

Yard and lawn care activities can have harmful effects on our island's waters when storm water carries pollutants such as grass clippings, tree branches, leaves, dirt, and fertilizers into the storm drain system.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are simple and effective ways to prevent storm water pollution and keep our coastal waters clean.

BE AN EVERYDAY
CLEAN WATER



What you do on land
affects our waters

To report anything
other than rainwater entering
the street or storm drain:

CALL

Environmental Concern Line 768-3300
When City offices are closed, call 911

VISIT

CLEANWATERHONOLULU.com

DOWNLOAD

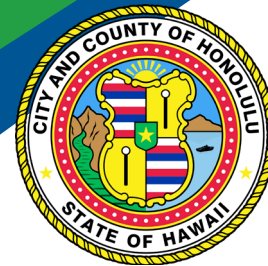
Honolulu 311 App



LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR STORM WATER PROTECTION



GENERAL PRACTICES, IRRIGATION,
FERTILIZERS & PESTICIDES, GREEN WASTE



CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
DEPARTMENT OF FACILITY MAINTENANCE

The Federal Clean Water Act gives the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the authority to implement water pollution control programs. Local statutes and ordinances address compliance and enforcement of the EPA's mandates.

"It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or cause to be discharged any pollutant into any drainage facility which causes a pollution problem in state waters, or causes a violation of any provision of the City NPDES [National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System] permit or the water quality standards of the State of Hawaii."

Revised Ordinances of Honolulu §14-12.23(a)

Violations can result in fines of up to
\$25,000 per violation,
per day.



Discharging pollutants
to the storm drain system
is against the law

Consider native or low water use groundcover when planting.



BARE SOIL & PLANTING

- Prevent soil, plant debris, and fallen fruit from leaving the property by sweeping up the excess material and disposing of it properly.
- Avoid loosening the soil and leaving bare soils exposed, as this can cause erosion. If replanting near the sidewalk, use fiber rolls or a silt fence to contain loose soils.
- Secure stockpiles of material under tarps or plastic sheeting to protect them from rain.
- Place temporarily stockpiled material away from streets, storm drains and streams.
- Plant groundcover on exposed areas to control erosion and reduce runoff.
- Consider native or low water use groundcovers and/or densely planting perimeters. Visit <https://www.boardofwatersupply.com/conservation/xeriscape> for more information.

WATER COLLECTION / REUSE

- Direct downspouts to vegetated areas.
- Connect a rain barrel to your downspout to collect storm water from your roof. Use the water to water your garden.

Check irrigation systems for leaks.



IRRIGATION

- Do not over water lawns or gardens. Use water-saving methods such as soaker hoses, hose nozzles, micro-sprinklers, and timers. The best times to water are before 9am and after 5pm.
- Periodically check irrigation system for leaks.

GREEN WASTE

- Use dry methods like sweeping or leaf blowing to gather green waste into a pile for collection.
- Do not blow or toss leaves or other green waste into streets, storm drains, or streams.
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn to help retain moisture and soil nutrients.
- Recycle green waste by mulching, composting, or placing it into the City provided green carts. Residents can drop off their green waste at City Convenience Centers.
- Large commercial generators of green waste should deliver it to the Hawaiian Earth Recycling composting facility.

Sweep or blow yard waste away from the street and storm drain.



FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES

- Follow the instructions on chemical packaging to avoid overuse.
- Use slow-release fertilizers, which can be applied less frequently than conventional fertilizers.
- Consider using natural fertilizers, such as compost, manure, or vermicast.

Application

- Avoid spreading fertilizers on impervious surfaces such as pavement or concrete.
- Do not wash fertilizer spills into the street or onto hard surfaces because the runoff can easily enter storm drains.
- Do not apply pesticides or fertilizers prior to or during rain events.

Follow instructions on pesticide and fertilizer labels.



Storage And Disposal

- If a chemical is transferred from its original container, attach its label to the new container.
- Store fertilizers, pesticides, and other toxic chemicals in sealed, waterproof containers in covered areas.
- Do not pour pesticides, oil, or lawn care products into the street or storm drains. Call 768-3201 to learn how to properly dispose of excess fertilizers and pesticides and to schedule a drop-off appointment.



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