

DID YOU KNOW?



It is illegal to discharge waste or water containing soaps, detergents, cleaning products, grease, etc. into streets or curb inlets. Curb inlets were designed to drain water from the streets to prevent flooding, but the same curb inlets can carry pollution (detergents, disinfectants, grease, trash, etc.) to the nearest neighborhood creek. Storm drains do not remove pollutants.



To report a prohibited discharge into the Storm Sewer or Creek System, please call our Hot Line @ **972-941-7184.**



City of Plano

Storm Water Management Program

1520 Avenue K, Suite 210
Plano, TX 75074

Phone: 972-941-7143
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City of Plano

Storm Water Management Program

Guide for
Preventing Storm
Water Pollution in
the Landscaping
and Pool
Maintenance
Industry



This brochure is designed to inform industry about preventing discharges of pollution in the city storm drain system.

Landscaping/Garden Maintenance

- ◆ Use up pesticides and follow label directions. Rinse containers, and use rinsewater as product. Dispose of rinsed containers in the trash.
- ◆ Dispose of unused pesticides as hazardous waste.
- ◆ Collect lawn and garden clippings, pruning waste, and tree trimmings. Chip if necessary, and compost.
- ◆ Do not place yard waste in gutters. Leave clippings and pruning waste for pickup in approved bags or containers, or take to a landfill that composts yard waste.
- ◆ **DO NOT blow or rake leaves, etc. into the street or storm drain.**

Storm Drain Pollution from Landscaping and Swimming Pool Maintenance

Many landscaping activities expose soils and increase the likelihood that earth and garden chemicals will run off into the storm drains during irrigation or when it rains. Swimming pool water containing chlorine and copper-based algaecides should **never** be discharged to storm drains. These chemicals are toxic to aquatic life.

Some common sources of storm water pollution include spilled oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment; landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers; and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into a street or storm drain.



Who should use this brochure?

Landscapers
Gardeners
Swimming pool/spa service and repair workers
General contractors
Home builders
Developers



General Business Practices

- ◆ Protect stockpiles and landscaping materials from wind and rain by storing them under tarps or secured plastic sheeting.
- ◆ Store pesticides, fertilizers, and other chemicals indoors or in a shed or storage cabinet.
- ◆ Schedule grading and excavation projects for dry weather.
- ◆ Use temporary check dams or ditches to divert runoff away from storm drains.
- ◆ Protect storm drain inlets with hay bales, berms, filter mats or other inlet protection measures.
- ◆ **Re-vegetation is an excellent form of erosion control for any site.**

Pool/Fountain/Spa Maintenance

- ◆ Never discharge chlorinated pool or spa water to a street, alley or storm drain.
- ◆ When emptying a pool or spa, let chlorine dissipate for 5 to 7 days. Then recycle water by draining it gradually onto a landscaped area, or drain the de-chlorinated water to a storm drain.
- ◆ Chlorinated water may be discharged to the sanitary sewer by running a hose to a utility sink or sewer pipe cleanout junction.
- ◆ **DO NOT use copper-based algaecides.** Control algae with chlorine or other alternatives to copper-based pool chemicals. **Copper is harmful to aquatic life and cannot be completely removed by the sewage treatment plant.**

The City of Plano Storm Water Program gratefully acknowledges the Santa Clara Valley Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program and the San Mateo Countywide Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program (STOPP) for the original concept and text of this brochure.

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