 Reasons for Procedure

The University of Virginia (UVA) has a permit to operate a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) issued by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. This permit authorizes UVA to discharge stormwater pursuant to the Virginia Stormwater Management Program and the Virginia Stormwater Management Act.

1.0 Purpose

To ensure proper application, storage, transport, and disposal of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers on UVA property.

2.0 Scope

This procedure applies to anyone who applies or handles pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizers on UVA Property.

3.0 Responsibility

3.1 Managers and Supervisors

All supervisors are responsible for reviewing this policy with all employees or hired contractors that have these job duties at least once every 24 months.

3.2 Personnel Performing the Job

UVA staff and contractors must follow the procedures described in this SOP when working with pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizers. Staff or contractors must also have the proper certification for handling these materials, as further described in section 4.0.

4.0 Procedures

4.1 Pesticides

4.1.1 All pesticides are required to be stored out of the weather and transported underneath a cover such that these materials cannot be exposed to stormwater while in storage.

4.1.2 Any pesticide applicators working on UVA property must have the appropriate VDACS certification and must follow manufacturer recommendations when applying pesticides.

4.2 Herbicides

4.2.1 All herbicides are required to be stored out of the weather and transported underneath a cover such that these materials cannot be exposed to stormwater while in storage.

4.2.2 Any herbicide applicators working on UVA property must have the appropriate VDACS certification and must follow manufacturer recommendations when applying herbicides.


4.3 Fertilizers

4.3.1 All fertilizers are required to be stored out of the weather and transported underneath a cover such that these materials cannot be exposed to stormwater while in storage.

4.3.2 Any fertilizer applicators working on UVA property must have a VDACS certification and must follow manufacturer recommendations when applying fertilizer. Application of fertilizer must be done in compliance with the most recent approved Nutrient Management Plan, as overseen either by UVA’s Nutrient Manager or by a certified nutrient management planner.


5.0 Review of Procedure/Training

Supervisors are responsible for reviewing this procedure with all employees who have these job duties at least once every 24 months.

6.0 Regulatory impacts

Improper handling of materials such as pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers can cause negative impacts to local waterways and has the potential to cause Illicit discharges, which are prohibited by the University’s MS4 permit. This offense is punishable by civil and criminal penalties as illicit discharges constitute a threat to the public health, safety, and welfare, and are deemed public nuisances.

*Printed versions of SOPs with previous review dates are considered current as long as the version number is the same as the current version. Current versions of all SOPs are maintained on the UVA Environmental Resources website.