



*Conserving Resources Today For
Redding's Tomorrow.*

Redding Public Works Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program

Best Management Practices (BMP'S)

Landscaping

Brochure 1

“When one tugs at a single thing in nature,
he finds it attached to the rest of the
world.” — John Muir

When it rains, storm water flows over
driveways, lawns, sidewalks, roads and parking
lots on its way to the nearest entrance into the
storm drain system.

In most cases the storm water system discharges
this polluted runoff to the nearest creek, stream
or ultimately the river with NO treatment.

This is unlike the water that goes down the
toilet or sinks in your home which discharges to
the wastewater system for treatment.

According to the United States Environmental
Protection Agency, polluted storm water runoff
is the nation's greatest threat to clean water.

Storm water pollution is toxic to fish and
wetland wildlife.

It threatens all of us who use and enjoy our
most valuable resource – WATER!



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Lawn Care

Fertilizers and pesticides applied to lawn and
gardens wash off with excessive watering and
pollute the creeks, streams and the Sacramento
River.

Yard clippings and leaves when washed into
the storm drain, can contribute nutrients and
organic matter.

Uncovered dirt piles and mulch piles can clog
waterways and destroy aquatic animal and
plant life.

Consider landscaping that will enhance your
yard and your waterways at the same time.



Pesticides, Herbicides and Fertilizers

Use pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers sparingly and follow the manufactures directions. Overuse of these products can poison aquatic life. Land animals, including people, can become sick or die from eating diseased fish or ingesting polluted water.



Over Watering Lawns

When lawns are over watered the runoff flows directly into the storm drain which flows to the creeks, streams and the Sacramento River. Consider watering in the early morning or evening and check that the water from the sprinkler does not extend beyond the lawn area.



Yard Waste

Compost or mulch leaves and yard waste. Raking or sweeping into the street and storm drains will create excessive nutrients in the waterways including our Sacramento River. This can cause algae blooms. When algae die, they sink to the bottom and decompose. This removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic organisms cannot exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels.



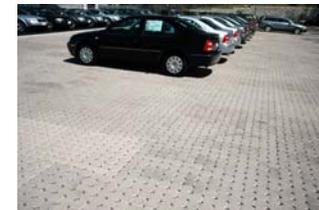
Dirt and Mulch Piles

Cover up piles of dirt and mulch which are being used in landscape projects. Uncovered sediments and debris can find their way into the storm drain by wind or rain. These sediments can cloud the water and destroy aquatic habitats.



Landscaping to Enhance Your Yard and Waterways

Rain garden, grassy swales and vegetated filter strips are areas created for water to collect and soak into the ground. Rain from rooftops or pavement can be diverted to these areas, which trap pollutants and keep them out of the storm drain.



Permeable pavement allows rain to flow through and soak into the soil, decreasing storm water runoff.

Rain barrels enable you to capture the runoff from the rain gutters and utilize this water for later use on lawn and garden areas.

