

Best Practices For Protecting Our Pond White Oak Pond Watershed Association

(compiled by Margie Bogdanow 2019)

Use cleaning products containing no phosphates

Just because something is organic or biodegradable does not mean it is good for the environment – check labels!

Be careful what you flush. Only flush what is made to be flushed.

Paint products, bleach, septic tank additives and toilet deodorizers can kill the good bacteria in septic systems that break down waste, causing the waste to accumulate.

Compost your kitchen waste.

Using a garbage disposal adds excess solid waste to septic systems that can slow its function, and shorten its life. Composting kitchen and yard waste (away from the water) will help prevent nutrients from entering surface waters.

Have your septic tank pumped regularly.

Have your septic tank inspected by a licensed inspector.

Upgrade or replace if it is outdated or undersized.

Minimize landscaping.

Keep native deep-rooted trees, shrubs and ground cover.

Avoid fertilizing your yard or using herbicides and pesticides.

Leave the shoreline and near shore in its natural state.

Do not bathe yourself or your pets in the water.

Pay attention to changes in aquatic life.

Do not light fireworks over the pond.