



COMMON POLLUTANTS

Landscaping Maintenance

- Pesticides
- Fertilizers
- Herbicides
- Oil, grease, gasoline, and diesel
- Sediments
- Trash
- Green waste (tree leaves, grass clippings)

For more information on alternative pesticide products and where to buy products locally, visit

Our Water Our World at <http://ourwaterourworld.org/>

Training

- Regularly train crews on safe landscaping practices
- Become a Green Gardener by completing the class in Santa Barbara (Santa Barbara City College) or Santa Maria (Allan Hancock College) and learn about resource efficient and pollution prevention landscape maintenance practices.

To learn more about Green Gardening and Water Conservation, visit **Water Wise** at www.WaterWiseSB.org

Need mulch? Free mulch is readily available throughout the county. For the location of free mulch piles, visit **Less Is More** at <http://lessismore.org>



ABOUT THIS GUIDE

Many people and businesses don't realize their landscape practices can impact our local streams, creeks, rivers, or ocean with pollution. This guide provides general Best Management Practices (BMPs) for landscaping business operations. Additional resources are listed for a more extensive array of suitable BMPs.

Landscape maintenance activities sometimes generate pollutants that can be picked up while watering or by stormwater runoff and then transported to the nearest storm drain and into our local streams, creeks, rivers, and ocean. You can help reduce water pollution by implementing the following approaches:

- 🌱 Implement an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program that use biological and cultural controls to prevent and manage pests, promote healthy plants, and reduce pesticide exposure risks to human health and the environment.
- 🌱 Keep landscape maintenance equipment and machinery tuned and in top running condition to eliminate leaks and increase fuel efficiency.
- 🌱 Plant drought-tolerant plants using natural landscaping and xeriscaping to reduce water and pesticide use.
- 🌱 Keep material stockpiles and chemicals covered, away from storm drain inlets, and out of the street.
- 🌱 Have spill cleanup materials readily available and use dry methods to clean up spills.
- 🌱 Store, handle, and dispose of chemicals and/or spill cleanup materials properly.

Did you know? Grasscycling is a natural way to fertilize your lawn and will reduce clean up time. Initially cut your grass at a height of one inch and leave grass clippings on the lawn when mowing. After the first cut, follow the one-third rule by mowing often enough so no more than one-third of the length of the grass blade is cut in any one mowing.



EVALUATE LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

- Use non-chemical solutions such as amending soils with compost, weeding by hand, and replacing plants with native and climate appropriate (drought tolerant) plants.
- Consider green chemical treatments to replace fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides.
- Convert to smart-controllers that adjust irrigation based on weather conditions.



PROPERLY MANAGE IRRIGATION AND RUNOFF

- Time and locate irrigation heads to minimize runoff.
- Minimize irrigation runoff by using an evapotranspiration-based irrigation schedule and rain sensors.
- Avoid over-watering landscape areas not only to conserve water but to avoid runoff water, which may carry fertilizers, nutrients, and pesticides into creeks and rivers and eventually to the ocean.
- Use a hose nozzle to control the amount of water you use or set irrigation systems to reflect your city water conservation requirements. Regularly inspect irrigation system for leaks.
- Ensure sprinklers are not directed to hardscape/concrete.
- Use border at pavement edges to reduce overspray and runoff.



USE MULCH OR OTHER EROSION CONTROL MEASURES

- Mulch, wood chips, and other cover material retain soil moisture and prevent erosion.
- For areas around trees and shrubs, leave three to four inches of mulch in place to reduce evaporation and build healthy soil.

Did you know? Mulch increases the soil's water-holding capacity resulting in the need for less irrigation and regulates soil temperature for a healthy plant root zone.



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT OUR PARTNERING AGENCIES

City of Buellton
www.CityofBuellton.com
Public Works
Department
805.688.5177
swmp@cityofbuellton.com

City of Carpinteria
www.carpinteria.ca.us
Public Works
Department
805.880.3415
stormwater@ci.carpinteria.ca.us

City of Goleta
www.CityofGoleta.org
Public Works
Department
805.961.7500
stormwater@cityofgoleta.org

City of Lompoc
www.CityofLompoc.com
Economic and Community
Development Department
805.875.8275
stormwater@ci.lompoc.ca.us

City of Santa Barbara
www.sbcreeks.com
Creeks
Division
805.897.2658
creeks@santabarbara.gov

City of Solvang
www.CityofSolvang.com
Public Works
Department
805.688.5575
stormwater@cityofsolvang.com

Santa Barbara County
www.SBProjectCleanWater.org
Project
Clean Water
805.568.3440
cleanwater@cosbpw.net



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

The Cities of Buellton, Carpinteria, Goleta, Lompoc, Santa Barbara and Solvang, and the County of Santa Barbara have an extensive Stormwater Management Program, with an even greater selection of information and useful tools to help your business go green!

Take advantage of the following FREE services to you:

- Download or print BMP materials.

Be sure to always check:

- Local landscape ordinances periodically.
- Drought restrictions.
- Business license requirements for the city where you are operating your landscape service.

TIP: Adjust irrigation schedules by adjusting your sprinkler time to the County of Santa Barbara's **Water Wise** recommended % **Watering Adjust Value** at www.WaterWiseSB.org

ONLY RAIN DOWN THE STORM DRAIN



PROPERLY MANAGE PESTICIDE, HERBICIDE, AND FERTILIZER USE

- The label on a pesticide container is a legal document. Use pesticides as instructed only.
- Select a pesticide specifically for the pest to be controlled. Identify the specific problem by taking a sample to your local nursery or local Agricultural Commissioner's Office, or contact the Master Gardener Program.
- Use mechanical and/or natural methods to remove pests first. This may reduce the need for chemical treatments.
- Apply ready-to-use non-aerosol pesticide, herbicide, or fertilizer products instead of mixing your own concentrates.
- Consider alternative management methods such as pest-resistant plants, sealing entryways, removing food sources, and eliminating nesting sites. Always start with natural, non-toxic methods for pesticide control.

PROPERLY HANDLE AND DISPOSE OF CHEMICALS

- Mix or use only what you need. When it comes to chemical treatments, more is not better—spot treat in areas that do not exceed two square feet whenever possible. Avoid over spray or off-target applications.
- Make sure to handle and store chemicals properly in accordance with the product Safety Data Sheet (SDS) and ensure storage areas are designed to contain spills.
- Do not apply pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers during irrigation, within 48 hours of predicted rainfall, or when wind speeds are above five miles per hour.
- Handle gasoline, diesel, oil and grease cautiously. Use a funnel and/or spout to prevent spilling when fueling equipment.
- Be prepared for handling spills. Keep a spill kit nearby containing personal protective equipment and absorbent materials (sand, kitty litter or sawdust). Cover spills with absorbent materials and put contaminated material into a sealed plastic bag or bucket with a lid, and dispose of it as hazardous waste.
- Don't dump chemicals down drains, sinks, sewers, gutters, or onto soil. Dispose of unwanted chemicals via the local hazardous waste collection event (residents) or a state-approved hazardous waste contractor (business).

Did you know? Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Hazard Communication Standard has adopted the Globally Harmonized System (GHS) approach to classify chemicals and communicate hazard information on labels and SDS. For more information about the GHS, visit OSHA's website <http://www.osha.gov>

CLEANUP AND DISPOSAL OF LANDSCAPE WASTE

- DO NOT blow landscaping waste into street or storm drain inlets or use a hose to rinse dirt and debris off paved surfaces.
- Sweep up residual sediment, leaves, and landscaping waste to prevent dispersal by wind or through contact with rain or irrigation water runoff. These flows can wash the waste into a nearby stream, creek, river, or ocean.
- Dispose of landscaping waste:
 - Grass clippings, tree leaves and trimmings, bushes/shrubs and trimmings, tree limbs/branches (< 4 inch diameter) in a green waste container or even better, leave them on site as mulch to eliminate hauling waste.
 - Tree limbs and branches (≥ 4 inch diameter) at a permitted landfill or by composting/mulching.

REGULATIONS, REGISTRATION, AND REPORTING

- Comply with California Code of Regulations Section 6970 Surface Water Protection in Outdoor Nonagricultural Settings.
- Use a professional with a Qualified Applicator Certificate with Category Q or Category B, or a Qualified Applicator License with Category B to supervise pesticide use.
- Obtain a Maintenance Gardener Pest Control Business License from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR).
- Register annually with the Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner's Office.
- Record the types and amounts of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers used.
- Submit Pesticide and Herbicide Usage Records to the Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner's Office.



City of Buellton
www.CityofBuellton.com



City of Carpinteria
www.carpinteria.ca.us



City of Goleta
www.CityofGoleta.com



City of Lompoc
www.CityofLompoc.com



City of Santa Barbara
www.sbcreeks.com



City of Solvang
www.CityofSolvang.com



Santa Barbara County
www.SBProjectCleanWater.org