

Notice to All Landscaping, Lawn Maintenance, or Tree- Trimming Business.

Water pollution degrades surface waters making them unsafe for wildlife and recreational activities such as fishing and swimming. As authorized by the Clean Water Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program controls water pollution by regulating stormwater discharge. The City of Savannah is permitted by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources EPD to discharge stormwater into waters of the State. The City's permit sets specific water quality standards, and requires the City to monitor its discharges to ensure compliance.


The City of Savannah's NPDES permit requires a City Stormwater Management Plan that is update on a regular basis. The NPDES permit requires the plan to include the proper operation and maintenance of the municipal stormwater system, public education/outreach programs, and enforcement programs. "The CITY has been asked by EPD to inform "Highly Visible Pollutant Sources", such as landscape maintenance complains that their current practices are often in violation of federal, state, and local ordinances. These practices include the blowing of leaves into stormwater catch basins, or the over spraying of fertilizers or herbicides into impervious surfaces, such as street gutters and sidewalks.

Acceptable landscape maintenance practices are listed below.

1. Bag all leaves and clippings and remove from site. Do not blow into storm sewer.
2. Prevent spreading fertilizer on impervious surfaces.
3. Prevent over spraying of herbicides onto impervious surfaces.

Section 4-11014 of the City's stormwater Ordinance prohibits the discharging, spilling, or dumping of substances or materials which are not entirely composed of stormwater into the City's stormwater system, or into driveways, sidewalks, parking lots, streets, or other areas that discharge into the City's stormwater system. This section of the ordinance also states:

“ Any person who is found to have willfully and negligently failed to comply with any provision of this ordinance, and the orders, rules and regulations, issued hereunder , shall be subject to a penalty not exceed one thousand dollars (\$1000) or imprisonment or both. Each day in which a violation shall occur or continue to occur shall be deemed a separate and distinct offense. In addition of the penalties provided herein, any person violating any provision of this article shall



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become liable to the City for any expense, loss, or damage, incurred by the City by reason of such violation.”

To ensure compliance with water quality standards, the City is going to perform inspections of landscape maintenance operations. For further information, contact William Hodgins or Charles Cook, City Stormwater Management Department, phone 650-7855.

LAWN CARE - STORMWATER REQUIREMENTS

BUSINESS NAME

APPLICANT NAME

BUSINESS ADDRESS
AND PHONE #

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

C.I.P. Engineering

6 EAST BAY STREET, BASEMENT

PHONE 912.644.7762 FAX 912.644.7764

General Business

802-A WEST ANDERSON STREET

PHONE 912.650.7855 FAX 912.650.7894

P.O. BOX 1027, SAVANNAH, GA 31402

PHONE 912.651.6496 TDD 912.651.6702 FAX 912.651.3683 SAVANNAHGA.GOV

LAWN CARE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

	Initial Below
Applicant agrees to maintain copies of material safety data sheets for each chemical used in the course of their business and will keep a copy of each chemical at the point of use (i.e. kept on the truck, storage area and in the office).	
Applicant agrees to follow chemical label requirements for safe and proper use, and disposal.	
Applicant understands that to dispose of wash water with cleaning agents, soaps, detergents or biocides to curb drains, storm drains, ditches or canals is prohibited under City ordinance.	
Applicant agrees to secure all chemicals, fuel and fuel containing equipment during transport to prevent their spillage to the City stormwater system.	
Applicant understands that if wash water contains cleaning agents, soaps, detergents or biocides the applicant will be required to contain and vacuum all washwater to prevent its discharge to curb drains, storm drains, ditches or canals.	
Applicant has read the City Stormwater Management Code cited below.	

Describe the methods that the applicant will use to ensure compliance with the City’s Stormwater Ordinance:

(Methods may include using only steam or hot water pressure washing system; if so provide manufacturer and name, model number of equipment that will be used. Or the applicant may choose to contain wash water on job site, vacuum and remove wash water for proper disposal. If so describe the containment approach, vacuum system and plans for disposal.)

Signed

Date

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Code of Ordinances City of Savannah

CHAPTER 11. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Sec. 4-11004. Restrictions and limitations on the use of the city stormwater system.

The primary purpose of the stormwater system is the conveyance of stormwater and other permissible discharges as outlined in section 4-11027.

- (1) No person shall discharge, spill, or dump substances or materials which are not entirely composed of stormwater or discharges otherwise exempted in section 4-11027 of this chapter into the city separate stormwater system or onto driveways, sidewalks, parking lots, streets, or other areas that discharge into the city separate stormwater system.
 - (2) It shall be unlawful for any person to maliciously, willfully, or negligently break, damage, destroy, uncover, deface, modify, or tamper with any stormwater structure, appurtenance, or equipment.
 - (3) It shall be unlawful, without prior written approval of the director, to alter in any way any part of the stormwater system including, but not limited to, rerouting, removing, deepening, widening, enlarging, filling or obstructing any part of the stormwater system including fencing easements and rights-of-way which render the system inaccessible to equipment necessary to perform maintenance and repairs.
 - (4) It shall be unlawful for any person to connect any pipe, open channel, or any other conveyance system that discharges anything except stormwater or exempted discharges listed in section 4-11027 of this chapter to the city separate stormwater system. Illicit connections will be disconnected and redirected to the city sanitary sewer system upon approval by the water pollution control director, at the expense of the responsible person.
 - (5) It shall be unlawful to increase stormwater quantity discharged to the city separate stormwater system without an accepted stormwater management plan.
- (Ord. of 12-7-1995(1), § 1)

Sec. 4-11029. Accidental discharge reporting requirements.

In the event of an accidental discharge to the city's separate stormwater system of any material or substance other than stormwater runoff or those discharges specifically excluded in section 4-11027, the stormwater department shall be contacted immediately of the nature, quantity and time of occurrence of the discharge. The responsible party shall take immediate steps to contain, treat or to otherwise minimize effects of the discharge on the city's system and receiving streams. Immediate steps shall be taken to ensure no recurrence of the discharge. A written report addressed to the director of stormwater management detailing the date, time, cause, quantity, and characteristics of the discharge and the corrective and preventative actions taken will be sent to the director within five working days of the incident.

(Ord. of 12-7-1995(1), § 1)

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To Be Completed by Stormwater Management Environmental Administrator

APPLICANT NAME _____

CHECKLIST

LAWN MAINTENANCE

- _____ REFERRED BY BUSINESS LICENSE DEPT.
- _____ NAME, ADDRESS, OWNER, PHONE NO.
- _____ DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES
- _____ DESCRIPTION OF ADDITIVES
- _____ BMP'S ADDRESS POTENTIAL ILLICIT DISCHARGES

REVIEWER

DATE

DESCRIBE OTHER ITEMS NEEDED

ACTION TAKEN _____

DATE/TIME _____

BY _____

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