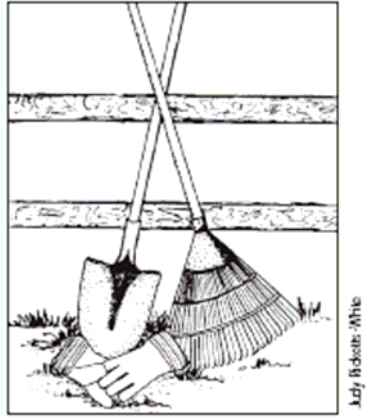


## ***Protect Water Quality in Your Own Yard in Every Season!***

### ***Winter***



- Rethink snow control. Sand and salt from snow removal are two major sources of water pollution they aren't exactly good for the lawn or other plants either. Use them sparingly, if you must. Consider sweeping up sand between storms to re-use, cutting down on the total amount used over the winter.
- Dream and plan. Winter is the time to plan for next spring. If one doesn't exist, create a master yard and map out which areas are doing well and which need improvement or replacement. Read magazines and booklets, visit garden centers or call extension centers to research interesting native plants that meet your needs and are suited to your specific site characteristics. Identify any invasive landscaping plant species that are taking over the natural ecosystem around your property and learn how to control them. A little planning in the quiet of winter can prevent wasted money and stressed out plants and people the heat and hurry of summer.

**To learn more or report possible illegal discharges to the storm drain system, call the Village of Beecher at 708-946-2261.**

(Source: Clean Water Fact Sheet, produced by NEMO and Sea Grant Connecticut)