

# NEWS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

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Stormwater Division

## **Don't clutter the gutter**

*City reminds residents to mulch grass clippings onto lawns*

**Casper, Wyoming (June 3, 2016)** – The City of Casper is reminding residents “don’t clutter the gutter.” Gutters are designed to carry rain and snow melt into the storm drain system. Any grass, leaves, dirt, gravel, litter, oil, or other materials in the gutter can enter the storm drain system which drains, untreated, into the North Platte River.

Grass clippings, leaves, and other debris often clog the storm sewer leading to flooding. Also, when clippings decompose they release carbon and nitrogen which can lead to undesirable algae growth which harms fish in the North Platte River. Grass clippings should be mulched onto lawns or swept up after mowing. To protect the storm water system, residents should not use the curb or gutter line to store landscaping materials such as mulch, gravel, rock, dirt, or compost.

Residents can be cited by the City of Casper Code Enforcement Division for not complying with City ordinances that deal with litter and waste disposal. It is against City of Casper Ordinance to throw, deposit, leave, or dump anything besides water into the gutter or storm drain system. Failure to comply with the ordinance can lead to cleanup fees and fines.

For questions, please contact Krista Johnston at (307) 235-7535.