



CITY OF ORILLIA

TAKE ACTION TO REDUCE PHOSPHORUS USE

PHOSPHATE
FREE



The Issue:

- High levels of Phosphorus found in household products are harming Lake Simcoe
- The Government of Canada has developed an Action Plan for Clean Water
- The Ontario government has introduced the Lake Simcoe Protection Act; designed to protect the health of the lake
- The City of Orillia is taking positive action by conducting an Effluent Nutrient Control Study

TOGETHER WE CAN
CHANGE THIS



TO THIS



Why is Phosphorus a Problem?

- Phosphorus feeds algae and weed growth resulting in:
 - Loss of fish and other animal populations
 - Green & cloudy lakes which discourage swimming boating and fishing
 - Lowering of property values
 - Greater expense for drinking water filtration

RESIDENTS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE

Some of the phosphorus pollution in the lake comes from our homes. Sources include; cleaning products, detergents and fertilizers

You can reduce your phosphorus use at home

- ✓ Use cleaning products that are “phosphorus free” or “phosphate free”
- ✓ Do not use home garbage grinders
- ✓ Minimize or eliminate your use of lawn fertilizers
- ✓ Do not wash your car in the driveway
- ✓ Remember, biodegradable does not mean Phosphorus Free!

Dishwasher detergents are a significant household source of phosphorus



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PHOSPHATE-FREE PRODUCTS

A few available phosphate-free brands include:

Dishwasher Detergents:

◆ Ecover ◆ Method ◆ Seventh Generation ◆ P.C. Green ◆ Nature Clean

Phosphate-free laundry detergents:

◆ Cheer 'Free' ◆ Seventh Generation ◆ Purex ◆ Gain ◆ Tide ◆ Method

All-purpose cleaners:

◆ Pine Sol ◆ Windex Multi-Surface ◆ Method Household Cleaners

If a label does not say “**phosphate-free**” it likely contains phosphorus

Phosphorus content is listed near the ingredients list on product packaging

Lake Simcoe Clean-Up Fund Goals:

- Reduce Phosphorus in Lake Simcoe
- Rehabilitate fish habitats
- Improve scientific understanding of Lake Simcoe

The City of Orillia's Wastewater Treatment Centre Effluent Nutrient Control Study is supported financially through the Lake Simcoe Cleanup Fund from the Federal Government

Information Sources:

www.lsrca.on.ca
www.treehugger.com
www.gov.mb.ca/waterstewardship
www.caaquebec.com
www.ec.gc.ca/paae-apcw

**Phosphorus in Lake Simcoe
Circa 1800: 30 tonnes**

**Phosphorus in Lake Simcoe
Today: over 100 tonnes**



**Do your part in helping save
Lake Simcoe!**