

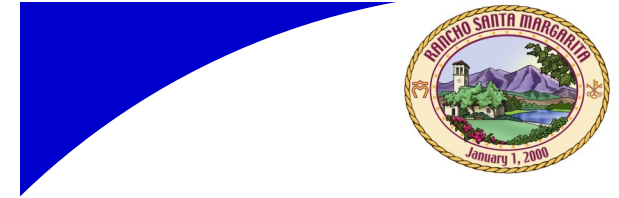


Use proper equipment for the application of pesticides. Contact your local hardware or construction material stores for available tools and materials for mobile pest control including vacuum pumps, mats, sand or gravel bags, wattles, etc.



**City of Rancho Santa Margarita**

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## STORM WATER PROGRAM

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## BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR PEST CONTROL



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Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

# Best Management Practices for Pest Control

This brochure provides information about using best management practices (BMPs) for the collection, treatment, and disposal of wash water generated from pest control products.

## Why should we be concerned with pest control was water discharge?

Pollutants from pesticides increase the potential of groundwater contamination. This is particularly true for areas with coarse textured soils and shallow water tables. These pollutants drain off the vehicle finding their way into the street and into the storm drain systems which is polluting our creeks, beaches and Ocean. The implementation of the proper BMP's is required for compliance with State and local regulations which were developed to prevent water pollution and protect the public health.

*Please note that it is unlawful for wash water or other non-storm water, generated by mobile pest control, to enter storm drains. Pest control that do not prevent waste water from entering the storm drain systems are subject to Administrative Citations and/or fines.*

## Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Pest control must use the following BMPs to comply with the City's water quality requirements and water pollution prevention:

- Minimize water use.
- Use pesticides as described on their labels and dispose of properly. Even biodegradable products impact our waterways.
- Use pesticides with low mobility and persistence.
- Release pesticide spray as close to target as possible.
- Treat each affected area using droplets of pesticide to reduce drift.
- Never apply pesticides during weather conditions that may cause significant drift of small droplets away from the spray target.
- Avoid pesticide applications prior to intense rainfall events.
- Use methods of pesticide application that target individual pests or improve uniformity of application if possible.
- Calibrate application equipment to ensure that the proper amount of pesticide is applied.

## Options for wash water management

- **Preferred Option:**  
Zero discharge or closed-loop recycled water
- **Second Option:**  
Discharge into municipal sewer system including residential sewer cleanout, utility sink or toilet, etc. and precautions must be taken to prevent any heavy debris, hazardous materials or anything that can clog sink or toilet. Wash water may also be taken off site for proper disposal at your home or business.

**If you would like further information about water quality pollution prevention, please contact the Public Works Department at (949) 635-1800 or visit our website at [www.cityofrsm.org](http://www.cityofrsm.org). Thank you for your effort in helping to improve the quality of our environment.**