

Pesticide Free Zone Sign Owner's Manual

Congratulations on your purchase of the Pesticide Free Zone yard sign! We're confident that your sign will give you many years of trouble-free performance. You are setting an excellent example for your neighbors by not using pesticides, and you have a right to be proud. We hope you'll display your sign right away and be willing to share your philosophy and your techniques with your friends and neighbors.

How to display the sign

The Pesticide Free Zone sign can be mounted in many different ways, as shown in the photographs on this page. The two holes in the sign can accommodate screws (#10 are ideal), nails, wire, or string. The main thing is to place the sign where people can see it.



Your Pesticide Free Zone sign can be easily mounted on a flat surface such as a fence or wall, as shown above, or on a stake in the ground, as shown at left.



What does pesticide free mean?

Ideally, pesticide free means that no chemical pest controls at all are used. However, we consider the use of organically certified materials and EPA-exempt pesticides to be compatible with our philosophy because we want to encourage manufacturers to develop safer products. We distribute the signs on the honor system, and we don't ask or monitor what materials you use. If you feel that the sign accurately reflects your practices, you should display it. If you have questions about the suitability of any products, please feel free to call the Washington Toxics Coalition for more information at 800-844-SAFE.

Talking to your neighbors about pesticides

After displaying your sign, you may get questions from your neighbors about what the sign

means, why you are opposed to using pesticides, or how you manage pests without hazardous chemicals. To help you, we are enclosing in this packet two fact sheets: *What's Wrong with Pesticides*, and *Talking to Your Neighbors about Pesticides*.

For more information

Sometimes, maintaining a landscape without using pesticides can be challenging, but we're here to help. Our extensive Home Safe Home fact sheets cover many common pest and disease problems such as aphids, slugs, soil-borne plant diseases, weeds, and many more. As a new sign owner, you are entitled to buy our fact sheets at half price. This is a one-time offer, however, so please act today. Call us at 800-844-SAFE or visit

our website at www.watoxics.org for a complete list of our publications.

Another great resource is the set of Green Gardening *ProIPM* fact sheets. These are available free of charge on the Seattle Public Utilities website. Simply go to www.cityofseattle.net/util/proipm/default.htm and select the title you want or download the whole set of 24. The *ProIPM* fact sheets were written for landscape professionals, but they provide valuable information for anyone.

Finally, if you have specific questions not answered in any of these publications, give us a call at 800-844-SAFE and pose your question to our information specialist. ■



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