Actions to restrict or discontinue the use of Coal Tar-Based Sealants in the United States

Current as of January 1, 2014

Governments

Action	State/District	Jurisdiction* and 2010 Population**	
Ban or Ordinance	District of Columbia	Washington	601,723
	Illinois	South Barrington	4,565
	Kansas	Winfield	12,301
	Maryland	Montgomery County	971,777
	Minnesota	Statewide	5,303,925
	New York	Suffolk County	1,493,350
	South Carolina	Greenville	59,306
	Texas	Austin	790,390
		Bee Cave	3,925
		Edwards Aquifer, Comal and Hays Counties	265,579
	Washington	Statewide	6,724,540
	Wisconsin	Dane County	488,073
Restricted use jurisdictions	Massachusetts	Andover Wetlands	
		Commonwealth Wetlands	
		Sudbury	
	North Carolina	Boone	
Government use restrictions†	California	California Department of Transportation	
	Illinois	City of Lake in the Hills	
		City of Spring Grove	
		DuPage County/Salt Creek Watershed	
		McHenry County	
	Minnesota	All State Agencies	
	Missouri	City of Springfield	

Companies

Action	Area	Company*
Home Improvement Stores Which Have Stopped Selling Coal Tar-Based Sealants	Nationwide Distribution	Ace Hardware, Do It Best††, Lowe's††, The Home Depot, True Value
	Regional Distribution	Agway, Menards, United Hardware (Hardware Hank and Trustworthy)
Applicators Committed to Phase-Out	In WI, MI, ND, IA, IL, and MN (pledged prior to 1/1/14 state ban)	See interactive map and listing at http://www.pca.state.mn.us/uu4yx6y

Universities and schools

Action	Institution
Formal institutional governance ending use	University of Michigan
	San Diego Unified School District

Note: A large number of school districts around the country have informal policies not to use coal tar-based sealcoats. However, these actions are not currently feasible to track.

*sources: combination of Google searches, accessing Coal Tar Free America Blog (http://coaltarfreeamerica.blogspot.com/p/bans.html), personal interviews, evaluating Material Safety Data Sheets for sealant products, in-store visits conducted by Judy L. Crane, Ph.D., and contacts to and outreach by Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) staff under the Great Lakes Coal Tar Sealcoat/PAH Reduction Project, funded by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

**source: 2010 Census Interactive Population Search webpage (http://www.census.gov/2010census/popmap/ipmtext.php).

†most state Departments of Transportation no longer use coal tar-based sealants (AASHTO 2011; http://environment.transportation.org/pdf/communities_of_practice/stormwatercopjan2011.pdf)

††contact with Do It Best and Lowe's is ongoing since coal tar-based sealants have recently been found in some of their stores (EPA communications, 1/4/13 and 1/22/13)

DISCLAIMER: This table was originally prepared by Judy Crane, Ph.D. to support a feature article in *Environmental Science and Technology* on "Coal-tar-based pavement sealcoat and PAHs: Implications for the environment, human health, and stormwater management" (Mahler et al. 2012). MPCA will attempt to update this document in as timely a fashion as is possible within resource constraints. Due to the difficulty involved with tracking restricted use jurisdictions and government use restrictions of coal tar-based sealants, however, this information may not be fully complete. If readers have questions or would like to pass along information on new coal tar sealcoat restrictions, call 651-296-6300 or 800-657-3864 and ask for Pollution Prevention/Green Chemistry staff.