

# GRAND CITIES COMMUNITY LANDSCAPING PRACTICES

## Storm Water Management Activities Fact Sheet No. 7

### Goal/Purpose

#### Short Term:

Minimize the discharge of herbicides, pesticides, fertilizers, and sediment from community landscaped or undeveloped areas into the storm water conveyance system. Implement nontoxic pest management practices at any applicable site.

#### Long Term:

Storm water runoff from parking lots can easily be diverted to garden and lawn areas where the water will be infiltrated or evaporated. Eliminate any potential erosion problems before implementing this practice.

Storm water inlet systems located within the landscape should prevent dirt and debris from entering the storm conveyance system. Perimeter rocks and appropriately sized grate grids can be used to keep debris out of the waterways.

### Storm Water Management Activities

To comply with the individual Grand Cities Community Storm Water Pollution Prevention Programs (SWPPPs), specific storm water runoff activities must be implemented at all local municipal facilities as required.

#### Activity:

1. Identify alternatives to herbicide and pesticide usage, thus reducing the potential for storm water contamination.
2. Follow the manufacturer's directions. In North Dakota, contact the North Dakota Department of Health and in Minnesota, contact the Minnesota

Department of Agriculture for further rules and regulations when handling or applying any chemicals.

3. Make sure that chemical containers are cleaned and disposed of according to state, county, and local regulations. Contact the local North Dakota Department of Health or Minnesota Department of Agriculture office for guidance on regulations, appropriate pesticide application certifications and licenses, and chemical-specific data.
4. Monitor weather conditions before applying chemicals and only use as directed by the manufacturer, the North Dakota Department of Health, or the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. Do not apply chemicals during or shortly before a storm event, as the rainwater may wash the product off-site.
5. Always have spill response equipment available during the handling and application of chemicals and near the storage area.
6. Promptly clean up any spill of liquid or solid wastes. Do not hose down an area to clean or handle a spill unless the liquid will be completely contained, cleaned up, and disposed of as appropriate for the waste type. Do not discharge any spilled liquid or solid waste to the storm conveyance system, landscape, or off-site.
7. Properly store pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers as required to eliminate any exposure to storm water. Also keep landscape equipment covered whenever possible.

8. Properly train all designated staff in the correct application and handling of pesticides and herbicides. Design or adjust the delivery system to minimize overspray and prevent runoff.
  9. Protect storm drains and water conveyances during landscape modification or replanting operations. Select source and treatment control practices to keep both vegetation and sediment out of the storm drain system. Prevent soil erosion through the use of ground covers, manufactured covers, and mulches.
  10. Green waste should be recycled on-site or with the local trash hauler. Do not
- allow grass clippings to remain in the storm conveyance systems. Even though green waste is biodegradable, it can cause significant problems when allowed to be transported into watercourses.
  11. All contractors shall provide a copy of their storm water awareness training and procedures for protecting the community storm water conveyance system, as required by the Clean Water Act, and a copy of their applicator certification or other appropriate license or certification.

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If the above-suggested activities require some modification in order to work efficiently and effectively for you and your staff or do not cover some aspect of your operations or facility, please contact the appropriate Grand Cities storm water representative:

Mike Shea, City of Grand Forks  
 Phone: (701) 746-2713  
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John Thompson, City of East Grand Forks  
 Phone: (218) 773-1313  
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Carole McMahan, Grand Forks County  
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 Phone: (701) 777-3005  
 E-mail: paul\_clark@mail.und.nodak.edu

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For additional information on this or the local area community responsibilities under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II federal regulations for storm water discharges, visit the following Grand Cities Community Web sites:

City of Grand Forks:  
<http://www.grandforksgov.com/gfgov/EnvironW.nsf/Main+Frameset?OpenFrameset>

City of East Grand Forks:  
<http://www.ci.east-grand-forks.mn.us/>

Grand Forks County:  
<http://www.co.grand-forks.nd.us/homepage.htm>

University of North Dakota:  
<http://www.facilities.und.nodak.edu/stormwater.htm>

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