

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
SACRAMENTO, CA  
PERMIT# 000

**San Bernardino County Stormwater Program**

825 East Third Street • Room 127

San Bernardino, CA 94215-0835



**STORMWATER**  
**Pollution**  
**Prevention**

**LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE**



# Pollution <sup>STORMWATER</sup> Prevention

## Stormwater Management Practices for Commercial Landscape Maintenance

Yard waste, sediments, and toxic lawn/garden chemicals used in commercial landscape maintenance often make their way into the San Bernardino County storm drain system and do not get treated before reaching the Santa Ana River. This pollutes our drinking water and contaminates local waterways, making them unsafe for people and wildlife. Following these best management practices will prevent pollution, comply with regulations and protect public health.

### Recycle Yard Waste

Recycle leaves, grass clippings and other yard waste. Do not blow, sweep, rake or hose yard waste into the street. Try grasscycling - the natural recycling of grass by leaving clippings on the lawn when mowing. Grass clippings will quickly decompose, returning valuable nutrients to the soil. Further information can be obtained at [www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Organics](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Organics).

### Use Fertilizers, Herbicides and Pesticides Safely

Fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides are often carried into the storm drain system by sprinkler runoff. Use of natural, non-toxic alternatives to the traditional fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides is highly recommended. If you must use chemical fertilizers, herbicides, or pesticides:

- Spot apply pesticides and herbicides, rather than blanketing entire areas.
- Avoid applying near curbs and driveways, and never apply before a rain.
- Apply fertilizers as needed, when plants can best use it, and when the potential for it being carried away by runoff is low.

### Recycle Hazardous Waste

Pesticides, fertilizers, herbicides and motor oil contaminate landfills and should be disposed of through a Hazardous Waste Facility, which accepts these types of materials. For information on proper disposal call, (909) 386-8401.

### Use Water Wisely

Conserve water and prevent runoff by controlling the amount of water and direction of sprinklers. Sprinklers should be on long enough to allow water to soak into the ground but not so long as to cause runoff. Periodically inspect, fix leaks and realign sprinkler heads. Plant native vegetation to reduce the need of water, fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides.

### Prevent Erosion

Erosion washes sediments, debris and toxic runoff into the storm drain system, polluting waterways.

- Prevent erosion and sediment runoff by using ground cover, berms and vegetation down-slope to capture runoff.
- Avoid excavation or grading during wet weather.

### Store Materials Safely

Keep landscaping materials and debris away from the street, gutter and storm drains. On-site stockpiles of materials must be covered with plastic sheeting to protect from rain, wind and runoff.

To report illegal dumping call  
**(877) WASTE18**  
or visit our website:  
**[sbcountystormwater.org](http://sbcountystormwater.org)**

