

# LANDSCAPING, GARDENING AND YARD MAINTENANCE



## RECOMMENDED METHODS FOR STORM WATER PROTECTION



## Storm Water Pollution Prevention: It's Up To Us

*In the Salt Lake Valley, storm drains flow directly to local creeks and rivers with NO treatment. Degradation of storm water is a serious problem for wildlife dependent on our waterways and for the people who live near streams or use them for recreation. Some common sources of contaminants in storm runoff include spilled oil, fuel, and fluids from vehicles and heavy equipment; construction debris; landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers; and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into a street or storm drain.*

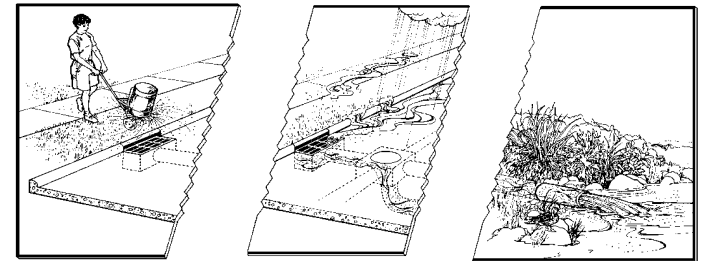
*Salt Lake County has developed a Storm Water Management Program to educate local residents and businesses and to improve the quality of storm water runoff. We hope you will join us, by using the recommended methods (referred to as Best Management Practices) described in this pamphlet.*

### Who Should Use this Pamphlet?

- Residents
- Landscapers
- Gardeners
- Swimming pool/spa service and repair workers
- General contractors

## What Can You Do? General Practices

- Use biodegradable pesticides/herbicides.
- Never use the gutter or storm drain system for disposal of household or garden waste.
- Store pesticides, fertilizers and other chemicals indoors or in a shed or storage cabinet.
- Remove all pet waste from yard and curb and dispose of in trash to prevent spread of bacteria.
- Wash household tools over grassed area away from curbs and gutters.



- Clean leaves, sediment and trash out of gutter and dispose of in garden or trash.

## Landscaping/ Garden Maintenance

- Control erosion on your property by planting groundcover and stabilizing erosion prone areas.

■ Use up pesticides. Rinse containers and use rinsewater as product. Dispose of rinsed containers in the trash.

■ Collect lawn and garden clippings, pruning waste and tree trimmings. Chip if necessary and compost.

■ Sweep and collect dirt from driveways or walks and dispose of in garden.

■ Apply lawn and garden chemicals sparingly and according to instructions. Rinse containers and dispose of in trash.

## **Pool/Spa Maintenance**

■ Never discharge pool or spa water to a street or storm drain.

■ When emptying a pool or spa, let chlorine dissipate for a few days, then recycle/reuse it by draining it gradually onto a landscaped area.

■ Do not use copper-based algaecides unless absolutely necessary. Control algae with chlorine or other alternatives. Copper is an especially strong herbicide and doesn't degrade to less toxic forms quickly.



This is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm water protection measures for specific types of activities. Other pamphlets include:

**Fresh Concrete and Mortar Application**

**Erosion Control**

**Paint and Household Hazardous Waste**

**Household and Vehicle Maintenance**

**Pet Waste and Water Quality**

For more information about the Salt Lake County storm water quality management program and additional pamphlets, contact:



Salt Lake County Engineering Division  
2001 South State Street, Suite N3100  
Salt Lake City, UT 84190-4600  
(801) 468-2711

Visit the Salt Lake County Stormwater Coalition website:

[www.stormwatercoalition.org](http://www.stormwatercoalition.org)

## **Spill Response**

Dial 911  
-or-  
State of Utah  
Environmental Response  
(801) 536-4123

## **Local Pollution Control Agencies**

Utah Division of Water Quality  
(801) 538-6146

Salt Lake City County  
Health Department  
(801) 313-6700

Salt Lake County  
Engineering Division  
(801) 468-2711



1-800-458-0145



♻️ Printed on recycled paper  
4th Printing April 2002