



## **Procedures for Landscape Contractors**

Contractors for The University of Texas must follow requirements of UT's Storm Water Management Plan (SWMP) as mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The purpose of the SWMP is to protect Austin's water resources by reducing the discharge of pollutants.

### **1. Pesticide and Fertilizer Applicators**

The application of pesticides and fertilizers must be performed only by trained, certified individuals and in a standard, uniform manner.

### **2. Training**

Contractors who perform the application of pesticides or fertilizers on UT property must have annual training on pesticide and fertilizer management techniques addressing, at a minimum, the following:

1. Storage - pesticides and fertilizers of any type will be stored in rainfall-protected locations within secondary containment.
2. Application - pesticides and fertilizers will be applied using techniques that minimize their application to impervious cover and unvegetated areas.
3. Disposal - unused pesticides and fertilizers and pesticide and fertilizer residues will be properly disposed of according to applicable state and federal regulations.
4. Other considerations required by law.

### **3. Regulations**

Contractors will follow established guidelines and regulations in the application of fertilizers or pesticides.

### **4. Best Management Practices**

Contractors will follow good management practices in the application of pesticides and fertilizer. Good management practices include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Apply pesticides and fertilizers using techniques and equipment that minimize their application on sidewalks, streets, and unvegetated areas. For example, use drop spreaders instead of broadcast spreaders. If chemicals are accidentally applied to impervious cover, excess material must be removed and disposed of properly.
2. Apply pesticides in dry and low wind conditions. Do not apply pesticides just before a rainfall, in unneeded areas, or in windy conditions.
3. Read labels for the recommended application of fertilizers or pesticides.
4. Store pesticides and fertilizers in rainfall protected locations within secondary containment. Do not leave chemical containers uncovered or leaking where rain or water could overflow containers or wash the material onto the ground.
5. Do not rinse equipment or chemical containers or dispose of fertilizers or pesticides in sinks, down storm drains, on the ground outside, or in dumpsters.
6. Clean up spills immediately. Dry materials can be swept up. Wet chemicals must be picked up with absorbent materials, such as kitty litter. Never wash a spilled chemical into the street or into a storm drain. For large spills or spills into the creek, call Environmental Health and Safety at 512-471-3511.