

PEST CONTROL

Best Management Practices (BMPs)

BMPs Overview

BMPs are strategies proven to:

- ❖ **Save** you and your business money;
- ❖ **Maintain** safety in the workplace;
- ❖ **Provide** guidance on successful practices by others like you;
- ❖ **Protect** surrounding areas, water sources, and properties;
- ❖ **Decrease** negative impacts to wildlife and water quality in nearby creeks, lagoons, marshes, water ways, and Atlantic Ocean.



BMP Basics

- ❖ **Familiarize** yourself and your staff on policies for handling chemical spills.
- ❖ **Keep** all chemicals in closed containers.
- ❖ **Clean-up** any spills, don't flush chemicals or oils down the storm drain.
- ❖ **Read** labels and follow instructions on all pesticides.
- ❖ **Wear** protective gear and clothing when applying any chemicals.
- ❖ **Follow** state & federal licensing requirements for purchase, application, and storage of chemicals.
- ❖ **Dispose** of surplus mixtures appropriately.



Overuse and misuse of pesticides wastes your time and your money. Use responsibly. Read the labels.

DISCLAIMER: Information presented in this document is intended for guidance purposes only and is not all-inclusive. The information may be of value as an educational tool. However, we do not endorse any content or product. Laws and regulations are subject to change. It is recommended that you contact the municipality in which you will be working to obtain any required permits and/or specific regulations prior to beginning work.

Pesticide Application BMPs

- ❖ Pesticide application should be done only under the supervision of a Certified Pesticide Applicator.
- ❖ Read the label and follow all federal and state regulations governing use, storage and disposal of pesticides.
- ❖ Use only what's needed by following all manufacturers' recommendations for mixing, applying, cleaning-up, storage and handling of pesticides.
- ❖ Spilled some chemicals? Sweep chemicals back onto grassy areas! Keep them from flowing into the storm drain and out into the local waterway. Don't put anything down that drain that you wouldn't swim in.
- ❖ Lock up chemicals and label chemical storage areas appropriately (50 ft from any storm drains.)
- ❖ Designate "no spray zones" near any water (hardscape or natural) or storm drain.
- ❖ Regularly inspect, maintain and calibrate all pesticide application equipment to ensure proper application rate.

Storage and Handling of Chemicals BMPs

- ❖ Store and mix all chemicals inside a covered area, so that spills or leaks will not come into contact with soil.
- ❖ Clean up any spills or leaks of pesticides promptly.
- ❖ Mix the *minimum* amount of pesticide that will be needed for the immediate job.
- ❖ Do not pour rinse water or surplus chemical mixtures onto the ground or into the storm drain.
- ❖ Use rinse water from cleaning of containers and application equipment as a diluent for the next batch of that same pesticide or apply to target areas.
- ❖ Dispose of excess or leftover chemicals and empty expired pesticide containers according to instructions on the label –preferably on the target pest.
- ❖ Never dispose of excess, expired, or waste chemicals in the storm drain, on the ground, in drainage ditches or in any surface waters. Dispose of them according to manufacturer's instructions.



*See storm drains that
need to be marked?
Let us know!*

**Chatham County – Savannah Metropolitan Planning
Commission (MPC)
Natural Resources Division**

<https://mpcnaturalresources.org>

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