Amendments to the Integrated Pest Management Regulation

Integrated Pest Management Program
Ministry of Environment
March, 2016
Outline

• Background
• Overview of Changes
• Timeline & Next Steps
• Questions & Discussion
Background

- 2009 – Consultation began
- 2011 – Special Committee on Cosmetic Pesticides
- 2013 – Proposed direction suggested (Intentions Paper)
- 2014 – Focus groups and changes based on feedback
- 2015 – Policy Update – June 1
- 2015 – IPM Regulation amended – December 15
- 2016 – Amendments come into force on July 1
Objectives of Amendments

Pesticides will be used:
• By people with knowledge and training
• As part of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) process

Public interaction with pesticide dispensers will increase at the point of sale
New Rules for Private Landscapes

- Licensing currently required for use on public land and multi-residence properties
- Use in private landscapes will now require:
  - Certification (Residents)
  - Licensing (Commercial property owners)
- Other options:
  - Hire a licensed company or use an exempted product
- Some exemptions apply
What is a Landscaped Area?

• What:
  – Lawns, flower beds, ornamental trees and plants, pathways

• Where:
  – Single family homes, golf courses, botanical gardens, cemeteries, commercial properties

• Does not include:
  – Food gardens, hobby farms
  – Structural pest treatments (e.g., rodents, wasps, carpenter ants)
  – Forests on private land
  – Commercial agriculture (e.g. range pasture, field crops)
Schedules 2 & 5

• Rules will be different for these products
• Schedule 2 – Excluded Pesticides
  – Already exists
  – Excluded from most requirements in IPM Regulation
  – No licence or certificate required for use or sale

• Schedule 5 (New)
  – Provides another option for residents and property managers
  – Generally considered safe for use by untrained people
  – No licence or certificate required for use
Exemptions for Glyphosate

• Certain exemptions for Domestic Class products only
• For treatment of:
  – Weeds growing through cracks in hard surfaces
  – Plants poisonous to people by touch
  – Classified noxious weeds or invasive plants
• Residents and property managers will not require a licence or certificate for use on their own property
What does it mean to have a licence?

- Employing certified pesticide applicators
- Environmental protection measures
- Implementing an IPM program
- Notifying users of the property
- Record keeping and reporting
- Equipment maintenance and calibration
Training – Assistant Applicators

- For authorization holders in all sectors
- **Current** - supervise 4 uncertified “assistant applicators”
- **New** - all assistants will be required to:
  - Complete a ministry training course
  - Demonstrate their knowledge in pesticide safety and environmental protection
  - Renew training annually
  - Ministry-produced online course and exam (free of charge)
  - Anticipated for Spring 2016
Training for Residents

- Residential Applicator Certificate (RAC)
- Provides an additional option to expand choices
- Allows the use of all Domestic products in landscapes
- Free online course and exam
- Two hours to complete
- Ten year term
- Includes information on:
  - IPM, pesticide safety
  - Environmental protection
- Anticipated for Spring 2016
Notifying People About Pesticide Use

Residential landscapes:

• Service licensees must notify clients before use has occurred
• Landlords with RAC must notify tenants before use has occurred
• Notices must provide information about:
  – Pesticides to be applied
  – Safety precautions to take
  – How to obtain more information
• Flexible - “door knockers”, written notices
Notifying People About Pesticide Use

Commercial landscapes:

• Includes golf courses, ornamental gardens, cemeteries and commercial facilities (offices & stores)
• Landscaped areas the public reasonably may access
  – Pathways, lawns, picnic areas and golf course fairways
• Posting of signs when pesticides are used
• Similar to current requirements for posting on public land
Role of Vendors

- Vendors play a valued role in educating customers
- Good support from industry to participate in promoting responsible use of products
- Point of sale interaction is very important
Licensing for Vendors

• Licence required to sell most pesticides
• This **includes** Schedule 5 products
• Schedule 2 products **do not** require a licence to sell
• Licensed vendors required to employ certified dispensers
Displaying Domestic Pesticides

- Pesticides have to be displayed in a manner that restricts customer access
  - e.g. behind a locked counter or cabinet, empty boxes displayed
- Flexibility to respect variation in vendors
- Ensures that a certified dispenser communicates with the customer prior to purchase
- This removes time pressure and disruption at checkout till
Interacting with the customer

• Current requirements will remain in place:
  – Inform customer that pesticides can only be used according to the label
  – Offer advice on pest management and the safe use of pesticides

• New requirements:
  – Confirm intended use is appropriate (according to the label)
  – Inform customer that:
    • A provincial licence or certificate may be required
    • Municipal bylaws may restrict use

• Dispensers will not be required to check for certificates or provide details of local bylaws
What has changed since 2013?

Four key changes since 2013:
• Opt-out provision for municipalities and First Nations has been removed
• More options for residents: introduction of the Residential Applicator Certificate
• Schedule 5
  – Products require a vendor licence to sell
  – Must be displayed with restricted access
  – Minor revisions
• Vendors will not be required to distribute a handout
Time Frame and Next Steps

• Guidance documents are available on our website

• Ministry staff are engaging with manufacturers and distributors on development of guidance for vendors

• Requirements will come into force: July 1, 2016
Guidance Documents

- Ministry website: [http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/pesticides-pest-management/pesticide-use/regulations-consultations](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/pesticides-pest-management/pesticide-use/regulations-consultations)

- **The Rules Have Changed – A Guide for Residents** (PDF)
- **The Rules Have Changed – A Guide for Vendors** (PDF)
- **The Rules Have Changed – A Guide for Landscapers** (PDF)
- **The Rules Have Changed – A Guide for Golf Courses, Gardens & Cemeteries** (PDF)
- **The Rules Have Changed – A Guide for Industrial Land Managers Using Pesticides** (PDF)
- **The Rules Have Changed - Schedule 2 (Excluded Pesticides)** (PDF)
- **The Rules Have Changed - Schedule 5** (PDF)
Introduction

The Ministry of Environment recently amended the Integrated Pest Management Regulation (IPMR) to further regulate the sale and use of pesticides. The amendments will come into force on July 1, 2016.

The changes ensure that pesticides used in outdoor landscaped areas are applied by trained people as part of an IPM program, or are pesticides generally considered safe for use by untrained people.

After July 1, 2016:

Requiring a licence

- A pesticide licence is still required to offer a service applying pesticides (except when using pesticides listed on Schedule 2 of the IPMR).
- A licence is still required to apply pesticides to landscaping on public land (except when using Schedule 2 pesticides).
- A licence is now also required to apply pesticides to landscapes on private residential and commercial land.

However, residents do not need a licence and may apply Domestic class pesticides to landscaped areas on their own property if they hold a Residential Applicator Certificate.

- A licence or certificate is generally not required for residents to use pesticides on food gardens or hobby farms. However, a licence is required to offer this as a service.
- A licence or certificate is also not required for property owners using Domestic class glyphosate for specific applications. However, offering a service applying Domestic class glyphosate requires a licence.

Please refer to "The Rules have Changed - A Guide for Golf Courses, Gardens & Cemeteries" and "The Rules have Changed - A Guide for Residents", available at www.gov.bc.ca/PestManagement, for more information about these exemptions.

Key Points – After July 1, 2016:

- A licence is required to offer a service applying pesticides or to use pesticides in landscaped areas on public and private land (except for Schedule 2 pesticides).
- Notification of pesticide use must be provided to all residents.
- Signs must be posted before treating landscaped areas on commercial land the public may access.
- Everyone who applies pesticides must be certified or complete specific training.
- Some pesticides (Schedule 5) do not need a licence for use by homeowners but a licence is still required to offer a service applying these pesticides.
- You still need to comply with municipal pesticide bylaws.
- The new requirements will not come into force until July 1, 2016.

Notification – Private Commercial Land

- Licenses must now provide notice to the public before applying pesticides to landscapes on private commercial land that the public can be expected to access. This includes walkways and recreational areas, etc.
- Licenses must post signs to notify the public and these signs must meet the same requirements as signs posted when applying pesticides to landscaped areas on public land.
Questions
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