To The Editor:

This spring I learned that grass clippings and leaves in our street gutters are detrimental to our ecology when they are washed by rain into our storm sewers. In turn, the water carries phosphorus and goes into the county ditches and then into our lakes and rivers where it produces algae. Ultimately, algae takes oxygen from the water as it decays, and the water body does not support the entire food chain.

The cities of Gaylord and Henderson brought this to the attention of their residents and they each set aside a day to clean the streets as did the “Join Hands” group in Lafayette June 30. Let’s continue to keep the streets and gutters in our community clean of grass clippings and leaves to ensure a healthy environment for us and for generations to come. Remember to mow away from the curb and clean up any grass that goes into the gutter. And in the same vein, remember to buy biodegradable cleaning products as well. They are available in super markets and in health food stores. A healthy environment means healthy people.

Lafayette Citizen