

## Pest Control Chemical Facts

- ◆ Pest control chemicals are used to kill household pest such as; aphids, caterpillars, ants, roaches, etc.
- ◆ Follow manufacturer instructions on the handling and disposal of chemicals to reduce harmful effects of pesticides.
- ◆ When it rains fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides are washed off of lawns and landscaped areas and enter our waterways. These chemicals may also affect insects, fish, and contaminate ground and surface water in our ecosystem
- ◆ Accumulation of pesticides in simple aquatic organisms, such as algae, provides an avenue for larger animals to be affected through the food web, resulting in elevated levels of toxins in organisms that feed on them, such as fish and birds.



## Pesticide Alternatives

Only using chemicals to control pests is usually a temporary fix. A more effective approach is an **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)**. Which includes:

### A) Physical Controls

Pest Barriers  
Traps

### B) Biological Controls

Predatory Insects  
Bacterial Insecticides

### C) Chemical Controls — Last Resort

Less Toxic Products  
Insecticidal Soaps  
Pyrethrum Based Products

## Safe Substitutes for Pest Control

**Garden Aphids and Mites:** Mix one (1) tablespoon of liquid soap and one (1) cup of vegetable oil. Add one (1) teaspoon of the mixture to a cup of water and spray. Note: oil may harm vegetable plants in the cabbage family.

**Caterpillars:** When caterpillars are eating, apply products containing *Bacillus Thuringiensis* to leaves.

**Ants:** Place boric acid dust or hydramethylnon baits in problem areas, cracks, and insect walkways. Be sure it is inaccessible to children and pets (boric acid is a mild poison).



## If You Must Use Pesticides

- ◆ Read labels! Use only as directed. Often to control the problem, many gardeners use way too much pesticide.
- ◆ Use a pesticide that is specifically designed to control your pest. The insect should be listed on the label. Approximately 90% of the insects on your lawn and garden are not harmful.

## Pesticide Disposal

- ◆ Dispose of unused and out-dated pesticides properly. Household toxins, such as pesticides, can pollute our streams and rivers and contaminate groundwater if disposed of in storm drains or gutters.
- ◆ Rinse empty pesticide containers and use rinse water as you would the product. Dispose of empty rinsed containers in the trash.
- ◆ To obtain information for proper disposal of unused or out-dated pesticides call **Atascadero Wastewater Plant 805-470-3132**



# City Municipal Code

The Atascadero Municipal Code provides specific regulations regarding swimming pool drainage and the use of sanitary sewers and storm drains.

## Section 7-8.001

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any storm water, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, uncontaminated cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewers.

## Section 7-8.003

No person shall discharge or cause to be discharged any of the following described waters or wastes to any public sewers:

(b) Any waters or wastes containing toxic, infectious, or poisonous solids, liquids or gases in sufficient quantity, either singularly or by interaction with other wastes, to injure or interfere with any wastewater treatment process.

Failure to comply with applicable regulations and/or permitting requirements may result in a misdemeanor. Any persons violating the provisions of the Atascadero Municipal Code shall be liable to the City for all damages to City property, and/or fines levied resulting therefrom. (7-1.003)

# Additional Resources

The following agencies are able to provide additional information on swimming pools and storm water management practices.

## Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

[www.swrcb.ca.gov/centralcoast](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/centralcoast)

805-549-3147

## San Luis Obispo County Integrated Waste Management Authority

[www.iwma.com](http://www.iwma.com)

805-782-8530

## Atascadero Public Works Department

805-470-3180

## Atascadero Wastewater Plant

805-470-3132

## City of Atascadero

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[www.atascadero.org](http://www.atascadero.org)

# Pest Control Chemicals

a stormwater Management guide to

