

LANDSCAPING STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION GUIDELINES

GENERAL LANDSCAPING

- Use a broom or leaf blower to manage dirt and debris. Blown or swept materials must be collected and disposed of and/or directed back onto the property being worked on. Do not use a hose to wash sediment, fertilizer, oil, gasoline, grass clippings, leaves, or pesticides into the storm drain system.
- Don't apply fertilizer or pesticides when rain is forecast, unless manufacturer's instructions specifically state to do so. Likewise, plan irrigation around applications to prevent runoff of fertilizers and pesticides into the storm drain system.
- Field crews should be equipped with spill kits to contain and clean up spills of fluids like oil, gasoline, or liquid fertilizer to prevent these pollutants from entering the storm drain system.
- Wastewater from equipment cleaning or rinsing may not be discharged to the storm drain system. Non-hazardous wastewater from cleaning activities should go into the sanitary sewer. If you must clean or rinse equipment such as concrete tools or lawnmowers at the jobsite, perform these tasks upon landscaped or dirt areas where runoff will not occur.

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

- Consider using mulching mowers to reduce the need for fertilizers, herbicides, and irrigation.

LANDSCAPE CONTRACTING

- Avoid tracking mud and dirt onto the street, sidewalks, and gutters from vehicles and equipment leaving the work area. When possible, park vehicles in the street.
- Avoid allowing water hoses to run or leak on your project. When not in use, turn water sources off or use a closeable nozzle on all water hoses.
- Use erosion control mats, straw, fiber rolls or other erosion and sediment control products to stabilize areas of disturbed soil or material stockpiles that will be exposed to rainfall during winter months.
- Protect storm drain inlets at and near jobsites with inlet filter bags, gravel bags, or fiber rolls.
- Muddy water from trench or other site de-watering cannot be discharged to the storm drain system unless it has been filtered in a manner that meets regulatory requirements. The easiest and least costly way to handle this water is to pump to another location at the worksite for infiltration.
- Stockpiling materials such as topsoil, compost, sand or bark in the street or gutter may violate multiple local ordinances and creates a safety hazard. As such, this practice should be avoided by temporarily stockpiling these materials on the worksite (your client's driveway may work for this purpose).

Sacramento's Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC) provides free and confidential compliance and permitting assistance to businesses in the Sacramento region. The SSQP, in cooperation with BERC, has developed a program to promote businesses that care about protecting local waterways and agree to implement stormwater pollution prevention measures while performing their services. The Clean Water Business Partner (CWBP) program currently has over 70 participating businesses from several industries and relies on education and incentives, not enforcement. If you would like more information on the CWBP program or stormwater regulations for landscaping, please contact BERC.

Sacramento Stormwater Quality Program (916) 808-4H2O
Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC) and for CWBP program (916) 649-0225