



Springtime Lawn and Garden Tips for Healthy Stormwater Quality

Fort Bend County MUD 50 Stormwater Management Plan

Stormwater runoff can pick up pollutants from yards, streets, and buildings as it travels towards our storm sewers and detention basins, eventually traveling to Long Point Slough and Buffalo Bayou. There are several things that District residents can do during springtime lawn and garden activities that benefit stormwater quality as well as benefit your household and community.

Create raingardens or collect rainwater for your flower or vegetable gardens.

- Helps conserve water and reduces stormwater runoff,
- Filters stormwater for better water quality, and
- Adds a beautiful landscape addition.
- Find out more information about using rainwater for gardening here:
<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/innovativewater/rainwater/index.asp>

Try to buy plants and seeds that come in biodegradable packaging and recycle any plastic containers from purchased bags of soil, fertilizers, compost, or plants.

- Reduces litter that can enter storm drains from yards,
- Prevents clogging of storm drains,
- Encourages sustainable purchasing habits, and
- Saves money on compost and fertilizer as biodegradable containers compost naturally in your garden soil.

Use clippings or other yard waste in compost, as natural mulch, natural yard fertilization, or dispose of properly in biodegradable waste bags.

- Prevents natural yard debris and clippings from clogging storm drains,
- Saves money on store-bought compost and fertilizers, and
- Improves health of lawn and garden by encouraging natural nutrient cycling

Follow pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer application instructions carefully.

- More is not always better: save time and money by applying chemicals only when necessary and in the proper doses according to labels,
- Creates healthier plants and lawns, and
- Protects creeks and streams from nutrient pollution and saves aquatic life.