

PAINT AND CHEMICAL SPRAY DRIFT

Environmental Protection Act 1994

Spray drift from painting and chemical spraying can cause a nuisance to neighbours and interfere with their day-to-day activities. If severe enough, it can also damage property and impact people's health. If your neighbours have concerns, Council encourages you to talk with them and look for a way to resolve the problem. Solutions can often be found that satisfy both parties.

CONSEQUENCES OF CAUSING A NUISANCE

Under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, Council is responsible for investigating environmental nuisances arising from residential and commercial properties.

If spray drift is determined by Council Officers to be a nuisance, Council may direct the offender to remedy the problem. If the direction is not complied with, Council may issue a fine.

INVESTIGATING NUISANCES

When investigating an environmental nuisance relating to spray paint or chemical overspray, Council will consider:

- » the amount of spray or pollutant being emitted
- » the duration and rate of the emission and its characteristics and qualities
- » the sensitivity of the environment into which the drift is being emitted and the impact it may have
- » zoning under the Townsville City Plan.

Council will not allow continuous spray painting of large pieces of equipment and/or cars in residential areas or spray painting in the open where overspray and odour may become a nuisance to surrounding residents.

REDUCING SPRAY DRIFT

Below are some tips for reducing the likelihood of causing a nuisance.

- » Consider weather conditions before starting jobs such as spray painting and chemical spraying.
- » Use accurate spraying equipment to help reduce overspray.
- » Erect a physical barrier such as sheets or hessian.
- » Follow the manufacturer's guidelines.
- » Work indoors, if possible.
- » Consider an alternative location such as a commercial spraybooth.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information visit Council's website townsville.qld.gov.au, or call Council's Customer Service Centre on 13 48 10.