Richmond’s Pesticide Use Control Bylaw

Many pesticides can no longer be used for garden and lawn beautification on residential and City land.

Bylaw summary
As part of the City’s Enhanced Pesticide Management Program, Richmond City Council adopted the Pesticide Use Control Bylaw No. 8514 on October 13, 2009, regulating the cosmetic use of pesticides on all residential and City-owned land. The Bylaw is now in full force and effect.

How is the Bylaw applied?
The Bylaw restricts pesticide use for cosmetic purposes such as lawn and garden beautification, on residential and City properties. This includes the lawn and garden space of all single- and multi-family residences, along with all playing fields and parks operated by the City.

The Bylaw does not apply to:
- management of pests that transmit human or animal diseases
- management of pests that impact agriculture or forestry
- use on buildings or inside of buildings
- ALR properties used for farming, including the residential areas of farms
- land used for forestry, transportation, public utilities or pipelines (except when utilities or pipelines are owned by the City)
- golf courses

What is a pesticide?
Pesticide is the general term for any substance designed to suppress unwanted organisms such as insects, weeds and rodents. Pesticides come in many forms and categories including herbicides (for weeds), insecticides (for insects) and fungicides (for fungal diseases).

Are all pesticides now restricted?
Most conventional pesticides, including products labelled herbicide, insecticide, fungicide or combined fertilizer/herbicide products (often referred to as “weed and feed”) are now restricted, except:
- Pesticides listed as “excluded” in the provincial Integrated Pest Management Regulation (www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/ipmp) are still permitted.
- Biological pest controls, which include nematodes, lady beetles and micro-organisms such as Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt) bacteria or fungi.

How do I know if a pesticide is restricted or permitted?
Read the label. Common active ingredients in most conventional pesticides, such as 2,4-D, Mecoprop, Dicamba, Glyphosate, Carbaryl and Malathion are now restricted under the Bylaw. However, many safer alternatives are available, effective and exempt from the Bylaw. To help identify these permitted pesticides, look for the “active ingredient” on the product label. If the active ingredient of your product is on the list on the other side of this brochure, it is still allowed by this Bylaw.

How do I safely dispose of pesticides?
Pesticides are hazardous substances and must be disposed of properly. The City’s Recycling Depot (5555 Lynas Lane) accepts consumer pesticides bearing both the poison symbol and a Pest Control Product number (maximum 10 litre container). For more information please look for the “Seven Most Common Questions” at the City recycling depot webpage: www.richmond.ca/recycle.

Are there penalties for pesticide use?
The City may ticket residents and businesses that do not comply with the Bylaw. The Bylaw includes escalating fines for the first ($100), second ($500) and third ($1,000) offence. Any violation is an offence punishable upon conviction with a fine up to $10,000.

If a landscaper or lawn care specialist maintains your property, it is important for you to confirm that they comply with this new Bylaw, together with ensuring they are certified and licensed professionals.

How can I learn more about green lawns?
If you are concerned about the impact of this Bylaw on your lawn, watch for the City’s Live Green publications and for free workshops designed to help keep your lawn and garden green without the use of traditional pesticides.

Who do I contact about this Bylaw?
For your convenience, the online version of the City’s Pesticide Use Control Bylaw No. 8514 is available on the City’s website at www.richmond.ca/pesticides. If you have any questions or comments, please call 604-276-4398.
**List of Permitted Pesticides Regulated by the City of Richmond’s Pesticide Use Control Bylaw No. 8514.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pest</th>
<th>Natural Solution</th>
<th>Permitted Pesticide</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ants</td>
<td>Pour boiling water over anthills.</td>
<td>Silicon Dioxide (Diatomaceous Earth), Boric Acid (Borax)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aphids</td>
<td>Remove with a strong jet of water, physically remove or prune.</td>
<td>Soap (Insecticidal Soap), Fatty Acid, Pyrethrins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinch Bugs</td>
<td>Maintain a healthy lawn and dethatch.</td>
<td>Soap (Insecticidal Soap)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earwigs</td>
<td>Trap using rolled up newspaper filled with peanut butter and discard.</td>
<td>Silicon Dioxide (Diatomaceous Earth), Boric Acid (Borax)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grubs</td>
<td>Maintain a healthy lawn.</td>
<td>Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt), Nematodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Chafer Beetle Grubs</td>
<td>Maintain a healthy lawn, consider alternative ground covers and landscaping to turf lawn.</td>
<td>Heterorhabditis bacteriophora nematodes <a href="http://www.richmond.ca/chafer">www.richmond.ca/chafer</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaf chewers (caterpillars)</td>
<td>Physically remove.</td>
<td>Soap (Insecticidal Soap), Fatty acid, Silicon Dioxide (Diatomaceous Earth), Bacillus thuringiensis (Bt)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leatherjackets</td>
<td>Maintain a healthy lawn.</td>
<td>Nematodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mealy Bugs</td>
<td>Dab with alcohol on a cotton swab.</td>
<td>Soap (Insecticidal Soap), Fatty Acid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scale</td>
<td>Scrape off stem, prune infested branches.</td>
<td>Soap (Insecticidal Soap), Fatty Acid (in early stages), Mineral Oil (Domestic or Horticultural Oil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snails and Slugs</td>
<td>Trap by placing a small container filled with honey, beer or yeast solution on the ground.</td>
<td>Silicon Dioxide (Diatomaceous Earth), Ferric Phosphate (iron phosphate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackspot, Rust, Powdery Mildew</td>
<td>On lawn, over seed with good quantity grass seed mix. On plants, prune well beyond the affected area, Avoid watering leaves.</td>
<td>Sulphur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clover</td>
<td>Clover is good for lawns and provides nitrogen.</td>
<td>Corn Gluten Meal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crabgrass (prevention)</td>
<td>Mulch in gardens, In lawns, over seed, raise mower blades to 6 to 9 cm and weed out by hand.</td>
<td>Acetic Acid (Horticultural vinegar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creeping Charlie</td>
<td>Over seed, raise mower blades to 6 to 9 cm and weed out by hand.</td>
<td>Acetic Acid (Horticultural vinegar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dandelions and weeds in lawn (prevention)</td>
<td>Mulch in gardens, In lawns, over seed, raise mower blades to 6 to 9 cm and weed out by hand and/or cut before they go to seed.</td>
<td>Corn Gluten Meal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dandelions and weeds in lawn (established)</td>
<td>Mulch in grass, over seed and raise mower blades, and pull out by hand and/or cut before they go to seed.</td>
<td>Acetic Acid (Horticultural vinegar)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moss</td>
<td>Dig out and aerate lawn. Lower soil acidity level with lime.</td>
<td>Acetic Acid (Horticultural vinegar), Ferrous Sulphate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weeds in interlocking patio cracks in pavement</td>
<td>Full out by hand and/or pour boiling water over.</td>
<td>Acetic Acid (Horticultural vinegar)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** This list is compiled from Schedule 2 “Exempted Pesticides” of the BC Integrated Pest Management Regulation.

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**Natural and Permitted Pesticides Solutions to Common Pest Problems**

Carefully read the label and follow all instructions and safety precautions when using pesticides.

- **Acetic acid**
- **Animal repellents except thiram**
- **Anti-fouling paints**
- **Antisapstain wood preservatives**
- **Asphalt solids (pruning paints)**
- **Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki (Btk)**
- **Bactericides used in petroleum products**
- **Boron compounds**
- **Boron compounds with up to 5% copper for insect control and wood preservation**
- **Bapsaicin**
- **Cleansers**
- **Corn gluten meal**
- **D-phenothryn**
- **D-trans-allethrin (also referred to as c-cis-allethrin)**
- **Deodorizers**
- **Fatty acids**
- **Ferric phosphate**
- **Ferrous sulphate**
- **Hard surface disinfectants**
- **Insect bait stations**
- **Methoprene**
- **Mineral oils for insect and mite control**
- **N-octyl bicycloheptene dicarboximide**
- **Naphthalene for fabric protection**
- **Paradichlorobenzene for fabric protection**
- **Pesticides in aerosol containers**
- **Pesticides registered under the Pest Control Products Act (Canada) for application to pets**
- **Piperonyl butoxide**
- **Plant growth regulators**
- **Polybutene bird repellents**
- **Pyrethrins**
- **Remsneath**
- **Rotenone**
- **Silica aerogel also referred to as silica gel, amorphous silica and amorphous silica gel**
- **Silicon Dioxide, also referred to as “diatomaceous earth”**
- **Silicides**
- **Soaps**
- **Sulphur, including lime sulphur, sulphide sulphur and calcium polysulphide**
- **Surfactants**
- **Swimming pool algidicides and bactericides**
- **Tetramethrin**
- **Wood preservatives**

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**Engineering and Public Works | Environmental Sustainability | Tel. 604-276-4398 | www.richmond.ca/pesticides**

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