

Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District (OCW)

No Spray Zone Policy

Revised and Adopted: 10 June 2026

1. All No Spray Zone (aka Opt Out) requests must be submitted in writing. No Spray Zone requests must be renewed annually before April 15th. Requests received after April 15th will be honored, but there could be a delay between receipt of the request and marking the property, which could result in the property being sprayed.
2. If a No Spray Zone request was submitted for the preceding year AND there have been no changes in ownership, contact information, or property boundaries, an email to the OCW containing the E911 address and requesting No Spray Zone status again for the current year will suffice. The OCW email address is: ocwied@gmail.com.
3. If a No Spray Zone request was NOT submitted for the preceding year and/or there have been changes in ownership, contact information, or property boundaries, a letter must be submitted listing the name(s) of the property owner(s), his/her/their contact telephone number(s), the E911 address of the property, and include a property map which clearly shows the property boundaries along the public or private road(s). The OCW mailing address is: P.O. Box 188
Brandon, VT 05733-0188
4. A private road is defined as a non-public road that serves more than one residence. Driveways serving a single residence will only be sprayed if the residence is more than 200 feet in perpendicular distance from the common road and a written request is submitted.
5. Landowners who are members of the National Organic Farmers Association (NOFA) must submit full documentation each year. This is a NOFA requirement.
6. Upon receipt of a No Spray Zone request an OCW employee will contact the property owner(s) and then will mark the property with stakes to delineate the No Spray Zone.
7. No Spray Zone marker stakes will be placed at the property corners on the right of way unless the adjacent property owner(s) accede(s) to creating a buffer zone. Landowner(s) wanting a buffer zone for his/her/their property are responsible for obtaining permission, in writing, from their abutters. Such permission must clearly state where along the right of way the No Spray Zone marker stakes are to be placed.
8. All properties on public and private roads in the district that are not marked with No Spray Zone stakes will be sprayed. Property owners must report missing No Spray Zone stakes to avoid being sprayed. No Spray Zone stakes inadvertently lost due to vandalism or other cause will be replaced in a timely manner as soon as the OCW is made aware that they are missing.
9. Reflective tape on the top of No Spray Zone stakes will indicate to the pesticide applicator:
 - Red = stop spraying as soon as the stake is seen
 - Green = start spraying after the stake is passed
 - Yellow and Black = bees ahead; stop spraying as soon as the stake is seen
 - Red and White = end of the spray route / town line; stop spraying as the stake is passed.