

## BMP LA01 - Landscape Maintenance



Landscape maintenance activities include vegetation removal; herbicide and insecticide application; fertilizer application; watering; and other landscaping care practices. Vegetation control typically involves a combination of chemical (herbicide) application and mechanical methods. All of these maintenance practices have the potential to contribute pollutants to the storm drain system. The major objectives of this BMP are to minimize the discharge of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers to the storm drain system and receiving waters; prevent the disposal

of landscape waste into the storm drain system by collecting and properly disposing of clippings and cuttings, and educating employees and contractors.

### Pollution Prevention Guidelines:

- Grounds and landscaped areas will be periodically inspected. Litter, debris, organic matter (leaves, cut grass, etc.), and other materials with the potential to contaminate Urban Runoff shall be collected and properly disposed.
- Paved surfaces such as sidewalks shall be cleaned regularly using dry methods (e.g., sweeping, vacuuming). Hosing, power washing, and other wet cleaning methods are permissible only if adequate precautions have been taken to prevent the discharge of wash water to the stormwater conveyance systems or receiving waters.
- The use of blowers is permitted so long as materials are collected and properly disposed. Leaving or blowing materials in the stormwater conveyance systems is a violation of campus code.
- Recycle grass clippings and use fertilizer as appropriate.

### Design Guidelines:

- Minimize the use of hazardous materials onsite.
- Select low water using plantings, trees, shrubs, and groundcover.
- Consider alternative landscaping techniques such as xeriscaping.

### Inspection Guidelines:

- Conduct periodic inspections of maintenance activities and implementation of BMPs (i.e. properly timed fertilizing, weeding, pest control) to help preserve the landscape's target water efficiency.
- Inspect irrigation system operation and performance to maximize efficiency.

### Training Guidelines:

- Train staff on an annual/or as needed basis in protecting storm drain conveyance systems from pollutants associated with landscape maintenance activities.