



Landscape Management

Landscape & Beautification, Cemeteries, ROW Maintenance and Tree Management

Stormwater Protection Practices



Objective:

Prevent negative impacts to stormwater from municipal landscape management activities

Pollutants of Concern:

- Sediment
- Landscape Waste
- Fertilizers
- Pesticides
- pH (concrete)

Responsible Key Business Units:

Engineering & Property Management

DESCRIPTION

The City of Charlotte engages in extensive landscape management activities. These field operations can result in the discharge of harmful pollutants into our surface waters if certain measures are not implemented. Some discharges into the storm drain system that occur as a result of landscape management activities could even violate environmental codes. Following the best practices outlined below will help reduce polluted discharges while conducting landscape management.

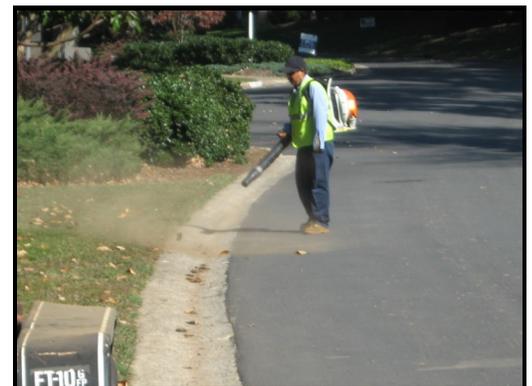
BEST PRACTICES

1. Landscaping Waste

- Grass clippings, leaves, branches and debris shall be removed from paved areas and walkways on the day that work is performed.
- In no case shall grass clippings, leaves, branches or debris be purposely blown or dumped into storm drains or surface waters. It is recognized, however, that small amounts may enter storm drains during the cleanup process.

2. Fertilizers

- To minimize fertilizer use, practices that promote healthy turf and plants shall be used. Examples include, but are not limited to, soil testing, pruning, and aeration as well as proper application timing, seed selection, mowing height and irrigation. Contractors shall refer to contract specifications regarding required use of such practices.
- Employees and contractors shall consider precipitation forecasts when applying fertilizers.
- Fertilizers shall be cleaned up from paved areas after application.



3. Pesticides

- Employees and contractors who apply pesticides must have a license from the NC Department of Agriculture Pesticide Board. Licenses shall be appropriate to the type of work being performed (turf and ornamental, right-of-way, etc.)
- Employees and contractors shall consider precipitation forecasts when applying pesticides.
- To minimize the use of pesticides, Integrated Pest Management techniques shall be used to control insects, diseases and weeds.
- Pesticide spills shall be immediately cleaned up and reported according to local, state and federal laws. In no case shall spills be washed into storm drain conveyances.



4. Erosion and Sedimentation Control

- Fill, smooth and reseed all ruts, holes, scalped areas and other damaged turf within one month of occurrence or detection during the growing season.
- To minimize sediment runoff, soil stockpiles shall be placed under cover or otherwise protected with silt fencing or other sedimentation control devices.



5. Washing and Rinsing

- Washing and rinsing of vehicles, equipment and tools will be done in a contained or vegetated area and not at a location where the wastewater will discharge directly into surface waters or stormwater conveyances.
- Concrete washout and rinsing of concrete vehicles, equipment and tools will be managed in a way that prevents the discharge of concrete matter into surface waters and stormwater conveyances.



6. Training

- City of Charlotte Landscape Management personnel who perform or supervise field work will attend stormwater pollution prevention training annually.
- Management personnel will promote training opportunities and allow personnel time to attend training.