

City of Vallejo

Pesticide, Herbicide and Fertilizer Management Plan



Prepared By: Maintenance Division, Public Works

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Pesticide, Herbicide and Fertilizer Management Plan

Introduction

Pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers have been shown to be significant sources of pollutants in urban runoff that enters the San Francisco Bay. Toxicity related to pesticides, has been observed in urban creeks and runoff throughout the Bay Area. Improper or unwise use of herbicides promotes soil erosion, which impacts local streams and contributes pollutants to the Bay. The use of fertilizers has been shown to contribute to the pollution of the Bay by promoting abnormal algal growth and subsequent fouling of waters due to die-off. The purpose of this plan is to reduce the discharge of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers in urban runoff by implementing best management practices (BMPs).

Strategy

This plan has been developed to promote the reduction of pesticides and fertilizers in stormwater discharges through employee education activities and intergovernmental coordination. The BMPs to be employed as part of the plan include education and outreach activities, support and promotion of regulatory improvements, establishing BMPs for application in public right-of-ways and at municipal facilities, and supporting regional efforts to reduce these pollutants.

Education and Outreach

The City of Vallejo will promote the reduction of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers whenever possible through education of employees and outreach activities as appropriate. Education and outreach for the Vallejo Area is also conducted by the Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District (District). The following is a list of activities that the District has addressed to date:

The District is an active participant of the Integrated Pest Management Partnership, a joint effort between the Bay Area Dischargers Association (BADA) and the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association (BASMAA) to address the characterization and reduction of diazinon in storm water and wastewater treatment plant discharges.

District personnel have distributed information regarding the proper use and disposal of pesticides ("Grow it Guide", and "Are Pests Bugging You?" pamphlets) at public outreach events and as part of treatment plant school tours.

The District continues to promote use of the local household hazardous waste collection facility for disposal of unused fertilizer and pesticides.

The District contributes funds and is an active participant in the BASMAA PIP Committee, which has run several advertising campaigns to educate the public about the problems associated with fertilizers and pesticides in urban runoff.

Commercial Applicators

The City of Vallejo will hire/contract commercial applicators of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers that employ IPM practices whenever possible.

Support and Promotion of Regulatory Improvements

Support and promotion regulatory improvements for use of pesticides and fertilizers through the Urban Pesticide Committee (UPC). The UPC was formed in 1995 to facilitate the development of a Bay Area urban pesticide toxicity control strategy. This committee strives to coordinate urban pesticide toxicity reduction in the following areas: public outreach and education; promotion of regulatory improvements that would consider urban runoff program objectives; and monitoring and science. It also provides a forum to coordinate or engage the activities and actions of others including: municipal wastewater treatment agencies; Regional Water Quality Control Boards; California Department of Pesticide Regulation; US Environmental Protection Agency; County Agricultural Commissioners; pest control operators; pesticide manufacturers and formulators; academia; consultants; and public interest groups.

Public Right-Of-Ways and Municipal Facilities

The City of Vallejo will begin evaluating the pesticide, herbicide and fertilizer use practices of landscape maintenance districts and other departments within the City of Vallejo. The following BMPs will be considered:

Alternative Methods

The City will consider alternative methods to preclude the use of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers. Alternatives would include the use of physical and mechanical controls, cultural controls (changing the habits of the agency), and biological controls.

Training and Certification

The City will ensure that employees who apply pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers are properly trained and certified in conformance with applicable Federal, State and local laws and regulations.

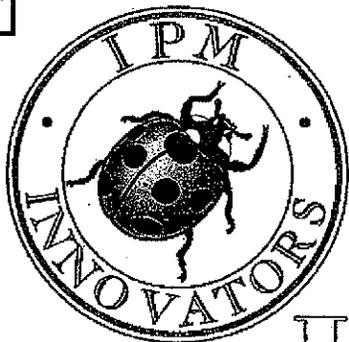
Usage BMPs

The City will consider employing alternative methods in lieu of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers whenever possible. If it is determined that alternative methods are not viable, the following BMPs will be followed:

- The City will ensure that pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers are applied at proper rates and concentrations as recommend by the Manufacturer and the Federal Government.
- City Employees will not mix or load pesticides and fertilizers in an area that would allow ready access of the chemical to any storm drain, culvert or watercourse in the event of a spill.
- The City will recycle tank rinse waters for use as make-up water and prohibit employees from discharging them to the storm drain or sanitary sewer system.
- The City will properly store all pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers, providing secondary containment for all liquids in containers larger than 5 gallons.
- The City will prepare spill kits and train employees to use them.
- The City will maintain a record of all pesticide, herbicide and fertilizer usage as well as records of employee education and training.

Regional Efforts

The City will continue to support the efforts of BASMAA as they relate to pesticide, herbicide and fertilizer issues.



California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Pesticide Regulation

IPM Innovator

Clark Pest Control

is hereby recognized as an "IPM Innovator" for its leadership
and creativity in advancing the use of reduced-risk programs for
urban pest management.


Mary-Ann Warmerdam, Director

18 March 2010
Date

