



COMMON POLLUTANTS

Landscaping Maintenance

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

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

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

Training

- Regularly train crews on safe landscaping practices
- Become a Green Gardener through Santa Barbara City Colleges' School of Extended Learning or Allan Hancock College in Santa Maria and learn about resource efficient and pollution prevention landscape maintenance practices

To learn more about Green Gardening and Water Conservation, visit the **Water Wise** Website <http://www.waterwisesb.org/>.

Need Mulch? Free Mulch is readily available throughout the County. Visit the **Less Is More** website for location of free mulch piles <http://lessismore.org>.



ABOUT THIS GUIDE

Many people and businesses don't realize their landscape practices can impact our local streams, creeks, rivers, and the ocean. Pollutants from landscape maintenance activities can come into contact with irrigation and stormwater runoff and flow to a storm drain inlet and into our waterways.

This guide provides general BMPs for landscaping business operations. You can help reduce water pollution by implementing the following approaches and BMPs in this guide:

-  Implement an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program that combines biological, cultural, mechanical, physical, and chemical controls to prevent and manage pests, promote healthy plants, and reduce pesticide exposure risks to human health and the environment.
-  Routinely inspect and maintain landscape equipment and machinery to eliminate leaks and increase fuel efficiency.
-  Implement a xeriscape lawn or garden with drought-tolerant and native plants to reduce water demand irrigation runoff, and herbicide, fertilizer, 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.

Do 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.

LANDSCAPING BMPs

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 using environmentally friendly less-toxic products to replace fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides.
- Adjust irrigation based on weather conditions. Use and convert to smart controllers whenever possible.

PROPERLY MANAGE IRRIGATION AND RUNOFF

- Time and locate irrigation heads to minimize overspray and 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, 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 your 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.
- Try composting leaves, grass clippings, and pruning waste for reuse in your garden as a natural organic fertilizer.

Do 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.CarpinteriaCa.gov
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805.880.3415
sustainability@carpinteriaca.gov

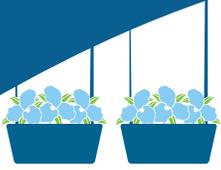
City of Goleta
www.CityofGoleta.org
Public Works
Department
805.961.7575
stormwater@cityofgoleta.org

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

City of Santa Barbara
www.SBCreeks.com
Creeks
Division
805.897.2658
creeks@santabarbaraca.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@countyofsb.org



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

The Cities of Buellton, Carpinteria, Goleta, Lompoc, Santa Barbara, and Solvang and the County of Santa Barbara have extensive Stormwater Management Programs, with a great selection of information and useful tools to help protect the environment.

Be sure to always check:

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

Do 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>.

TIP: Adjust irrigation schedules by adjusting your sprinkler time to the **County of Santa Barbara's Water Wise** recommended "% Watering Adjust Value" found on their website <http://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 only as instructed.
- 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 prevent and 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)

CLEANUP AND DISPOSAL OF LANDSCAPE WASTE

- DO NOT blow landscaping waste into streets, storm drain inlets or waterways.
- DO NOT 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 irrigation and stormwater runoff. These materials can clog a storm drain and cause algal blooms that are harmful to aquatic life.
- Dispose of landscaping waste:
 - Grass clippings, tree leaves and trimmings, bushes/shrubs and trimmings, tree limbs/branches (< 4-inch diameter) in a green waste/organics 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.CarpinteriaCa.gov



City of Goleta
www.CityofGoleta.org



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