

Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Landscaping Businesses

LOCAL ORDINANCES REQUIRE PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Mount Pleasant's storm drainage system is designed to collect stormwater during rain events. This stormwater is eventually discharged, untreated, into the marshes, creeks, and rivers surrounding the Town.

If landscaping activities are not performed properly, pollutants such as fertilizers, pesticides, oils, and sediment, can be picked up and carried in the storm drain to any downstream water body. This type of pollution can degrade the water quality and impair the health of fish and wildlife habitats.

Local ordinances prohibit the discharge of non-stormwater, chemicals, and other materials into the storm drainage system.

We need your help to ensure that stormwater runoff does not harm our local waters!



Best Management Practices (BMPs) can help prevent pollution from entering our local waterbodies. A list of BMPs and good housekeeping practices for your workplace is provided. Implementing these BMPs will help guarantee a safe working environment for you and clean water for all.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs):

1. Maintenance Activities —

Do not blow leaves and lawn clippings into the street. To clean, use a broom to sweep sidewalks and driveways instead of spraying down with water. Adjust sprinklers so they don't spray onto paved surfaces. Consider new public service offerings such as trash and litter removal, stormwater pond maintenance (inlet and drain cleaning, etc.), and outfall maintenance.



2. Material Storage —

Keep containers closed and secure. If powdered or liquid material containers are being stored, keep under cover to protect from rain. Use secondary containment devices or construct dikes or curbs to contain leaks. Store soil and mulch in contained areas where they will not be washed into the street or storm drain as a result of irrigation overspray or stormwater.

3. Fertilizers, Herbicides & Pesticides —

Apply fertilizer and pesticide at minimum application rates and follow manufacturer's recommendations for safe use and disposal. Remember, failure to follow directions, as specified, is a federal offense. Avoid applying these chemicals to sidewalks or driveways where they may be washed into storm drains. Check the forecast and do not apply when rain is predicted. When available, use natural or low-toxic alternatives.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs):

4. Equipment Maintenance —

Regularly inspect vehicles and equipment for leaks. If any repairs are needed, complete as soon as possible. When draining fluids, use a drip pan and/or funnel to prevent spills. Keep a clean-up kit of safety equipment and an absorbent material, like cat litter, for spills.



5. Cleaners and Solvents —

Read and follow all label directions. Properly dispose of used materials. Use good housekeeping practices during clean-up. Purchase and use water-based cleaning products.

6. Employee Training —

Train your employees to use proper BMPs.

Working together to protect local water quality.

The quality of our waters depends on you!



**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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