's followed with a picnic and treats at the Dunn Transfer and Recycling Center.

The town of Dunn wishes to say

Thank you

to The Steak Escape, of Madison, and to all of the other individuals, municipalities, organizations and businesses that provided their assistance in the aftermath of the June 17, 1992, tornado.

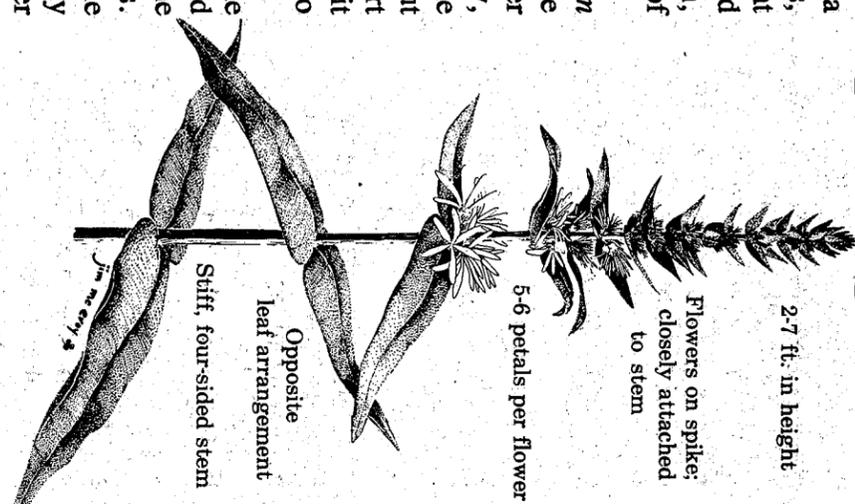
Help to Prevent Purple Loosestrife from Spreading

Although not considered a noxious weed by state statutes, purple loosestrife is a plant that should be treated as one and destroyed, says Rich Henderson, botanist with the Department of Natural Resources.

Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) is a highly aggressive plant that is rapidly taking over wetlands in Dane County, southern Wisconsin and the Midwest. Loosestrife chokes out other wetland plants that support many birds and mammals, and it provides little food benefit to wildlife.

Native to Europe, purple loosestrife is well established and a serious problem throughout the northeastern United States. Because it is attractive, purple loosestrife has been widely distributed for use in flower gardens. Unfortunately, it has the capability to survive in the wild.

It is found mainly in shallow wetlands and ditches or other areas with wet soils. In small quantities, young plants can be pulled by hand and older ones carefully dug. The roots of the older plants will resprout if they are broken, so extra care must be taken in removing the plant. In larger areas, herbicides like



Roundup can be used on land or Rodeo in wet areas, but Wisconsin law requires the herbicide applicator have a permit from the Department of Natural Resources if an herbicide is to be applied to water.

Please contact Rich Henderson at 275-3214 to report any sighting of plants or for more information about destroying the plants.

Dunn Burying Ground Landscaping starts soon

Visit Burying Ground for Memorial Ceremony by Jo Reynolds

Spring projects are once again the focus of the Dunn Cemetery Task Force. With the acquisition of the adjacent property (and despite the delay caused by the tornado last summer), committee members will recommend landscape plantings for the new part of the burying ground in addition to holding their annual cemetery clean-up.

Glen Northrup, the project surveyor, suggested that the work be done in the order of: staking and graveling the road, seeding and fencing, then the actual planting. The final step — and a continuing one — will be landscaping. The task force hopes to select plantings that reflect heritage garden plantings and meet several other criteria, including hardness, ease of care and mowing, and low price. Since we have no allotted budget for the landscaping, individual donations of perennials, shrubs or trees are welcome. Several donations of memorial trees and roses have already been offered, while others have offered transplants from their own properties. We may be able to do a good portion of the landscaping with donated materials. Costs for other materials will need to be approved by the town board, but the sale of cemetery plots will ultimately offset these costs. (It has not yet been determined when plots will be available for purchase — probably after platting and staking are finished.)

Please contact the town hall if you are interested in donating plants, either as a memorial in the new addition (traditional trees, shrubs or perennials) or in the original burying ground (annuals or perennials).

Once again, our committee would like to extend an invitation to all to attend the annual Memorial Day ceremony held at the burying ground by the Oregon-Brooklyn VFW. Each year this group provides a memorable way to honor all veterans, including the five Civil War and one War of 1812 veterans buried here. The exact time of the ceremony will be listed in the *Oregon Observer* the week prior to Memorial Day.