

How to Give Rain a Bath Keeping Seidl's Lake Water Clean


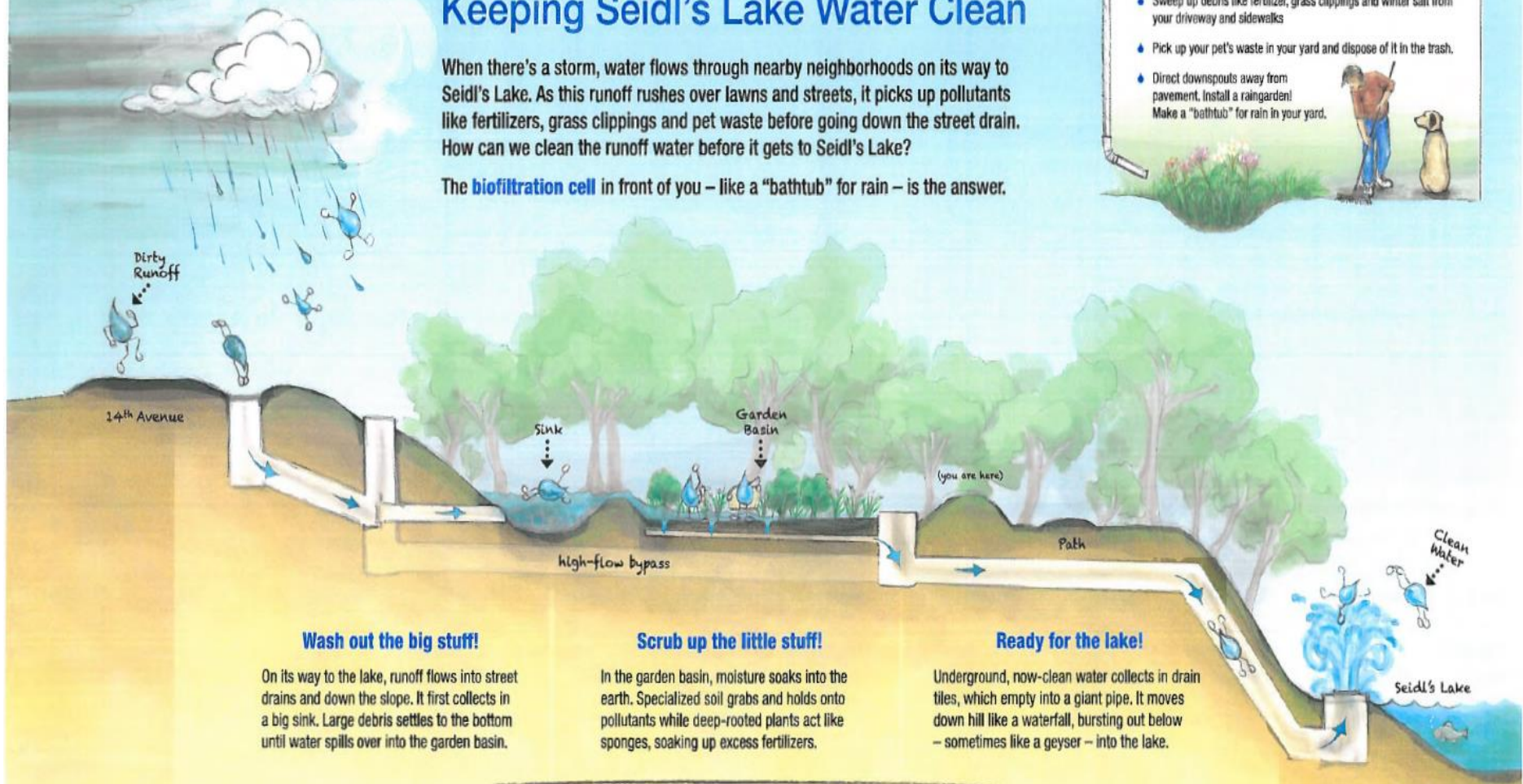
When there's a storm, water flows through nearby neighborhoods on its way to Seidl's Lake. As this runoff rushes over lawns and streets, it picks up pollutants like fertilizers, grass clippings and pet waste before going down the street drain. How can we clean the runoff water before it gets to Seidl's Lake?

The **biofiltration cell** in front of you – like a “bathtub” for rain – is the answer.

Wash Your Own Water

Do your part to keep the lake clean ...

- ◆ Sweep up debris like fertilizer, grass clippings and winter salt from your driveway and sidewalks
- ◆ Pick up your pet's waste in your yard and dispose of it in the trash.
- ◆ Direct downspouts away from pavement. Install a raingarden! Make a “bathtub” for rain in your yard.

Wash out the big stuff!

On its way to the lake, runoff flows into street drains and down the slope. It first collects in a big sink. Large debris settles to the bottom until water spills over into the garden basin.

Scrub up the little stuff!

In the garden basin, moisture soaks into the earth. Specialized soil grabs and holds onto pollutants while deep-rooted plants act like sponges, soaking up excess fertilizers.

Ready for the lake!

Underground, now-clean water collects in drain tiles, which empty into a giant pipe. It moves down hill like a waterfall, bursting out below – sometimes like a geyser – into the lake.



This biofiltration project was made possible through a partnership of the Clean Water Land & Legacy Amendment, Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the City of South St. Paul. Funding for this sign provided by the Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization.