



**CITY OF GOLDEN**  
**Stormwater Quality**  
**and Landscaping Businesses**

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The storm drainage system is designed to collect stormwater - rain and snow melt – and release it directly to Clear Creek - untreated. Pollutants are transported in stormwater as rain and snowmelt flow across surfaces such as lawns, roads and parking lots, picking up substances such as fertilizers, pesticides, oil and sediments before entering Clear Creek. Contaminants that enter the creek degrade the quality of our drinking water source and the quality of fish and wildlife habitats. Therefore, care must be taken to ensure that stormwater runoff does not jeopardize the quality of Clear Creek.

The following is a list of possible Best Management Practices (BMPs) that are applicable to your business. Implementing BMPs and good housekeeping practices will help ensure a safe work environment and a cleaner water source for years to come.

#### **MATERIAL STORAGE**

- Store all containers holding powder and liquid materials under cover to protect from rain and snow.
- Use secondary containment devices or construct dikes/curbs to contain any possible leaks.
- Keep containers closed and secure.
- Store soil and mulch piles in contained areas where they cannot be washed into the storm drainage system. When these materials are transported for use on site, store them on the lot and out of the street where they won't be washed into the street and storm drain system with overspray from irrigation or stormwater.

#### **FERTILIZERS, HERBICIDES AND PESTICIDES**

- Whenever possible, use chemical alternatives, or low-toxic chemicals.
- Follow manufacturer's recommendations for safe use and disposal.
- Use the smallest amount necessary.
- Apply at optimal times for the specific application.

#### **EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE**

- Inspect vehicles and equipment for leaks regularly. Fix problems as soon as possible.
- When draining fluids, use a drip pan and/or funnel to prevent any spills.
- Keep a cleanup kit of safety equipment and absorbent material, such as kitty litter or sand for spills.
- Never hose down streets or sidewalks to clean. Use a broom and properly dispose of sweepings.

#### **CLEANERS AND SOLVENTS**

- Read labels carefully and follow directions.
- Dispose of unused portions properly.
- Follow good cleanup practices.
- Whenever possible, purchase water based cleaning products. Look for products labeled "non-toxic," "non-petroleum based," "ammonia-free," "phosphate-free," and/or "readily biodegradable."

*Your success – and the quality of water in Clear Creek - depends on an effective training program.*

For more information please contact the City of Golden Environmental Services Stormwater Program.