

# What Industry Needs to Know About Victoria's Pesticide Use Reduction Bylaw

In January 2008, the City of Victoria became the first municipality in the Capital Region to adopt a bylaw to regulate pesticide use on public and residential property. Enforcement of Victoria's Pesticide Use Reduction Bylaw began January 2009.

## What is the Pesticide Use Reduction Bylaw?

The Pesticide Use Reduction Bylaw is in place to protect the natural environment by regulating and reducing non-essential use of pesticides, specifically on lawns, trees, shrubs, and flowers, on residential and public property.

The bylaw still allows pesticides to be used on hard landscaping surfaces such as driveways, sidewalks, curbs, and gutters, as well as on or inside buildings. A copy of Victoria's Pesticide Use Reduction Bylaw is available at [www.victoria.ca/pesticide\\_reduction](http://www.victoria.ca/pesticide_reduction)

## Who does the bylaw apply to?

The bylaw applies to all Victoria residents living in single family homes, townhouses, duplexes, apartment buildings, and condominiums, as well as landscape professionals and lawn care companies that do business within Victoria's boundaries.

## What does the bylaw not apply to?

The bylaw does not apply to commercial, institutional or industrial properties. This includes mixed-use condominium/business developments.

As well, the bylaw does not apply to the management of pests that are designated as invasive species, and the application of pesticides: on residential areas of farms; on or inside buildings; on land used for agriculture, forestry or transportation; or on land used for pipelines or public utilities unless the pipeline or utility is City-owned.

## Permit Application

Under the Bylaw, a permit is required to apply pesticide on public or residential property. Applying for a permit should be the last resort if alternate methods of pest management have failed.

A permit may be issued by the City of Victoria when:

- the need for the pesticide is urgent
- effective non-pesticide alternatives are not available
- and the pest infestation threatens the integrity of sensitive ecosystems, or poses a serious environmental or economic loss to an owner or occupier of land.

Permit applications are available online, at the City of Victoria Bylaw office at 625 Pandora Avenue, and at the Public Service Centre at Victoria City Hall on the corner of Douglas Street and Pandora Avenue. Hours of operation are Monday – Friday, from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. An application fee of \$25 is to be paid upon issue of a permit.

A pesticide permit application is to be completed in full and emailed, faxed or mailed to:

### City of Victoria

Bylaw Enforcement Division  
1 Centennial Square  
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

T 250.361.0215

F 250.361.0205

E [bylawenforcement@victoria.ca](mailto:bylawenforcement@victoria.ca)

Allow seven working days for processing as a site inspection is required to determine if a permit can be issued. The site visit will also determine the number of notification signs required on a property when a pesticide is used. Signs are \$5 each and are refundable upon return.

Applicants will be notified whether their application has been approved or declined. If approved, an applicant will be asked to visit the Bylaw office to pick up the permit, pay the \$25 fee and \$5 for each required refundable lawn sign. Payment can be made by cash, cheque, debit or credit card.

## Restrictions for Permitted Use

The bylaw contains a number of restrictions for permitted use, such as distances of application from bus stops, schools yards, parks, wells, lakes and streams.

Pesticides cannot be applied when wind exceeds 8 km/hr, in the rain or when rain is forecast, or when temperatures exceed 27 degrees Celsius. For a complete list or restrictions, see the bylaw at [www.victoria.ca/pesticide\\_reduction](http://www.victoria.ca/pesticide_reduction)

## FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Tim Weckend, Bylaw Office

T 250.361.0215

E [bylawenforcement@victoria.ca](mailto:bylawenforcement@victoria.ca)

1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE, VICTORIA, BC V8W 1P6 | [www.victoria.ca](http://www.victoria.ca)



## Enforcement

Starting April 2009, Bylaw officers may issue tickets for the non-essential use of pesticides on residential and public lawns, trees, shrubs and flowers. Contravention of the bylaw or the conditions outlined in a pesticide permit, may result in fines ranging from \$250 to \$1,000 depending on the offence. The fine for spraying a pesticide for non-essential use on residential or public lawns, trees, shrubs and flowers is \$1,000.

### For more information, contact:

Tim Weekend  
Bylaw Office  
City of Victoria  
625 Pandora Avenue  
T 250.361.0215  
E [bylawenforcement@victoria.ca](mailto:bylawenforcement@victoria.ca)  
[www.victoria.ca/pesticide\\_reduction](http://www.victoria.ca/pesticide_reduction)



## Reduced Risk Pesticides Permitted in British Columbia

Below is a list of reduced-risk or "permitted" pesticides which are regulated for use in British Columbia by the provincial government.

**Note:** A permit from the City of Victoria is not required for homeowners or landcare professionals to use these pesticide products.

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| 1 acetic acid (DOMESTIC)   | 24 material preservatives (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)  |
| 2 animal repellents (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL) except thiram  | 25 methoprene (DOMESTIC)   |
| 3 anti-fouling paints (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)  | 26 mineral oils for insect and mite control (DOMESTIC)   |
| 4 antisapstain wood preservatives used on private, industrial land owned by the company or person responsible for the application (COMMERCIAL) | 27 n-octyl bicycloheptene dicarboximide (DOMESTIC)   |
| 5 asphalt solids (pruning paints) (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)  | 28 naphthalene for fabric protection (DOMESTIC)  |
| 6 bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki (Btk) (DOMESTIC)   | 29 paradichlorobenzene for fabric protection (DOMESTIC)  |
| 7 bactericides used in petroleum products (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)  | 30 pesticides in aerosol containers (DOMESTIC)   |
| 8 boron compounds (DOMESTIC)   | 31 pesticides registered under the federal Act for application to pets (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)                       |
| 9 boron compounds with up to 5% copper for insect control and wood preservation (COMMERCIAL)   | 32 piperonyl butoxide (DOMESTIC)   |
| 10 capsaicin (DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL AND RESTRICTED)   | 33 plant growth regulators (DOMESTIC)  |
| 11 cleansers (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)   | 34 polybutene bird repellents (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)  |
| 12 corn gluten meal (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)  | 35 pyrethrins (DOMESTIC)   |
| 13 d-phenothryn (DOMESTIC)   | 36 resmethrin (DOMESTIC)   |
| 14 d-trans-allethrin, also referred to as d-cis, trans allethrin (DOMESTIC)  | 37 rotenone (DOMESTIC)   |
| 15 deodorizers (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)   | 38 silica aerogel, also referred to as silica gel, amorphous silica and amorphous silica gel (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL) |
| 16 fatty acids (DOMESTIC)  | 39 silicon dioxide, also referred to as "diatomaceous earth" (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)                                 |
| 17 ferric phosphate (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)  | 40 slimicides (COMMERCIAL)   |
| 18 ferrous sulphate (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)  | 41 soaps (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)   |
| 19 hard surface disinfectants (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)  | 42 sulphur, including lime sulphur, sulphide sulphur and calcium polysulphide (DOMESTIC)                               |
| 20 insect bait stations (DOMESTIC)   | 43 surfactants (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)   |
| 21 insect pheromones (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)   | 44 swimming pool algicides and bactericides (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)  |
| 22 insect repellents (DOMESTIC)  | 45 tetramethrin (DOMESTIC)   |
| 23 laundry additives (DOMESTIC AND COMMERCIAL)   | 46 wood preservatives (DOMESTIC)   |