

Building and Grounds Maintenance

Clean Business Program



You are responsible for preventing contaminants from contacting stormwater runoff in areas where building or grounds maintenance is conducted during landscaping or cleaning activities.

Why is Building & Grounds Maintenance a Concern?

Areas where building or grounds maintenance is conducted can contribute contaminants to runoff when measures have not been taken to prevent discharges. The overuse of pesticides and fertilizers, over-watering and inadequate erosion control may result in an illegal discharge.

What can I do? Implement Best Management Practices (BMPs).

- Train employees on BMPs, good housekeeping practices and spill response.
- Good housekeeping and proper maintenance will prevent most pollution.

Best Management Practices

Train all employees. It will create a safer workplace and reduce the chance of any legal enforcement. Your success depends on well-trained staff.

- Utilize native vegetation to reduce water, fertilizer or pesticide needs.
- Keep stockpiles covered. Use tarps under excavated soils or pallets of landscape materials to ease clean-up and keep materials off the ground.
- Use landscaping pesticides and fertilizers only as needed and apply as directed.
- Avoid over-watering to prevent excess runoff.
- Use integrated pest management (IPM) where appropriate.
- Sweep paved surfaces, rather than hosing down or using blowers.
- Properly contain and dispose of wastewater, sweepings and sediments.
- Use non-toxic substitute for chemicals when possible.
- Regularly inspect and properly clean storm drains.
- Control litter by sweeping and picking up trash on a regular basis.
- Never discharge wastewater to the storm drain. Discharge it to the sanitary sewer after contacting your local wastewater treatment plant to find out if pre-treatment is required.
- Clean up spills immediately to minimize safety hazards and prevent illegal discharges to the storm drain system.

For more information on preventing stormwater pollution visit: www.vcstormwater.org or call _____

Pollution Fact Sheet/Business - Build-Maintenance/2005

