



*In Your
Garden*

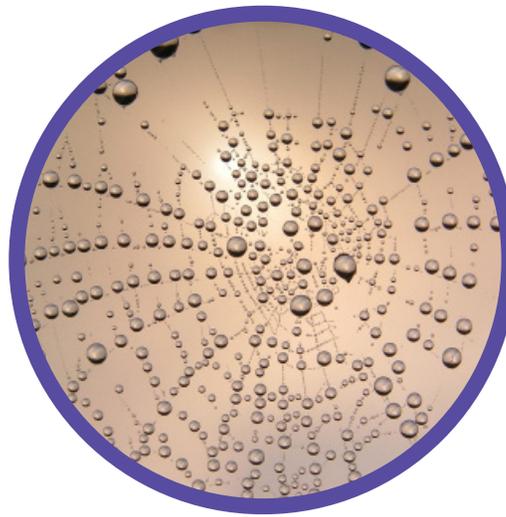
**Best
Management
Practices**



City of Stockton
Municipal Utilities Department
Stormwater Program
209.937.8700
www.stocktongov.com/mud

General Practices

- Grow various flowering plants to feed beneficial natural pest predators, such as birds, ladybugs, lacewings, toads and garter snakes.
- Remove ivy, standing water, pet waste, and rotting fruit, and manually remove eggs, larvae and cocoons to reduce the amount of pest occurrence.
- Naturally eliminate snails by collecting them in an over-turned, propped up clay pot, or in shallow pans of stale beer. Prime times for this collection are in the Spring and late Fall.



- Water the lawn early or late in the day and use water efficient devices. Even during the hot summer months, there is no need to water everyday. Water only as needed. Check sprinklers for proper operation to eliminate runoff into streets and storm drains.
- Make natural fertilizer by composting garden trimmings.



Chemical Use in Gardens

- READ THE LABELS and FOLLOW DIRECTIONS carefully when using insecticides, herbicides and fertilizers. Look for less-toxic products such as biological pesticides, oil sprays and insecticidal soaps. Remember, more is

not always better!

- Use chemicals sparingly and never use them around water, drains, bare ground, or if rain is predicted within the next 24 hours.
- Avoid spills and don't rinse them into the street if they do occur. Absorb them with sawdust or kitty litter and dispose of the absorbent in the trash or, for larger spills, take them to the San Joaquin County Hazardous Waste Facility located near the Stockton Airport at 7850 R. A. Bridgeford Street. Avoid using copper sulfate-based root killing products.
- Prevent erosion by cutting the grass frequently and leaving at least two inches of the blade; this encourages deeper root growth that holds the soil in place.

