



FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions

- ***Exactly how do EcoSMART® products work on insects?***

EcoSMART® pesticides contain a unique combination of natural plant oils which contain a class of chemicals called terpenes, that are widespread in nature. These terpenes have a similar chemical composition to octopamine, an insect's version of adrenaline, which regulates heart rate, metabolism, movement and behavior. The plant oils used as the active ingredients are very toxic to insects as they target and block octopamine. Mammals, birds and fish do not have these neuro-receptors, so they simply metabolize the plant oils.

EcoSMART® Weed & Grass Killer uses plant oils at levels that can provide the herbicide / burn-down activity needed to control weeds, unwanted grasses, etc. This action comes from dissolving plant cell membrane integrity and causing desiccation and death.

- ***How do EcoSMART®'s products differ from other "green" pesticides currently on the market?***

There are several distinct differences. First, the active and inert ingredients in our insecticides, herbicides and fungicides are mostly comprised of food grade materials approved by the US FDA and are all listed on the label. Another key difference is the fact that every EcoSmart® product is classified as a "Minimum Risk" pesticide and qualifies for the U.S. Government's highest safety standard.

- ***Does EcoSMART® support or use animal testing?***

EcoSMART® does not conduct any animal testing.

- ***Why are your products so fragrant? How long will the scent last?***

The plant oils used in EcoSMART® products are inherently fragrant. The oils approved by the EPA under its Minimum Risk program include cinnamon, peppermint, wintergreen, rosemary, lemongrass and clove. These same plant oils are commonly used in other consumer products for fragrance purposes. We formulate our products to make the fragrance as pleasant, soft and non-lingering as possible.

Because some people are sensitive to fragrance, we recommend testing the product in a small area before using over a larger area indoors. The smell will usually dissipate in just a few hours but that will vary depending on where product is used. It is always important to read and follow the directions on the product label.

- ***Why do several of your lawn & garden products state it is recommended to test on plants first before applying to the entire plant?***

Some plants/foilage are more sensitive to plant oils than others, especially tender new growth and blooms. We recommend that our insecticide/fungicide products be tested on your plants/foilage to ensure they are not sensitive to the plant oil active ingredients.

- ***Can the EcoSMART® lawn & garden products be used around lakes, ponds, streams, etc.?***

EcoSMART® products can be used around lakes, ponds, streams and other bodies of water since the plant oils used as the active ingredients do not persist in the soil and break down relatively quickly in water (up to 48 hours).

- ***Why is there no EPA registration number on your product labels?***

Because EcoSMART®'s products are classified as Minimum-Risk pesticides by the EPA, they are exempt from Federal EPA registration requirements under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act. As a result, no EPA registration number is required.

- ***Can I use EcoSMART® insecticides outdoors?***

Yes. Our products are suitable for both indoor and outdoor use. Simply read the label on the container for the appropriate directions.

- ***Can I spray my dog or cat with your products?***

While our pesticide products are safe to use around pets, they are NOT intended for use directly on pets. However, we do offer a line of Pet Care products specifically for treating pets and the areas they inhabit.

- ***Can I use your outdoor insecticides on or around my trees, shrubs or plants?***

Our insecticides should not harm your plants if applied per the label directions. However, some plants may be sensitive to our oils under certain conditions, so always follow the label directions. Do not spray on newly planted cuttings, plants stressed by drought or when temperatures exceed 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Do not spray the blooms directly. Remember, we always recommend that you test a small area first.

Also, breezes and wind can carry spray to plants, shrubs, etc. you do NOT plan to treat. Best practice is to cover the plants you do not plan to spray with cardboard or plastic. You may remove it after the spray on the treated plants has dried.

- ***If the EcoSMART® products are truly safe, why are there Precautionary Statements on the label?***

Under the EPA's Minimum Risk pesticide program, products that qualify and are exempt from Federal EPA registration requirements are still required to meet certain state labeling

conditions which include simple, "good safety practices". These are precautionary statements that apply to all pesticides such as keeping out of the reach of children, avoid getting in eyes and getting on skin, and instructions on what to do if the product gets into eyes or onto skin.

- ***How can your products be both safe and effective?***

Unique combinations of plant oils effectively target and block octopamine, a key neurotransmitter receptor site found only in insects and other invertebrates. This finding was based on researching how plants and trees naturally defend themselves against insects and other pathogens.

- ***Will my family need to leave the house after using any of your indoor products? If so, for how long?***

There is no "official" waiting period for people/pets to leave the house after applying indoor products. But it is important to keep in mind that some individuals or pets may be sensitive to the fragrance of plant essential oils. When there is prior knowledge of sensitivity to fragrance, EcoSMART® recommends testing the product in a small area before using over a larger area indoors.

- ***How safe are EcoSMART® pesticides?***

Most pesticide products are required by the EPA to have an extensive list of precautionary and first aid statements on their labels since they use synthetic chemicals as their active ingredient. EcoSMART® products don't bear such warnings because the FDA classifies the plant oils used in EcoSMART® products as "Generally Recognized As Safe" (GRAS) — the same label placed on approved food and beverage ingredients. Additionally, the EPA classifies our products as "Minimum-Risk" pest control products, a special category of EPA exemption offered for certain ingredients considered safe for mankind and the environment. The EcoSMART® active ingredient plant oils utilize a unique, proprietary targeted mode of action that attacks the central nervous system of insects but have no adverse effect on humans or pets.

- ***Will the indoor products stain my carpet, floors, walls or counters?***

As with most household products, EcoSMART® products will stain any surface that water alone will stain. We recommend that customers read and review all label directions prior to full product use. Also, always test the product in an inconspicuous place on your carpet, fabric or other surface to check for staining before applying a full application. Always use sparingly and wipe away any excess product after use.

- ***Can you explain what some of the inert (or "other") ingredients are that are listed on your labels?***

Every ingredient in an EcoSMART® product is listed on the product label. The inert (or "other") ingredients on our product labels are materials which enhance effectiveness and performance

of the pesticide product. These ingredients can serve a variety of functions (including, but not limited to): solvents, emulsifiers, preservatives, and spreaders.

- ***Where are EcoSMART® products made?***

All EcoSMART® products are made in the U.S.