

## Did You Know for December

WVC Sustainability Committee is reviving the “Did You Know” monthly emails to let you know that even if you haven’t been able to come to campus, work continues there, so that when we all can reconvene it will be in a more sustainable space.

Did you know that WVC works with Wenatchee Valley Stormwater Program to make sure that our local waters are cleaner? When you were on campus do you remember seeing the ‘Salmon Safe’ graphics over our stormwater drains? This is meant to remind us all that if we don’t dispose of our wastes safely, they can end up washing into our water system that drains into the river, polluting this vital ecosystem. That is why we are careful on campus to manage our wastes and landscaping in ways that reduce such pollution.

Did you know that yard waste (fertilizers, grass clippings), pet waste, home improvement waste (paint, cleaning chemicals), and vehicle maintenance waste (motor oil, antifreeze, soaps) are all getting into our streams and rivers through stormwater drains? Many of these are toxic to the wildlife that live in and feed off the rivers and add to the load of chemicals that need to be monitored for safe levels in our drinking water.

Finally, did you know that all those fallen leaves must not be blown or raked into the street? This is because then they can block the storm drains and lead to neighborhood flooding. That’s why we manage fallen leaves on campus by raking them up and adding them to our compost pile to create rich organic matter for our landscaping and garden.

Thanks for all you do to keep our waters clean! You can learn more about sustainability at WVC [here](#).

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