



Your Actions Prevent Stormwater Pollution!

Standard Operating Procedures for Water Quality Protection

Landscape Chemical Application SOP

Why

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been prepared for all activities conducted as part of the City's Municipal Operations that have the potential to impact 'waters of the state.

One of the primary goals of these SOPs is to **provide time-tested, generally accepted routine procedures that minimize the potential for release of pollutants from a site during the performance of municipal operations activities.**

What

Chemical Application procedures during routine landscape maintenance activities consist of operational best management practices (BMPs) developed to minimize or prevent the discharge of pesticides and fertilizers deposited into the drainage system by promoting proper storage and application of chemicals during landscape maintenance activities. These procedures are critical steps that must be included in every landscape maintenance activity that includes chemical application to either control weeds or pests or to provide adequate fertilization.



Who

All City employees or City-contracted services, who work with any landscape chemicals.

Where

All municipal facilities and operations where pesticides, herbicides or fertilizers are stored, mixed, applied, recycled or disposed.

DO

- Utilize soil test analyses to optimize fertilizer applications.
- Follow label directions when storing, handling, mixing, recycling and disposing of chemicals and empty container; properly calibrate application equipment to ensure proper amount of chemicals are applied.
- Have spill cleanup materials available and ready to go in case of spill; clean up chemical spills promptly, with DRY methods, if possible.
- When watering landscaped area after fertilizer application, take care to not allow water to runoff into streets or other conduits to the waterways.
- Recycle or dispose of all spent or excess chemicals properly and promptly.
- Keep application equipment clean; do not allow a buildup of chemicals.
- Keep all pesticide and herbicide chemicals in leak proof shelters away from elements to help prevent contamination of the stormwater system.
- Keep all fertilizer chemicals covered to keep dry and reduce water damage.
- Keep unused containers closed tightly; use a tight fitting lid; label containers.

DO NOT

- DO NOT** keep chemicals in a damaged container; replace or transfer chemicals to new holding containers.
- DO NOT** transfer, pour or dispose of chemicals outdoors, near or in storm drains, or drainage areas; transfer over impervious surface so spills can't seep into ground.
- DO NOT** apply landscape chemicals to frozen ground.
- DO NOT** handle chemical containers alone if awkward or require over-exertion on your part. Get help and spread the weight load so accidents don't happen.
- DO NOT** over-water landscape areas after fertilizer application such that water discharges off-site, to the street or to the waterway directly.
- DO NOT** over-purchase landscaping chemicals; keep only necessary quantities on hand.
- DO NOT** apply chemicals if not had proper training on uses, types, amounts, and application requirements.