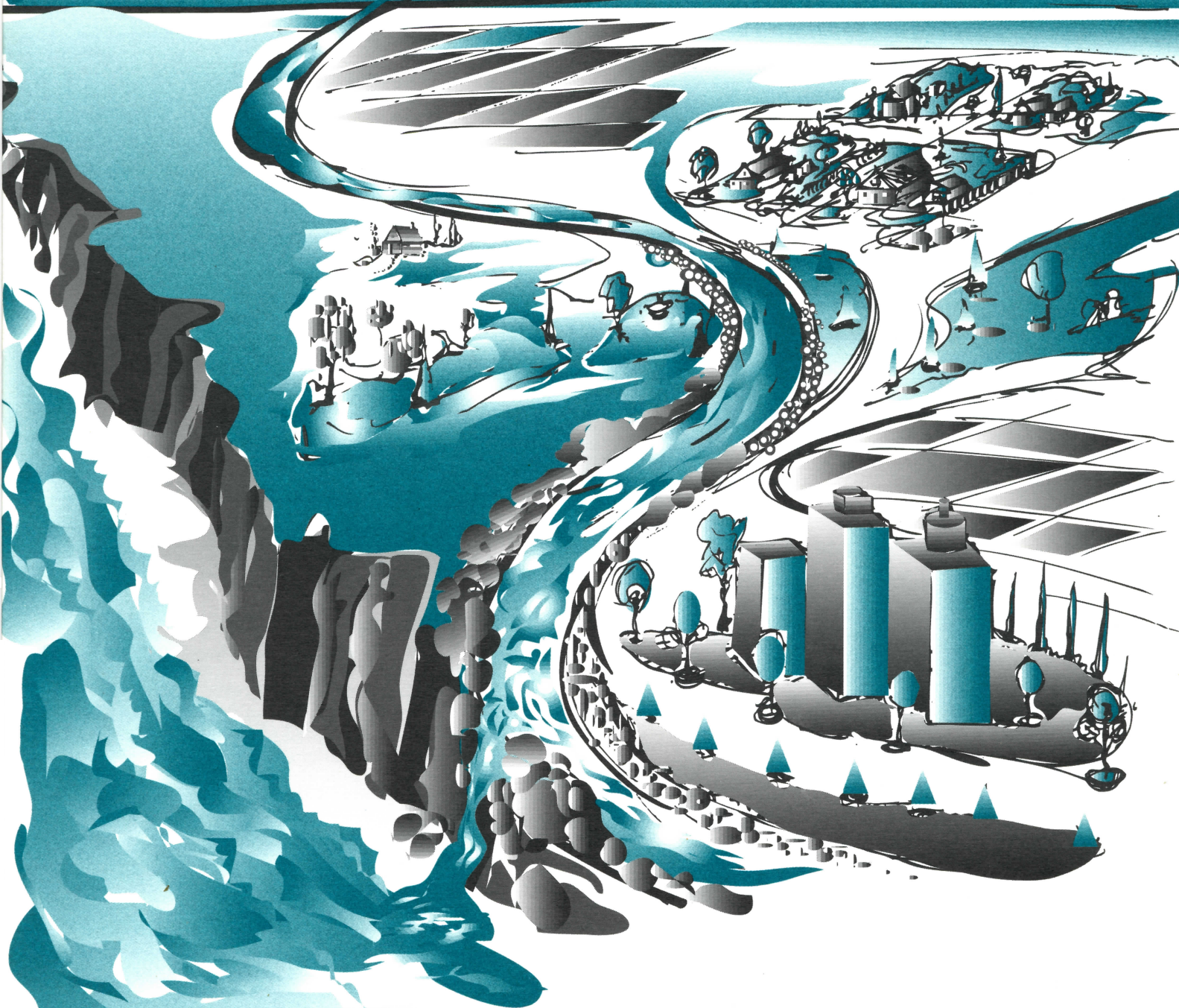
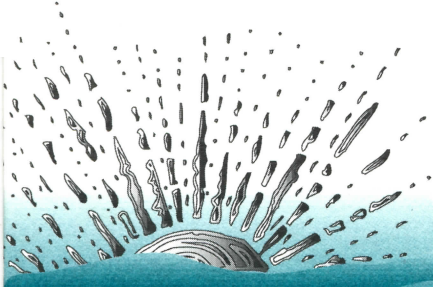


Residential Pest Control Landscape Management

Tips & Techniques



Protecting Water Quality

PROTECTING WATER QUALITY It's Your Responsibility!

Urban pest control professionals provide value to their customers by using the best practices and products to control insect pests, weeds and rodents. An important responsibility of each professional applicator is safeguarding water resources.

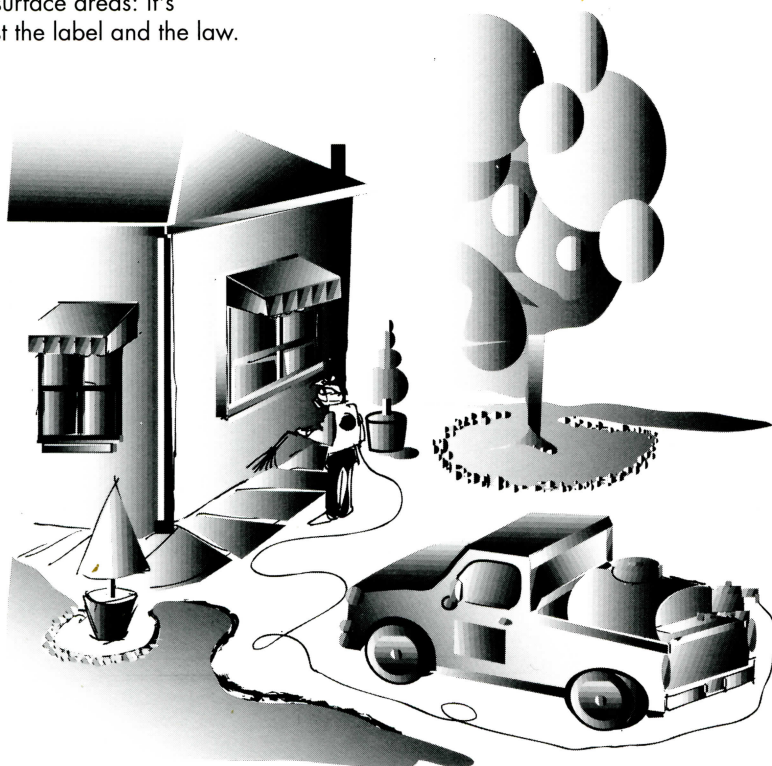
Any pest control product used outdoors can potentially end up in water if the applicator isn't careful. This can happen when a product is washed away from the treated area by over-irrigation or heavy rainfall. Improper application (drift onto sidewalks and driveways) can increase the potential for runoff if the contaminated area is sprinkled or rained-on while residues are still present. By taking a few simple precautions, pest control products will stay where they belong – on the treated area.

Treating Around Homes/Buildings

When using small sprayers, determine the size of the application area and mix only the quantity needed. This saves money and avoids disposal problems.

Treat as small an area as possible while still achieving effective pest control.

If a product is labeled for cracks and crevices, don't treat the entire wall or other large surface areas: it's against the label and the law.

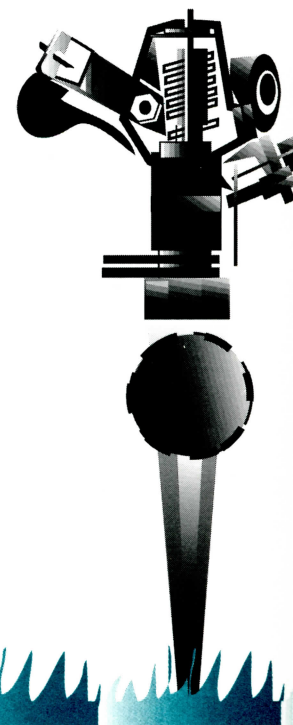
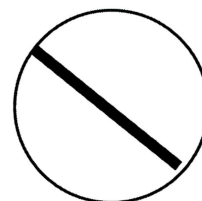
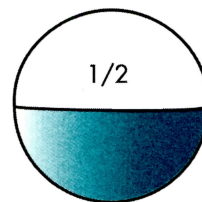
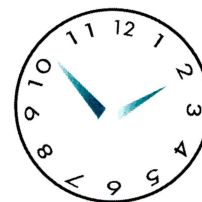


Scout The Site

Locate all street storm water drains then identify streams, ponds, wetlands and areas of natural runoff before starting work.

Mentally picture where an accidental spill or hose rupture might flow. Be prepared.

Notify the customer about proper irrigation to prevent runoff.



Sprayers, Trucks and Mixing Pest Control Products

When possible, mix and load on an impervious mix/load pad equipped with provisions for collecting and reusing spilled or waste material.

When filling tanks, prevent back-siphoning by keeping the fill hose above the solution level and out of the tank. Use an approved backflow prevention device such as a double check valve assembly on the fill hose.

Do not mix chemicals or fill tanks within 100 feet of any well, sinkhole or water body.

Calibrate your sprayer or spreader according to manufacturer specifications or label directions. Wipe-up obvious spills on equipment before washing.

The Home Site

Avoid spraying on windy days. Many labels prohibit applications in wind. Control drift that could settle on pavement or other surfaces and be washed into storm drains.

Avoid spraying during rainstorms. Runoff from a treated area could enter storm drains and contaminate waterways.

Do not apply pest control products within 6-10 feet (less if the label specifies) of any water body, and always ensure that no products enter the water.

Reduce drift by using nozzles that produce larger droplets. Lower sprayer pressure also reduces drift potential.

Irrigation Tips

Encourage customers to use good irrigation practices: when watering a treated area, don't saturate the soil to the point of runoff. Runoff could enter storm drains and contaminate streams or waterways.

Efficient irrigation wets only the active root zone, does not saturate the soil and does not cause runoff.

Sloped areas/compacted soils need to be irrigated in short, frequent irrigations.

When watering-in a product is required (fertilizer/insecticide/herbicide combinations), use frequent, light waterings after the application. Never flood an area and cause runoff into storm drains.

Rinseate and Leftover Disposal

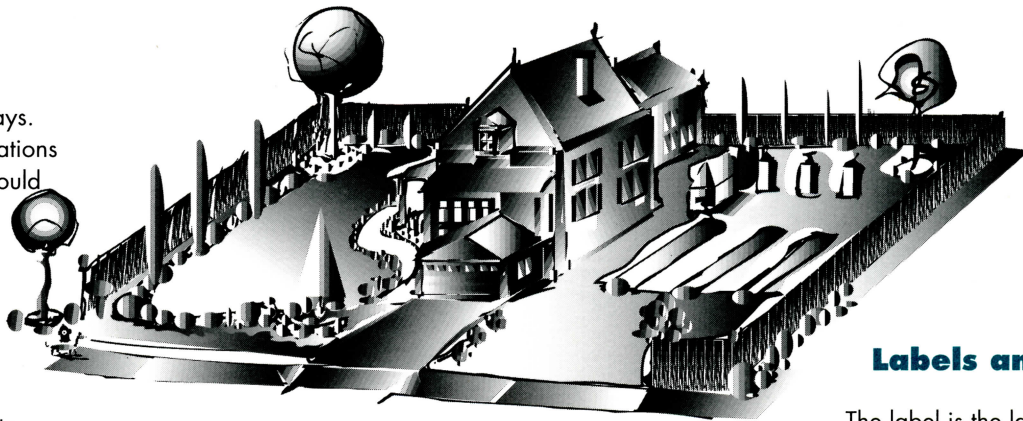
Avoid disposal problems by planning ahead and mixing only the amount needed at the site or for the day's work.

Triple rinse empty containers, pouring the rinse into the spray tank. Remember to leave enough room in the tank for container rinsewater.

Never pour leftover pest control products down any type of drain (indoor or outdoor sink, toilet, etc.). Most drainage eventually enters waterways after leaving water treatment plants.

Apply leftover pest control products to sites listed on the label and approved for treatment by your customer.

If you must dispose of leftovers, see instructions on the label or MSDS sheet or contact local environmental management agency.



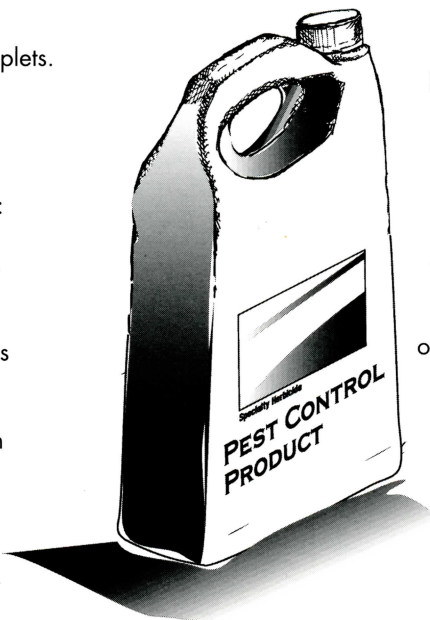
Labels and MSDS

The label is the law. Follow all label directions and prohibitions for the safety of you, your employees, your customers and the environment.

Label directions are written to help you get maximum benefits with minimum risks. Never exceed label rates. More is not better: it's costly, wasteful – and illegal.

Using pest control products differently than the label states is not only against state and federal law, it is also unwise. You lose the safety margin built into label use instructions.

Keep a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) on-hand at all times. Review before mixing or applying pest control products: check for post-application recommendations such as watering and review with customers if necessary.



Product Selection

Choose a product only after identifying the pest(s) and confirming the application site is listed on the label.

Use lowest effective dosage prescribed on the product label when possible.

If available, use pre-measured, water-soluble packets or granular formulations instead of liquid formulation. Dry products are easier to clean-up if spilled.

Use a surfactant/adjuvant or rainfast sticker if required or suggested by the product label. Spreader/stickers can improve the efficacy of pest control products – at lower doses – by ensuring better coverage.

Micro-encapsulated products can protect sensitive sites.

IPM

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a technique for controlling pests that involves a series of steps and decisions.

Prevent The Problem

The best way to control home and landscape pests is to avoid them in the first place. Pests have basic survival needs such as air, water, food and shelter. Take any of these away and the pests cannot survive.

IPM Steps

- Identify where the pest is coming from.
- Seal all entry points such as cracks and crevices.
- Remove any habitat that can harbor pests.
- Use beneficial insects where available and practical.
- Avoid storing newspapers and cardboard boxes for long periods.
- Store wood off the ground and away from buildings.
- Remove fallen leaves, accumulated brush or dead branches where pests can hide.
- Trim shrubs and other vegetation away from homes and buildings.

Identify The Problem

Identification of pests is essential for proper selection and application of pest control techniques, including use of pest control products.

Choose The Control Method

- Once identified, choose the best control method.
- Use cultural or mechanical methods where practical.
- Pull out diseased plants.
- Prune off infested branches.
- Make sure plants are properly watered and fertilized.
- Use beneficial insects where possible.
- Consider baits for ant control.
- Consider effective, alternative methods.
- When a pest control product is used, know the proper application technique and label instructions to minimize or eliminate non-target exposure.



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916-646-9951
curesworks.org

MANAGING SPILLS

Check MSDS

The best source of spill clean-up information is the Material Data Safety Sheet (MSDS). While your reaction to each spill should be based on the product spilled and severity of spill, here's some tips to consider. Remember, don't wash away spills: runoff can pollute surface or groundwater.

Stop the leak!

- Upright overturned container.
- Wrap a rag around a split hose.
- Close the shut-off valve.
- If necessary, divert a stream of liquid before controlling the source.

Contain Spill

- Dam the path of the spill if headed for a drain or waterway.
- Check where flow might go if containment is breached.

Clean-up Spill

- Clean-up spills immediately.
- Clean-up procedure depends on the chemical and severity of the spill.
- See label recommendations for handling spills of individual chemicals.
- In serious incidents, call CHEMTREC at 1-800-424-9300 for emergency information.

Spill Clean-up Tips

- Keep supply of absorbent material on hand.
- Best buy: 10-pound bag of clay-based pet litter.
- Operator must have access to MSDS or product label during mixing and loading.

