



STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION

Best Management Practices for the Multi-Family Complex Industry

Water quality is important to all of us. The Town of Cary has storm drains that flow into our creeks, streams and lakes. Anything, other than rain that is discharged into our storm drains can have a negative impact on water quality.

We all have a role to play in protecting our finite natural resources. Please review the following best management practices that will help your business prevent illegal discharges.



Landscaping

- Yard waste including leaves and grass clippings should not be blown into storm drains or drainage ways.
- Do not apply fertilizers or pesticides before a predicted rain or near a stream or pond.
- Sweep up fertilizer that falls onto paved surfaces back onto the lawn area.
- Do not hose down liquid spills of fertilizers and pesticides down the storm drain. Clean up spills with absorbents (kitty litter), brooms and other dry methods.

Pools and spas can be drained over the ground if the following conditions are met:

- Total chlorine is not detected and the pH is near 7.0.
- The water is free from other chemicals like algaecides, copper, bromine and acids used to clean the pool.
- Drain the pool to a landscaped area.
- Saltwater pools and spas should never be discharged to the storm drain system. High salt levels are toxic to aquatic life.
- Backwash from the pool and spa filters should discharge to the sanitary sewer system and not to a storm drain.

Trash and Recycling

- To prevent rain from contacting trash and recycling, ensure that the lids are closed.
- To prevent drainage of liquids from dumpsters, ensure that drain plugs are in place and there are no holes that will leak.
- Ask your trash service provider to replace or repair damaged dumpsters.

Car Wash Stations

- Drains from these stations are not allowed to discharge to the storm drain system. Contact our Public Works and Utilities Department at 469-4090 for requirements for connecting a car wash station to the sanitary sewer system.

Employee Training

- Train all employees upon hiring and then annually on pollution prevention and post these Best Management Practices where employees can see them.

For more information, contact Charles Brown, Town of Cary Stormwater Program Analyst, at (919) 469-4038 or visit the Stormwater Management section of www.townofcary.org.