

A-25 Chemical Applications - Other Than Landscaping

This activity applies to the use of pesticides, herbicides or other chemicals for such purposes as removing moss from rooftops, killing nuisance rodents, and using fungicides to preserve patio decks. Application of pesticides for landscaping is covered under Activity Sheet A-26 Landscaping Activities. Pressure washing of roofs is under Activity Sheet A-15.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are required by King County Code 9.12. If the BMPs included here are not enough to prevent contamination of stormwater, you will be required to take additional measures.

Required BMPs:

- Avoid excessive application of chemicals. Follow manufacturers' application guidelines and label directions.
- Never apply pesticides or other chemicals in the rain.
- Clean up any spilled chemicals immediately. Do not hose down to a storm drain or conveyance ditch.
- Do not spray pesticides within 100 feet of open waters, including wetlands, ponds, and streams, unless approved by local jurisdiction.
- Train employees on proper application and disposal practices

Supplemental BMPs:

- Integrated pest management (IPM), a comprehensive approach to the use of pesticides which minimizes application and stresses selection of proper products and tailored application rates, is the most effective BMP measure that can be taken. IPM is applicable to businesses that frequently apply pesticides.
- Use manual pest control strategies such as physically scraping moss from rooftops, high-pressure sprayers to remove moss, and rodent traps.
- Select the least toxic chemical application that can accomplish the job.

Businesses/agencies engaged in this activity must comply with Seattle–King County Department of Public Health structural pesticide applicator regulations. The BMPs listed here are intended to complement other regulations.

Washington pesticide law requires most businesses that commercially apply pesticides to the property of another to be licensed as a Commercial Applicator from the Washington State Department of Agriculture.

For more information or assistance contact the King County Stormwater Services at 206-477-4811 and visit kingcounty.gov/stormwater.