

## Landscaping

- Use **organic fertilizer** whenever possible. Organic or slow-release nitrogen fertilizer lessens the chance that excess nutrients will run off your lawn during rainstorms.
- Be sure to use fertilizer with **no phosphorus** unless you have a soil test saying it's needed—phosphorus causes algae growth in water.
- **Limit the use of lawn chemicals** and always follow directions. Use the smallest amount necessary.
- If you are having problems with your grass, don't keep adding chemicals. Have your soil tested by UMass Extension.
- Use **permeable materials**, like pavers or crushed stone for any “hardscape” projects, such as patios or walkways. Permeable systems allow rain and snowmelt to soak through the material, thereby decreasing stormwater runoff.
- Follow **manufacturer's recommendations** for safe use and disposal of any lawn products.
- Apply products only at **optimal times** for the specific application, which are defined on the product's label.



## Spills

- Keep a **spill kit** appropriate for the materials you use handy and stocked, ready for use.
- Clean up spills **immediately**.
- Use **absorbent material** or containment berms for liquid spills.
- Always use dry methods to clean spills (sweeping) and **never hose down** the area.
- Report any chemical spill to the local **hazardous waste cleanup team**. They'll know the best way to keep spills from harming the environment.
- Collect wastes for **recycling** or proper disposal.

## Parking Lots & Dumpsters

- Dry sweep paved areas on a regular basis, especially around storm drains. This includes parking lots, patios, sidewalks & dumpster areas. **Do not use a hose to wash down pavement.**
- Collect and dispose of debris in waste containers. **Do not sweep into the gutter or storm drain.**
- **Cover dumpsters** and keep them clean to avoid leaks.
- **Make sure a plug is installed in the container's drain opening**, which is usually near one of the back corners of the container. Without a plug, liquid wastes in the container are allowed to discharge freely.
- **Check regularly for leaks**, particularly in the lower corners of the container where rust is common, and replace if necessary.
- Never wash down dumpsters with a hose. If cleaning is needed, contact the leasing company.
- Schedule regular waste pick-ups.

## Industrial Facilities Material Handling Guide

Adapted from <https://yourcleanwater.org/industry/>



## General Cleaning

- Whenever possible, purchase **water-based cleaning products**. Look for products labeled “**non-toxic**,” “non-petroleum based,” “ammonia-free,” “phosphate-free,” “dye and perfume-free,” or “readily biodegradable.”
- Sweep shop floors, materials processing and storage areas, access roads, parking lots, and sidewalks on a regular basis. **Do not use a hose to wash down these areas.**
- Properly contain and dispose of wash water, sweepings, and sediments.
- Do not dump wash water or mop water outside or down storm drains. **Pour into the mop sink or floor drains.**



## Materials Storage (Gasoline, Oil, Salts, etc.)

- Store all containers **under cover** to protect from rain and snow.
- **Close and secure** any opened containers.



## Snow/Ice Removal

- Avoid over-salting in the winter, and **sweep up any excess or spills.**
- Store salt in a **covered area.**
- Use a product that is **non-toxic** to vegetation and wildlife.
- **Do not dump snow into a body of water.**



## Irrigation

- Hire a WaterSense Certified Landscape Irrigation Professional to review your system at the beginning of each irrigation season. This will help reduce your water consumption, save money, and **maximize the efficiency of your system.**
- Avoid over-watering to prevent **excess runoff.** A lawn needs just **1" of water per week** to be green. Be sure to check weather reports.
- Upgrade to a moisture sensor to ensure irrigating only when needed, and **avoid using old-fashioned irrigation timers.**
- Don't irrigate in the **middle of the day** or when it's **windy**, in order to prevent evaporation and runoff.
- Make sure that sprinkler heads are **pointed at the lawn and not the pavement** – adjust and fix heads as necessary.
- **Comply with any watering restrictions** adopted by your town. These restrictions are in place to prevent excess water consumption during times of drought.

