Dealing With Overspray

Tips for Minimizing Problems Caused by Overspray
Basic Rules

- Only spray foam where it is supposed to go
- Move items that can be moved
- Cover items that can’t be moved
Develop Overspray Protection Plan

- **Plan A** - The overspray issue is handled as a part of the proposal/contract procurement process.

- **Plan B** - Following the receipt of a contract, the overspray issue is addressed in a separate meeting/contact with the client.
SPRAY FOAM ROOFING AND OVERSPRAY

[Company Name] will be installing a sprayed-in-place polyurethane foam system at your facility during the period of _______ to _______. This system is composed of polyurethane foam, which is formed by combining an "A" side (di-isocyanate), and a "B" side (polyol). This foam is the same material used to insulate your refrigerator, your Coleman cooler, to make foam rubber seat cushions, furniture, and even pillows. This product is all around us. Fully reacted polyurethane foam is not considered a hazardous material under OSHA's Hazard Communications Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200).

Although we take precautions to avoid it, it is possible for small particles to drift in the wind and land on cars in the immediate vicinity of the spraying operation. If the overspray has not dried before this happens, it may develop some adhesion to glass and paint. Since the particles are extremely small, soft, and sensitive to ultraviolet radiation, they will weather off. Normal washing can facilitate this process. Do not try to remove the particles with rubbing compound or by buffing. Do not wax or seal the surface, as this will protect the foam from the weathering process. If allowed to weather off, the foam overspray will disappear completely with no residual effects whatsoever. It is different from paint overspray in this regard. This process will take several weeks, depending on such factors as the amount of sunshine your car receives, overspray particle size and to some extent how often the car is washed.

The first step in the weathering off process is that the foam starts to turn yellow and brown as it oxidizes. With less sun, such as occurs in winter or foggy conditions, it will take longer for the foam to disappear but it will disappear, so please be patient.

If you detect foam overspray on your windshield (your windshield wiper blades will sound different as they cross the droplets of foam or with the sun at a certain angle it will seem like there are tiny diamonds on the glass); please let us know right away. Our crews carry a detailing product, which miraculously wipes away the overspray. They will clean your vehicle's windows in just a few minutes. If you choose to clean the glass yourself, you can do so by rubbing lightly with fine steel wool such as a S.O.S. pad, while using glass cleaner to keep the areas wet and lubricated. **WARNING:** Do not use this process on the painted finish of the vehicle or side mirrors as they are coated with a plastic film.

If you wish to talk to someone at our office regarding this matter, please call ______________________.

Sincerely,

[Company Name]

President
Job #: ___________________________ Project Name: ________________________________

It is recommended by our Company that you, our client, work closely with our Project Management Team: Salesperson ______________________________ and Supervisor ___________________________________ to minimize and hopefully, completely eliminate all overspray problems. We believe that the best way to do this is to take a very pro-active approach. The first step is to inform all employees who could be affected by this situation by giving them a copy of the handout entitled “Spray Foam and Overspray.” This will allow those who are really concerned about their vehicles to make arrangements to park elsewhere, purchase car covers, etc..

Next, our Company representative will suggest other procedures. Please use the attached checklist to outline the abatement plan for this project.

A. Distribute Overspray Handout
   Yes ___ No _____

B. Close Parking Lots
   Yes ___ No _____

C. Partial Control of Parking
   Yes ___ No _____

D. Distribute Disposable Car Covers
   Yes ___ No _____

E. Mask doors, windows, floors, etc. (interior)
   Yes ___ No _____

F. Other
   Yes ___ No
Overspray Incident Report

- Claimant: ________________________________ Date: ____________
- Address: _______________________________________________________
- City/State/Zip: _____________________________________________________
- Tel: ___________________________
- Project/Address: ___________________________________________________
- Supervisor: ___________________________ Salesperson: _________________________
- Report submitted by: ________________________________________________
- Make: _____________________________ Model: __________________________ Year: ______
- Color: _____________________________ License #: __________________ State: ______
- Did a Supervisor see the car?  □ Yes  □ No  Is it our overspray? □ Yes  □ No
- Were the windows cleaned? □ Yes □ No
- Did claimant receive our SPRAY FOAM & OVERSPRAY handout?  □ Yes  □ No
Overspray Incident Report

- **Response No. 1** -
  - Your employees be polite and responsive to any claimant.
  - Avoid confrontation
  - Respond to their questions in a positive way, assuring them of a prompt referral to management.

- **Response No. 2** -
  - Your employees should be clear on whom to notify within your company when an incident occurs
  - Management should address the problem and not run from it. A claimant who is ignored will quickly become angry, more expensive to deal with, and a public (and customer) relations disaster.
Roofing Applications

- Check the Wind
Clear & Barricade
The Parking Lot
Mask Items that can’t be Moved
Move or Lift Items That Can
Masking Tools

- Tape
- Plastic
- Paper
- Burlap
- Mesh Screens
- Boards
Natural Windbreaks Such as Parapets Work If High Enough
Most Jobs Require Windscreens
Wind Socks Can Show Wind Speed and Direction
1 person Screen Can Be Used in Light Wind From One Direction
2 Person Screen Can Be Used in Slightly Higher Winds
3 Screens Offers More Protection
(note: workers should have appropriate PPE)
Total Enclosure on Wheels Adds Best Protection
(may require air supplied respirator)
Spray Tents Can Be Effective But Not to be Used in Winds Over 15 mph
(Air Supplied Respirators Mandatory)
Exterior Wall Applications Can Be Protected Also
Overspray Removal

- Cars
  - Allow sun to degrade foam (2 weeks)
  - Buff with Clay Magic
  - Use car overspray detailing company
  - Paint as last resort
Plants, Trees, Shrubs

- Depending on severity of overspray, replacement typically not required
- Allow foam to degrade
- Trim leaves or branches
- Replace only if plants die
Building Exterior & Equipment

- Allow to Degrade
- Buff with Clay Magic
- Paint
Windows

- Scrape with razor blades
- Wash
Interior Applications

- Same Rules Apply
  - Spray only items that are supposed to be foamed
  - Move items that can be moved
  - Cover items that can’t be moved
One More Rule for Inside Work

- I always ask “What Would Upset My Wife if Foam Got On It.”
What Can You Move, What Do You Cover?
Masking Tools

- Tape
- Paper
- Plastic
  - Tarps
  - Rolls
  - Sheets
- Foil
- Boards
Use Plastic Tarps on Overhead Applications
Plastic Sheets Cover Stairs & and Large Objects
Mask Small Openings & Electric Outlets With Tape, Plastic or Paper
Doors & Windows Use Tape and Plastic
Ductwork should be protected.
Great Job of Masking
Same Job, Great Masking
Conclusion

- Develop Overspray plan
- Educate Your Client
- Follow Basic Rules
- Use Appropriate Tools