The Landings Association

The Landings has 151 lagoons. The primary function of these lagoons is stormwater retention to prevent flooding. The lagoons comprise 269 surface acres of water. All storm drains flow directly into our lagoons and are not connected to the sewer system. Every lagoon in The Landings is integrated with underground piping which eventually discharges into the marshes and coastal rivers. Approximately half of the lagoons are fresh water and half are brackish or salty. Duck decoys are used to mark underwater fish attractant structures. Anglers should use extreme caution while fishing because there are alligators in our lagoons. It is against the Georgia State law to feed alligators because they will associate food with humans. Only residents and their accompanied guest(s) may fish the lagoons.

Did You Know?

- 60% of water pollution comes from things like motor oil, fertilizers, pet waste, and detergents.
- Grass clippings, yard debris, and leaves, when left or swept into the storm drains, cause clogs, and as they decompose they will act just like a fertilizer in the water and can stimulate algae growth and produce fish kills.
- That you can over fertilize your grass. Doing too much can waste money and add to nutrient runoff in the lagoons.
- Chatham County has four drop-off recycling centers. The newest one is located on Eisenhower Drive. More information on what these facilities accept can be found on Chatham County’s website (www.publicworks.chathamcounty.org).
- The main reason for fish kills is a low level of dissolved oxygen in the water.
- Just one ounce of dog feces can contain 23 million microorganisms of bacteria. That’s nearly twice of that of a human.
- Human health can be affected by animal feces, which can contain hookworms, roundworms, and other parasites.

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For Keeping Our Lagoons Pristine

Information & Environmental Tips

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Introduction

In an effort to improve environmental stewardship surrounding the lagoons and drainage systems within our community, our Public Works staff has put together this helpful information about our lagoon systems. Throughout this flier, residents will find useful information about our lagoon system and ways we can reduce environmental impacts to the lagoons.

YOU CAN DO YOUR PART BY...

1. Fertilize correctly; don’t overdo it!

Accurate application of fertilizer and pesticides is important to the health of your lawn, plants, and the environment. Improper application and over fertilization can lead to nitrogen leaching, plant burn, and phosphorus runoff.

**HOW CAN I HELP?**

- Choose fertilizers that contain at least 35 to 50 percent of the nitrogen supply in a slow release form.
- Keep pesticides and herbicide use to a minimum.
- Only remove one third of the height of the grass each mowing cycle to promote a healthy lawn.
- Mulching your grass clippings can add nitrogen and potassium back to the soil.

2. Mulch it or bag it!

Grass clippings, leaves, and other organic debris, when blown into the streets or directly into the storm drains, can cause major maintenance problems. Drainage pipes can become clogged, causing flooding. The added organic material serves a fertilizer once in the lagoon, and grass clippings can carry other pesticides into the lagoons.

**HOW CAN I HELP?**

- Mulch your grass clippings and yard debris or use a bagger when mowing and properly dispose of the clippings.
- Educate your landscapers of how you want your yard maintained.

3. Storm drains are not garbage cans!

All street drains located throughout the community are directly connected to the lagoons and do not receive any type of sewage treatment. Dumping any chemicals, oils, paint, fertilizers, or organic debris in catch basins can cause serious environmental effects to the lagoons.

**HOW CAN I HELP?**

- Never dump anything but water into the storm drains.
- Properly dispose of paint, automotive oil, and pesticides.
- Wash your vehicle in your grass. This will reduce the amount of automotive fluids washing into the storm drains.
- Downspouts should be allowed to drain into landscaped areas.

4. Have respect; pick up after your pet!

Excessive animal waste left in and around water bodies can lead to bacteria and nutrients being washed into the lagoons. The bacteria can affect wildlife and any animal that drinks from the lagoons and can cause an imbalance in the natural bacteria found in the lagoons.

**HOW CAN I HELP?**

- Pick up after your pet.
- Properly dispose of the feces by flushing it down the toilet or throwing it away.