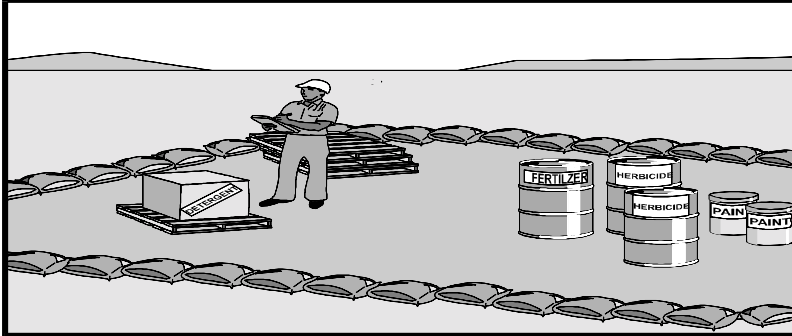


ACTIVITY: Pesticides, Herbicides, and Fertilizer Use

CP – 16



Targeted Constituents

● Significant Benefit ▸ Partial Benefit ○ Low or Unknown Benefit

○ Sediment	○ Heavy Metals	○ Floatable Materials	● Oxygen Demanding Substances
● Nutrients	● Toxic Materials	○ Oil & Grease	○ Bacteria & Viruses
			○ Construction Wastes

Implementation Requirements

● High ▸ Medium ○ Low

○ Capital Costs	○ O & M Costs	○ Maintenance	○ Suitability for Slopes >5%	○ Training
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Description

Promote efficient and safe housekeeping practices (storage, use, and cleanup) when handling potentially harmful materials such as fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides. This management practice is likely to create a significant reduction in nutrients, toxic materials, and oxygen demanding substances. Related information is provided in CP-06: Spill Prevention and Control.

Approach

- Integrate this best management practice as much as possible with your existing programs.
- For a quick reference on disposal alternatives for specific wastes, see the table presented in the Employee/Subcontractor Training BMP fact sheet.

Contractors/subcontractors should develop controls on the application of pesticides, on-site. Controls may include:

- List of approved pesticides and selected uses.
- Product and application information for users.
- Equipment use and maintenance procedures.
- Record keeping and public notice procedures.

The following discussion provides some general information on good housekeeping:

- Always use caution when handling any pesticide or fertilizer product. Many products contain toxic chemicals that can cause severe injury or death.
- Store pesticide or fertilizer products securely and away from children, pets, and sources of heat, sparks, and flames.

- Store products in their original containers and keep them well labeled. Do not store chemicals in food containers.
- Read and follow use instructions provided on packaging and in Material Safety Data Sheets. Periodically review the Material Safety Data Sheets and discuss use and handling precautions with people using or handling the pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizers.
- Avoid contact with eyes and skin. Wear gloves and eye protection when using or handling hazardous substances. Do not wear contact lenses, which can absorb hazardous vapors.
- Work in only well ventilated areas.
- Use up all of the product before disposing the container.
- Do not dispose of pesticide or fertilizer wastes:
 - in trash,
 - down storm drains or into creeks,
 - onto the ground, or
 - by burning.
- Do dispose of hazardous wastes at household hazardous waste collection events or facilities. Metro operates a permanent household hazardous waste collection facility at 941 Dr. Richard Adams Drive. For more information call 862-8620.

Requirements

- Training
 - Contractor and subcontractor employees who handle potentially harmful materials should be trained in good housekeeping practices. Personnel who use pesticides must be trained in their use.
- The primary cost is for staff time as noted above.

Limitations

- There are no major limitations to this best management practice.

Primary References

California Storm Water Best Management Practice Handbooks, Municipal Handbook, CDM et.al. for the California SWQTF, 1993.

Caltrans Storm Water Quality Handbooks, CDM et.al. for the California Department of Transportation, 1997.

Subordinate References

The Bay Begins at Your Door (Brochure), Santa Clara Valley Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program, (No date).

Guide to Hazardous Products Around the Home (Booklet), Household Hazardous Waste Project, 1989.

Hazardous Household Products: A guide to the Disposal of Hazardous Household Products and the Use of Non-Hazardous Alternatives, California Department of Toxic Substance Control.

Household Cleaners and Polishes: Chemical Hazards in the Home (Brochure), Golden Empire Health Planning Center, (No date).

Solvents, Chemical Hazards in the Home (Brochure), Golden Empire Health Planning Center, (No date).

Take Me Shopping: A Consumer Guide to Safe Alternatives for Household Hazardous Products (Booklet), Santa Clara County and City of Palo Alto, 1992.

Your Guide to Less Toxic Shopping: Safer Alternatives for Your Home and Life! (Booklet), San Francisco Household Hazardous Waste Program, 1992.