

DID YOU KNOW?

- Storm drains are NOT connected to the sanitary sewer systems and treatment plants. Water that goes to the storm drain, goes directly to our local water bodies without any treatment.
- It is illegal to discharge pollutants into the storm water system or any receiving water (City of Vista Municipal Code §13.18.050). Penalties and fines will vary.
- Stormwater runoff from grounds and yard maintenance activities can be contaminated with toxic hydrocarbons in fertilizers and pesticides, abnormal pH, and oils and greases.



Contact Us

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Water Quality Protection Program
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Visit us on the web:
www.CityofVista.com



Content provided from:

California Stormwater BMP Handbook—
Industrial and Commercial.

www.casqa.org



Best Management Practices for Yard Care and Grounds Maintenance



Water Quality Protection Program
cityofvista.com

General Pollution

Prevention Protocols

- Encourage proper lawn management and landscaping, including use of native vegetation.
- Encourage proper onsite recycling of yard trimmings.



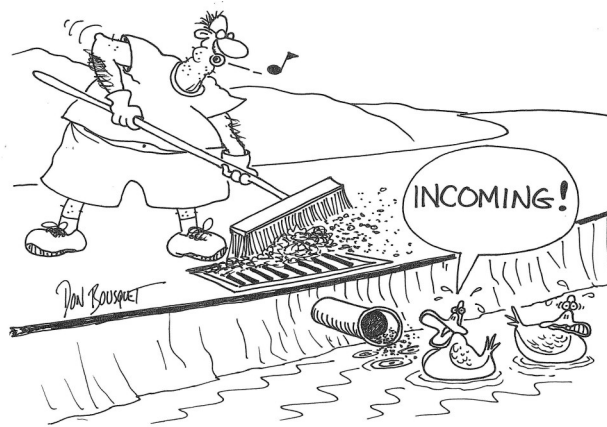
Good Housekeeping

Landscaping Activities:

- Dispose of grass clippings, leaves, sticks, or other collected vegetation as garbage, by composting or at a permitted landfill. Do NOT dispose of collected vegetation into waterways or storm drainage systems.
- Use mulch or other erosion control measures on exposed soils.
- Use up the pesticides. Rinse containers, and use rinse water as product.

Mowing, Trimming, and Planting:

- Place temporarily stockpiled material away from watercourses and drain inlets, and berm or cover stockpiles to prevent material releases to the storm drain system.
- Consider an alternative approach when bailing out muddy water; do not put it in the storm drain; pour over landscaped areas.
- Use hand weeding where practical.



Inspection:

- Inspect irrigation system periodically to ensure that the right amount of water is being applied and that excessive runoff is not occurring.

Fertilizer and Pesticide Management:

- Do not use pesticides if rain is expected.
- Do not mix or prepare pesticides for application near storm drains.
- Use the minimum amount needed for the job.
- Calibrate fertilizer distributors to avoid excessive application.
- Employ techniques to minimize off-target application of pesticides, including consideration of alternative application techniques.
- Apply pesticides only when wind speeds are low.
- Fertilizers should be worked into the soil rather than dumped or broadcast into the surface.
- Irrigate slowly to prevent runoff and then only as much as is needed.
- Clean pavement and sidewalk if fertilizer is spilled on these surfaces before applying irrigation water.