

NOTICE OF STORM SEWER VIOLATION

You have been observed or there is evidence of blowing and depositing grass clippings from your property onto the municipal street(s). This is your written notice. Please see the ordinance citation and recommended procedures for mowing your lawn.

§ 7.07 **OBSTRUCTIONS IN STREETS.** Subd. 4. *Grass, Leaves and Tree Limbs in Streets.* It is a petty misdemeanor for any individual to throw or deposit in any street or other public place, leaves, grass or tree limbs at any time except during periods designated by the city as fall and spring cleanup periods. During the fall and spring cleanup periods, persons shall be permitted to rake, throw and/or deposit the leaves, grass or tree limbs in the gutters or at the edges of any street or other public place that is adjoining their property. Any violation of this section is hereby declared to be a nuisance and upon three-days' written notice to the owner, as the owner is shown by the records of the Redwood County Auditor or the taxpayer of record as shown by the records of the Redwood County Treasurer, the city shall be entitled to remove the leaves, grass or tree limbs which have been deposited in the street or public place during the prohibited periods and charge the owner for the costs. In the event that the owner fails to pay the costs after billing, the city may collect the costs together with reasonable attorney's fees by suing the owner in a court of competent jurisdiction, or in the alternative, by certifying the costs of removal as any other special assessment upon the land from which the leaves, grass or tree limbs were removed.

Keep grass clippings off street and other paved areas

- Grass clippings contain phosphorus, the nutrient that turns lakes green with algae.
- Grass clippings from actively growing lawns have 4 to 5 times more phosphorus content than fallen autumn tree leaves.
- One bushel of fresh grass clippings can contain 0.1 lbs. of phosphorus – enough to produce 30 to 50 pounds of algae growth if it finds its way to a lake or river.
- When mowing, grass clippings should be directed away from the street, driveways, sidewalks, or other paved



Sweep after mowing

- areas. Curbside storm sewers can transport grass clippings (along with other street debris and dirt) to the Minnesota River, Redwood River, Lake Redwood, Ramsey Creek, drainage ditches and nearby wetlands.
- Grass clippings blown on the street, driveways, sidewalks or other paved areas during mowing should be swept up and returned to the lawn or composted. Never deposit clippings, leaves or garden waste in drainage ditches or slopes leading to the River.
- For more information, visit our storm water page at: <http://www.ci.redwood-falls.mn.us> under City Departments/Public Works/Storm Water.