

# PESTICIDES AND FERTILIZERS



## Be an Everyday Environmental Hero!

Be AWARE, take ACTION, report ACTIVITIES that adversely affect streams, drainage channels and the ocean.

### BE AWARE:

Fertilizers contain nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorous that can wash into streams, and may cause algal blooms (overgrowth of aquatic plants that smother other aquatic life). These blooms use up the oxygen in the water that fish and other organisms need to breathe. Pesticides (substances that kill bugs and animals) and herbicides (substances that kill weeds and plants) also contain toxic substances that are harmful to humans and aquatic life.

### TAKE ACTION:

- Read and follow the label. The label is the law.
- Never apply fertilizers before it is supposed to rain.
- Use fertilizer and pesticides sparingly. They can wash off your lawn and pollute waterways.
- Grasscycle! Leave grass clippings on the lawn after mowing; the nitrogen from the clippings acts as a natural fertilizer. Use organic fertilizers such as manure, mulch, or compost.
- Landscape with plants that require less water and fewer pesticides.

### REPORT ACTIVITIES:

City's Environmental Concern Line at **768-3300** or visit [www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com](http://www.cleanwaterhonolulu.com)

Reference: Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, City and County of Honolulu Storm Water Quality Branch, [http://envhonolulu.org/solid\\_waste/](http://envhonolulu.org/solid_waste/), <http://epa.gov/nps/toolbox/>  
Photo shot on location at City Mill

