Uses of Phosphorus

Residential:

- Fertilizer
- Laundry
- Cleaning Agents
- Water Softener
- Pesticides and Herbicides
- Flame Retardants

Agricultural:

- Fertilizer
- Animal Feed
- Energy Transfer
- Stress Tolerance

Phosphorus is removed from wastewater through chemical removal and/or advanced biological treatment.

Calcium, iron, and aluminum salts are added to achieve phosphorous precipitation

Bacteria is exposed to alternating anaerobic and aerobic conditions to promote the uptake of phosphorus by these organisms that take in phosphorus

Phosphorus-free formulas and legislation regulating phosphorus have been introduced to reduce high concentrations of phosphorus in our agriculture, industrial, and residential practices

Septic Systems

Phosphorus can be found in residential septic systems, being introduced through human waste, detergents and other cleaning agents, and water softener salts. While phosphorus inevitably ends up in septic systems, regular maintenance and pumping reduces the potential for phosphorus leaching into the surrounding soil

Sequestered Phosphorus in Agriculture

- Cover Crops reduce soil erosion and allow for the capture of phosphorus
- No till farming practices reduces the amount of disturbed soil and therefore reduces potential phosphorus runoff
- Phosphorus management allows for precise applications of phosphorus, ensuring that minimally necessary quantities of phosphorus are applied to crops and reducing the potential for phosphorus runoff
- Installing buffer strips can trap phosphorus that is being transported through runoff
- Constructing wetlands can allow for phosphorus runoff to be effectively captured and treated
- Rotating your crops can increase the efficiency of nutrient uptake, reducing the need for phosphorus-based fertilizers