



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

# Environmental Services Department Miramar Greenery



# Mulch Guide

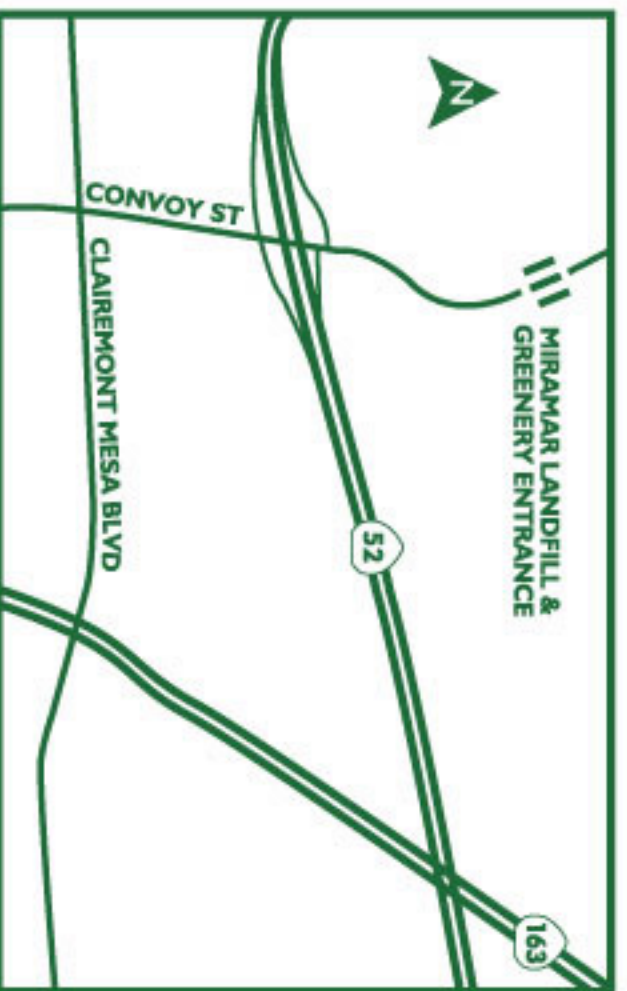


THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Environmental Services Department  
9601 Ridgeway Court  
San Diego, California 92123



ENVIRONMENTAL  
SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT



The Miramar Greenery is open Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM-4:30 PM, and Saturday and Sunday, 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

# The City of San Diego's Miramar Greenery

is currently producing a clean, recycled mulch product derived from residential and commercial landscaping waste.

## How Is Mulch Produced?

The mulch currently produced at the Miramar Greenery includes 4-inch minus ground material. The mulch has undergone a high temperature pasteurization process that eliminates disease-causing pathogens and kills weed seeds. The result is high-quality mulch with a number of useful applications. A 1/2-inch minus wood mulch is also available upon request.



## Free Mulch...

Free mulch is available at the Miramar Landfill Greenery Monday–Friday, 7:00 a.m.– 4:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 7:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. For larger loads a small loading fee applies. For more information call (858) 492-5010.

## Practical Application of Mulch Products Available at Miramar Greenery

Application	Benefits	Instructions
Weed Suppression	Mulch application on bare soil hinders weed seed germination by blocking sunlight from reaching the soil surface. If weeds do germinate, they root in the mulch, making physical control easy.	Spread 1-inch minus or 4-inch minus evenly over bare soil to a depth of 4-6 inches. Replenish annually.
Dust Control	Mulch applied over the surfaces of dirt roads and trails, or unvegetated open areas can reduce the incidence of vehicle or wind induced dust clouds.	Spread a layer of 4-inch minus mulch 2-3 inches deep over the surface of dirt roads or trails.
Erosion Prevention	Mulch reduces soil erosion by lessening the impact of heavy rainfall on steep slopes and by increasing the water-holding capacity of the soil.	Spread 4-inch minus unscreened mulch on slopes to a depth of 5-8 inches. <i>Important: place mulch up to the top of the slope so that a concentrated flow of runoff won't wash it away.</i>
Water Conservation	Using mulch as a ground cover over bare soil and around plants helps reduce water evaporation and the need for frequent irrigation.	Spread 1-inch or 4-inch minus mulch around the base of plants and trees, taking care to keep the mulch from touching the stem or trunk. Spread mulch to a depth of 4-6 inches, at least out to the dripline of the plant.
Plant Protection & Enhancement	Mulch helps protect the roots of plants from compaction in heavy traffic or construction areas, and from drastic changes in temperature. Mulch can also reduce the incidence of certain fungal diseases that attack root systems.	Spread 1-inch or 4-inch minus mulch around the base of plants and trees, taking care to keep the mulch from touching the stem or trunk. Spread mulch to a depth of 4-6 inches, at least out to the dripline of the plant.
Landscape Topdressing	Mulch can be used as a decorative topdressing to cover areas of bare soil between newly planted or established landscaping. Covering these areas with mulch can help reduce soil erosion, conserve water, and suppress weed growth (see above).	Use 1-inch or 4-inch minus mulch to achieve desired look and affect in landscaped areas.
Topsoil Production	Finely-screened mulch is an excellent additive to commercial topsoil mixes, either as a building agent or to increase water-holding capacity.	Use 1-inch minus mulch fines for topsoil mixes.
Agricultural Use	Mulch can significantly reduce agricultural water costs. Research also shows that mulch can reduce the incidence of <i>phytopthera</i> (root-rot fungus) on avocado and citrus trees grown in infected soils.*	Spread 1-inch or 4-inch minus mulch around the base of plants and trees, taking care to keep the mulch from touching the stem or trunk. Spread mulch to a depth of 12 inches, at least out to the dripline of the plant.