### RESPONSIBLE LAWN MAINTENANCE

- Use plants that need less water, fertilizer and pesticides.
- Don't apply lawn chemicals before rain, and follow instructions carefully to prevent overapplication.
- Use fertilizers and weed killers as needed.
   Sweep up any residue and place in trash.
- Make sure grass clippings, leaves and debris are disposed of properly.
- Avoid over watering lawns to prevent excess runoff.
- If using commercial landscapers, be sure that they follow these guidelines as well.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

**Best Management Practice (BMPs):** Any schedule of activities, prohibition of activities, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce pollutants in the environment.

**Discharge:** Any release, spilling, leaking, seeping, pouring, emitting, emptying, or dumping of any substance or material.

**Illicit Discharge:** Any direct or indirect discharge to the County's MS4 that is not composed entirely of stormwater or which is not authorized by the County.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4): Conveyance owned or operated by a local government that discharges to waters of the U.S. or connects to other MS4s, that is designed solely for connecting or conveying stormwater.

**Stormwater:** Any surface flow, runoff, and drainage consisting entirely of water from rainstorm events.



If you are a business owner and would like information on how to properly dispose of your business generated hazardous waste, please contact the St. Johns County
Solid Waste Department at
(904) 827-6980

If you would like to review Small Quantity Generator requirements, visit this informative site to find out more:

http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/ categories/hazardous/pages/sqg.htm



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# Stormwater Pollution Prevention in the Workplace



# A Clean Business = A Clean Environment



#### STORMWATER RUNOFF AND WATER POLLUTION

When it rains, stormwater flows over surfaces such as rooftops, streets, driveways, and parking lots. The runoff collects pollutants, such as oils, fertilizers, pesticides, cleaners, and other chemicals.

Even if your workplace is not near a stream, river, or lake, the runoff flows into a storm drain or ditch that empties into the closest body of water, taking pollutants along with it. Stormwater runoff is a leading source of water pollution.



Many businesses contribute to stormwater pollution. You can help by preventing chemical spills, using proper cleaning techniques, educating your employees, and maintaining landscapes responsibly. Good housekeeping practices are essential to help keep pollutants out of our lakes and streams.



#### **SPILL PREVENTION**

- Label and store containers properly.
- Maintain proper storage and disposal facilities (overfill devices, secondary containment, etc).
- Dispense materials in contained areas.
- Properly dispose of spent materials.
- Inspect and monitor vehicles and heavy equipment for leaks.
- Inspect containers for signs of corrosion, replace as necessary.
- If spills occur, contain and clean up, then properly dispose of materials.

## PROPER CLEANING TECHNIQUES

- Never wash spilled chemicals, trash, automobile fluids or grease off parking lots, loading docks, or into storm drains.
- Regularly clean outside areas to prevent pollutant buildup.
- Block storm drains before pressure-washing buildings or equipment and collect the water with liquid vacuum device for proper disposal.
- Verify that floor drains are connected to the sanitary sewer system, not the storm drain system.
- Wash vehicles in a proper facility that disposes water to sanitary sewer system.

#### **EMPLOYEE EDUCATION**

- Be prepared for emergencies by developing a "spill response plan".
- Train employees on proper procedures to follow in event of an accidental spill or discharge.
- Train employees about proper disposal of waste.
- Display appropriate signage on hazardous material storage containers listing dangers associated with each substance.
- Post emergency phone numbers near hazardous material storage areas and on employee bulletin boards.
- If a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan has been created, ensure that all employees are familiar with it.

