

## Common Landscaping Project Stormwater Ordinance Violations

Farmington City enforces a stormwater ordinance to be in compliance with our Utah Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (UPDES) permit required by State and Federal regulations. Below are some of the common mistakes that residents and contractors make during landscaping projects that violate this ordinance.

1. Landscape material is dumped in the street- Any landscape material that is used for your project should be dumped on your yard or driveway. If there is no alternative to dumping in the street, material should be placed on plastic and removed from the street on the same day. If it is left in the street or on a driveway overnight, any drainage from rain or lawn watering should be diverted around the landscape material to prevent it from washing down the gutter. If rain is expected, the material should be covered with plastic.
2. Dirt from sprinkler trenches is left in the gutter- Any time trenches are dug in the park strip, either by hand or a trencher, the dirt must be placed on the lot, not in the street and gutter.
3. Concrete curbing equipment is cleaned out in the gutter- No concrete washout is allowed in the street or gutter. Make sure your contractor has a way to wash off all their equipment and tools without having any of the water enter the gutter.
4. Mud is tracked out into the street- Whenever equipment is used on a landscaping or remodeling project, make sure that there is no dirt or mud tracked into the street. If this does occur, it should be completely swept up immediately.
5. Grass clippings are left in the street and gutter- Organic material is considered a pollutant because a buildup in the waters of the state is detrimental to water quality. Sweep up and dispose grass clippings in the garbage or compost pile so they cannot be washed into the storm drain. Do not spray off cuttings that have collected on driveways, sidewalks or streets into the gutter.
6. Over-fertilizing- When fertilizing your yard, be sure to sweep up any fertilizer that hits the driveway, sidewalk or streets and throw it on the lawn. Fertilizer in the water is a pollutant.

If everyone remembers that storm drains lead directly to fresh water without any kind of treatment and carry out your landscaping project so nothing but rain runoff enters the gutter, it will go a long way to reducing the pollution that enters the waters of the State of Utah.