

Lawn care – Pesticide Use and Preventing Water Pollution

KEEP THE STORM DRAINS CLEAN FOR THOSE DOWNSTREAM

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Pesticide Selection and Use Tips

- ◆ Follow label directions.
- ◆ Buy only the amount needed for the task at hand.
- ◆ Use pesticides that have a low pesticide leaching potential (PLP) index (where 0 is very low and 100 is very high leaching potential) - since they are less likely to move into groundwater or streams.
- ◆ Determine the application area and mix only the quantity of pesticide needed.
- ◆ Spot treat whenever possible.
- ◆ Mix the pesticide and load the spreader or sprayer in areas where spills may be contained.
- ◆ Do not mix, apply, or dispose of chemicals within 100 feet of streams, ponds, or wells.
- ◆ Triple-rinse containers, pour rinsate into tank, and spray excess on turf area. Do not exceed label rates.

- ◆ Select grass species and varieties that are insect and disease resistant.

Storage

- ◆ Store all pesticides in locked storage areas.
- ◆ Store pesticides in original, labeled containers.
- ◆ Store like pesticides together. For example, store herbicides with herbicides and fungicides with fungicides - store flammables separately.
- ◆ Keep containers tightly closed.
- ◆ Inspect storage areas frequently for damaged containers and spills.

Spills

Spills can enter and harm streams, rivers, and ponds. Here are some tips:

- ◆ Locate and control the source.
- ◆ Keep a spill kit with kitty litter, shredded newspaper, or absorbent pillows or pads.
- ◆ Direct spills away from ditches, storm drains, ponds, or wells.
- ◆ Place contaminated material in plastic containers for proper disposal.

For further information, contact the Installation's Environmental Branch at 767-2010.



Improving Storm Water Quality