

# COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPING

## What's the problem?

If landscaping activities are not performed properly, pollutants (such as fertilizers, pesticides, grass, and sediment) can enter the storm system. Local ordinance prohibits pollutants from entering the storm drainage system.

You can prevent polluted water from leaving the site and entering storm drains. Water that enters storm drains is not treated or cleaned before entering our rivers.

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## Erosion Prevention

- ◇ Use berms and vegetation down-slope to capture runoff
- ◇ Cover exposed piles of soil, groundcover, and other materials
- ◇ Use mulch or other erosion control measures when soils are exposed for more than a week during dry conditions or two days during rain

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## Water Use

- ◇ Control the amount of water and direction of sprinklers to avoid waste and runoff
- ◇ Landscape to conserve water and reduce runoff
- ◇ Use efficient irrigation systems and water-conserving or native plants

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## Fertilizers & Herbicides/ Pesticides

- ◇ Spot apply herbicides/pesticides, rather than blanket application
- ◇ Use nontoxic alternatives
- ◇ Do not put in the trash - dispose correctly though a hazardous waste collection
- ◇ Do not apply when it is raining or about to rain

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## Yard Waste

- ◇ Mulch-mow grass when possible - let customers know about grasscycling
- ◇ Sweep grass clippings onto landscaped areas - do not allow them to stay on pavement or enter storm drains