



## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF GREEN WASTE

Green waste entering the storm drain may clog the system creating flooding problems. Green waste washed into our creeks and ocean creates an oxygen demand as it decomposes, reducing the available oxygen for aquatic life. Pesticide and nutrient residues may be carried to our creeks and ocean with the green waste. The pollution prevention activities outlined in this fact sheet should be used to prevent the discharge of pollutants to the storm drain system.



Think before disposing of any green waste. Remember: *The ocean starts at YOUR front door.*

### REQUIRED ACTIVITIES

- Green waste cannot be disposed of in the street, gutter, public right-of-way, or storm drain. Dispose of green waste in the receptacle provided by the City's waste hauler. If the quantities are too large, arrange a pick-up with the local waste hauler.
- After conducting yard or garden activities, sweep the area and properly dispose of the clippings and waste. Do not sweep, wash, or blow clippings into the street or gutter.

### RECOMMENDED ACTIVITIES

- Utilize a commercial landscape company/gardener to conduct the landscape activities and waste disposal. (Monitor their performance to make sure they are complying with these requirements.)
- Utilize native plants and drought-tolerant species to reduce the water use and green waste produced.
- Use a lawn mower that has a mulcher so that the grass clippings remain on the lawn and do not have to be collected and disposed of.
- Compost materials in a designated area within the yard.
- Recycle lawn clippings and green waste in the receptacle provided by the City's waste hauler.

### For additional information, contact:

City of Mission Viejo  
Department of Public Works  
949.470.3056  
[www.cityofmissionviejo.org](http://www.cityofmissionviejo.org)