

## Monthly Stormwater Tip

### **Be tree-friendly**

With Spring almost around the corner, now is a good time to think about improvements to your property. One of the best things you can do to increase the value of your property is to plant a tree. Planting trees also improves stormwater quality. Tree leaves help slow rain as it falls to the ground, thus increasing water absorption. Leaf litter on the ground also slows stormwater runoff and keeps the soil surface looser, so more water can be absorbed rather than run off. Tree roots hold soil, preventing sediment from washing away with stormwater. And, trees cycle water from the land to the atmosphere through evapotranspiration (the transfer of moisture from the earth to the atmosphere by evaporation of water and transpiration from plants). One large tree can absorb up to 100 gallons of water and discharge it into the air in a day. One large tree can provide a day's supply of oxygen for up to four people.