

What are some natural ways to care for my lawn?

- Mow on a high setting to shade out weeds, to conserve moisture in the soil and promote root development. Reduce your carbon emissions by using a reel-type non-motorized mower.
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn. This helps retain soil moisture, and provides a good source of fertilizer for your lawn.
- Water wisely - only 1" (2.5 cm) per week. Better yet, save money and time by letting your lawn go brown in dry weather.
- Aerate and/or de-thatch as needed to promote water retention and air circulation.

PESTICIDE DISPOSAL

How can I safely dispose of pesticides and containers?

OAK BAY PUBLIC WORKS YARD, 1771 Elgin Road

From the first of April to the end of June
Monday-Friday from 8am to 4:30pm
and Saturday from 8am to noon

And there is also no charge for dropping off pesticides at the following depots:

HARTLAND LANDFILL

#1 Hartland Avenue
250-360-3030
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
Sat 7am-2pm

www.crd.bc.ca

ELLIS RECYCLING

524 David Street
250-386-4342
Mon-Fri 7:30am-5pm
Sat/Sun 8:30am-5pm

www.ellisrecycle.com

Recycling Council of BC

www.productcare.org • 1-800-667-4321

CRD Recycle Hotline: 250-360-3030

What not to do:

- Never flush pesticides down your toilet, sink or storm drains.
- Do not put pesticides in the garbage or bury them.

These chemicals will harm septic systems and eventually leach out of the landfill or your backyard and contaminate the natural environment.



Other resources

Capital Regional District: A region-wide educational program to reduce the use of pesticides, providing information and workshops on alternatives.

www.crd.bc.ca

There are several programs and colleges in the area that offer courses and training in organic land care.

Naturescape British Columbia: Learn how to restore, preserve, and enhance wildlife habitat.

www.naturescapebc.ca

Greater Victoria Compost Education Centre: A local resource on organic gardening and offers a variety of workshops.

www.compost.bc.ca

Society for Organic Urban Land Care: This society was formed in response to the growing need for ecologically responsible land care practices.

www.organiclandcare.org

Gaia College: Offers courses in the design, installation, and maintenance of landscapes that preserve environmental health.

www.gaiacollege.ca

Pacific Horticulture College: Offers accredited programs, as well as community education focused on environmentally responsible practices.

www.hcp.bc.ca

Does the municipality use pesticides on public lands?

- The municipality does not apply pesticides for non-essential use on public lands.
- In the event of an infestation, staff will identify and evaluate the extent of the infestations with respect to its potential environmental and economic impact on the municipal infrastructure.
- Staff will examine pest management opportunities and select management options that will have the least impact on the environment.
- In the event that a Pest Control Product (PCP) is required to manage an infestation, a pesticide would be used within the framework of the municipal Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy.

Oak Bay Municipal Hall
2167 Oak Bay Avenue • 250-598-3311
www.oakbay.ca

Oak Bay Parks Services
1771 Elgin Road • 250-592-7275
www.recreation.oakbay.ca

Pesticide Use Control



In 2011, Oak Bay Municipal Council adopted a Pesticide Use Bylaw.

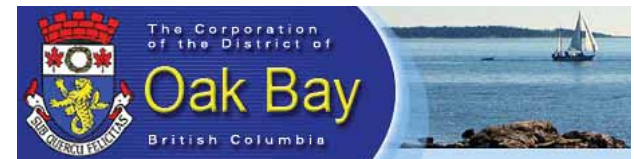
This means residential pesticide use will generally no longer be permitted on lawns and gardens.

What is the Pesticide Use Bylaw?

The Pesticide Use Bylaw is in place to protect the natural environment by regulating and reducing the use of pesticides, specifically on lawns, trees, shrubs, and flowers, to beautify private and public land. It has been put in place to protect human health and the natural environment. "Private land" means any property that is zoned residential use on all or part of the property.

Why do we need this bylaw?

Pesticides can be long-lived. They often move from where they are applied - through the air, soil and water to our lakes, streams and ocean. Although an individual lawn or garden may seem quite small, the combined effect of pesticide use on many lawns and gardens can have a significant impact on a neighbourhood and the environment.



What is a Pesticide?

Pesticide is the general term for any substance designed to eliminate undesired insects, weeds, rodents, fungi, bacteria and other organisms.

Pesticides come in many forms and can be categorized as insecticides (for insects), herbicides (for weeds), and fungicides (for fungal diseases).

Who does the bylaw apply to?

The bylaw applies to all Oak Bay 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 municipal boundaries.

Where and What does the bylaw not apply to?

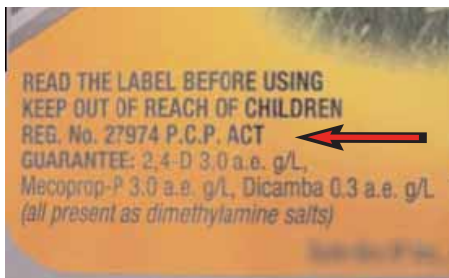
The bylaw does not apply to commercial, institutional or industrial properties. This includes mixed-use condominium/business developments.

As well, the bylaw does not apply to the management of pests inside buildings that transmit human diseases.

How do I know if a product is a pesticide?

The best way to tell if a product is a pesticide is to check the label.

Any product that has a Pest Control Product or PCP number near the list of ingredients is a pesticide (see picture below).



Which pesticides CAN be used under the bylaw?

Pesticides have their active ingredient listed near the PCP number. Refer to Schedule "A" Appendix I of the pesticide bylaw for a complete list of allowable active ingredients.

Pesticide information is available on the www.oakbay.ca or crd.bc.ca websites.

Which pesticides CANNOT be used under the bylaw?

Some of the more common pesticides that are not generally allowed for use contain the following synthetic chemicals:

- glyphosate (as found in products such as Roundup, Sidekick, and many others)
- 2, 4-D (such as Weed n' Feed, Killlex, etc.)
- malathion
- carbaryl (such as Sevin)
- diazinon

NOTES: The example product names given are only a sample of popular brands. This is not a complete list of products or ingredients to avoid.



Are there special circumstances when I can use a pesticide?

If natural alternatives and low risk permitted pesticides have not worked or 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 occupant of land, a permit to use a pesticide (not permitted under the bylaw) may be issued by the Municipality of Oak Bay.

How do I apply for a permit?

A person may apply for a permit for the use of pesticides that are not on the permitted list. Permits are administered by the Manager of Parks Services if the following criteria are met:

- there must be a pest infestation that threatens the integrity of a sensitive ecosystem
- or will cause significant economic loss to an owner or occupier of land;
- or when required to control the spread of a noxious weed or an invasive species.

Conditions of pesticide application and requirements for posting signs are part of the permit and bylaw requirements.

Please note that the control of broadleaf weeds, such as dandelions, would generally not meet the above criteria.

What are the consequences of not abiding to the bylaw?

Contravention of the bylaw or the conditions outlined in a pesticide permit may result in a \$250 fine.

