

## HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS

- ◆ Be aware that chemicals commonly used around the home are toxic.
- ◆ Use non-toxic substitutes whenever possible.
- ◆ Take unwanted household chemicals to hazardous waste collection centers
- ◆ Do not pour chemicals down the drain.
- ◆ Never pour unwanted chemicals on the ground as this may eventually contaminate runoff.
- ◆ Use water based chemicals whenever possible



## **Richland County Department of Public Works**

### **Stormwater Services**

## SAFETY

- ◆ Always read the herbicide label to determine recommended handling precautions.
- ◆ Avoid inhaling sprays or dusts.
- ◆ If herbicides are spilled on the skin, wash the contaminated skin thoroughly with soap and water.
- ◆ Do not spray with equipment that has loose hoses or connections.
- ◆ Mix and use only the amount of herbicide that is necessary to treat the lawn.
- ◆ Always store the herbicides in the original container.
- ◆ Herbicides should be placed in dry areas that are protected from freezing temperatures.
- ◆ Herbicides should be out of reach of children, pets and livestock.



**Richland County  
Stormwater Management Division**  
Department of Public Works  
400 Powell Road  
Columbia, SC 29203  
**Stormwater Hotline: (803)576-3599**  
**Internet:** [www.richlandonline.com/  
departments/publicworks/storm.asp](http://www.richlandonline.com/departments/publicworks/storm.asp)

## **PHF Control Program**

**Pesticides, Herbicides &  
Fertilizers**

## **Stormwater Management Is ....**

- a) **Quantitative control**, a system of vegetative and/or structural measures that control the increased volume and rate of stormwater runoff caused by manmade changes to the land.
- b) **Qualitative control**, a system of vegetative, structural, or other measures that reduce or eliminate pollutants that might otherwise be carried to lakes, rivers and streams by stormwater runoff.

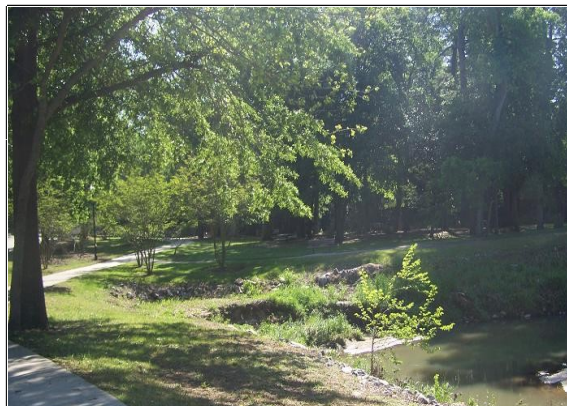
## **PHF Program Information**

- ◆ Identifies areas to receive high applications of PHF's
- ◆ Requires certification and licensing for all applicators contracted to apply pesticides or herbicides
- ◆ Minimizes the use of PHF's and how to properly apply, store and mix the products used.
- ◆ Controls the applications of PHF's in public right-of-ways and public facilities
- ◆ Requires applicators contracted to apply fertilizer to be qualified in proper nutrient practices
- ◆ Detects improper use
- ◆ Prioritizes problem areas
- ◆ Identifies PHF sample points

## **PHF Management**

Richland county's Stormwater PHF Program was developed in compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System to assist in reducing the discharge of pollutants related to the storage and application of PHF's to public property by county employees or contractors. In conjunction with Parks and Recreation, Facilities and Grounds, Vector Control, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Richland County has identified potential major sources of application. Those sources are listed on the other side of this brochure.

Wet weather sampling is performed as part of NPDES permit and pesticides can be tracked using this method. Application of pesticides used in pest control activities in structural, landscape, and turf, aquatic, and public health areas is regulated by the state. Inspections of PHF storage facilities for spills, leaks, and proper storage are performed by Richland County Stormwater Management Division.



## **MAJOR SOURCES of APPLICATION**

- ◆ Golf courses - private & public
- ◆ Public parks / gardens
- ◆ Ball fields / sports complexes / other recreation areas
- ◆ County owned assets and public schools
- ◆ Road rights-of-way
- ◆ Utility rights-of-way
- ◆ Green space surrounding public or state buildings / other facilities
- ◆ Agricultural lands
- ◆ Waterbodies / water buffer zones
- ◆ New residential developments
- ◆ Established residential developments
- ◆ Mosquito spraying areas directed by Richland County Health Department

## **FACTS & ADVICE**

- ◆ A recent EPA report stated that 76 percent of households nationwide have treated their homes with pesticides
- ◆ There are risks and benefits in their use
- ◆ Minimize use where runoff into waterways may occur
- ◆ Fertilize in late fall and early spring
- ◆ Use natural, organic or slow-release fertilizer

**TIP:** Never dump household chemicals onto the ground or stormwater controls. They can contaminate our ground water and run off into rivers, lakes, and streams.