





SUGGESTED SPRAY SCHEDULE FOR HOME GARDEN PEARS

Updated 2026





Highly Recommended Annual Sprays

| Growth Stage | Description | Target Information | Chemical Sprays | Important |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| Dormant  | Before buds show any activity in late winter | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Overwintering pear psylla, scales, aphids and mites | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Horticultural oil (E.g. Bonide All Seasons Horticultural Spray Oil, Monterey Horticultural Oil) | When daytime temperatures reach 40 – 45 F. Finish spraying by noon to ensure good dry time. Follow directions on the label carefully to avoid spray damage. |
| Delayed-Dormant  | In late winter, just as buds begin to show first green tissue. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pear psylla | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Horticultural oil (E.g. Bonide All Seasons Horticultural Spray Oil, Monterey Horticultural Oil) ➤ Kaolin clay (E.g. Surround WP) | Kaolin clay + oil combined deter insects and delay egg lay. |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mites (blister, rust) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sulfur (E.g. Bonide Sulfur Plant Fungicide) | |
| Popcorn  | As flowers balloon, but before flowers open. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pear psylla | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kaolin clay (E.g. Surround WP) ➤ Azadirachtin (E.g. Captain Jack's Neem Max Concentrate) | |
| Bloom  | When flowers are open. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Fire blight | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Coppers (E.g. Bonide Copper Fungicide, Captain Jack's Copper Fungicide) ➤ <i>Bacillus Subtilis</i> (E.g. Serenade Garden Disease Control) | Fire blight sprays are only needed if you have 2 days of warm temperatures (65+) before a predicted rain. Protective spray MUST go on before rain. |



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| <p>Petal Fall</p>  | <p>Just after petals fall from blossoms.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pear psylla | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Azadirachtin (E. g. Captain Jacks Neem Max Concentrate) ➤ Pyrethrins (Ex. Bug Buster-O) | |
| <p>Late Spring through Fall</p>  | <p>Fruit set through harvest. May to September</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Codling moth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Horticultural oil ➤ Esfenvalerate (E.g. Bug Buster II) ➤ Spinosad (E.g. Bonide Captain Jacks Deadbug Brew)* ➤ Kaolin clay (E.g. Surround WP) ➤ Lambda-cyhalothrin (E.g. Bonide Fruit Tree & Plant Guard Concentrate) | <p>Start preventative sprays of fruit 14-18 days after full bloom and apply weekly (or every 10-14 days depending on the label) for 12 weeks rotating materials*. Re-apply after rain.</p> <p>Remove infested apples from the tree, seal in black garbage bags, and dispose of immediately in municipal waste.</p> <p>In place of intensive sprays, exclusion netting over the entire tree will keep codling moth from infesting apples. If larvae or pupae are already inside the net they can still do damage.</p> <p>Bagging individual fruit at ½ inch (dime size) with paper, cotton or Japanese apple bags) can also exclude codling moth. Seal bags but be careful not to constrict the stem. Fruit can be unbagged (and sprayed) 3 weeks before harvest to color.</p> |
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pear psylla | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Azadirachtin (Captain Jacks Neem Max Concentrate) ➤ Pyrethrins (Ex. Bug Buster-O) ➤ Cinnamon oils (E.g. EcoVia 3-in-1 Emulsifiable Concentrate) | |
| <p>Additional Information</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ CAUTION –Read the product label directions carefully. Read and follow all label directions for responsible use of any pesticide. THE LABEL IS THE LAW. ◆ Pesticide resistance – Vary products during the season and in following seasons to minimize pest resistance. ◆ *Some products, like Spinosad, have restrictions on how many times or how much is applied in a season – use alternative pesticides or strategies once maximum is reached. ◆ Too much fruit to handle – <i>Cut down tree and purchase quality fruit for use. Help commercial orchards by maintaining good care and pest management practices for your desired fruit trees!!!</i> ◆ Washington State Administrative Code RCW 15.09.060 requires owners to control horticultural pests and diseases. ◆ Trade name disclaimer – Use of trade names are for example purposes only. No endorsement is intended. Other appropriately labeled products containing similar active ingredients should provide similar levels of control. | | | |



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Sprays needed only if insect is present

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| Popcorn | As flowers balloon, but before flowers open. | ➤ Grape mealybug | ➤ Zeta-cypermethrin (E.g. GardenTech Sevin Insect Killer Ready To Spray) | Not needed unless mealy bug was present the previous year. |
| | | ➤ Aphids | ➤ Potassium laurate (E.g. Garden Safe Insecticidal Soap, Safer Brand Insect Killing Soap Concentrate II) | Controls only needed if insects are present. Natural enemies generally keep aphids under control if they are not killed by other sprays. |
| Petal Fall | Just after petals fall from blossoms. | ➤ Aphids | ➤ Potassium laurate (E.g. Safer Brand Insect Killing Soap Concentrate II) | Natural enemies generally keep aphids under control. |
| | | ➤ Feeding caterpillars such as leafrollers, army or cut worms | ➤ Spinosad (E.g. Monterey Garden Insect Spray) ➤ <i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> (Bt) (E.g. Bonide Thuricide Bacillus Thuringiensis (BT)) | Control only needed if caterpillars present. |
| Late Spring & Summer | May to September | ➤ Feeding caterpillars such as leafrollers, army or cut worms | ➤ Spinosad (E.g. Monterey Garden Insect Spray) ➤ <i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> (Bt) (E.g. Bonide Thuricide Bacillus Thuringiensis (BT)) | Control only needed if caterpillars present. |
| | | ➤ Stinkbug, Box elder bug | ➤ Bifenthrin, Zeta-cypermethrin (E.g. Ortho Home Defense Insect Killer for Lawns & Gardens Concentrate) | Control only needed if insects are present. |

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With questions contact your local Master Gardener Askamastergardener@ChelanDouglasMG.org (509) 667-6540.

Visit <https://mastergardener.wsu.edu/resources/contact/> for more information on local programs and contacts.

For bloom stages visit <https://tinyurl.com/BloomStages>

See <https://treefruit.wsu.edu/crop-protection/opm/> for images of orchard pests and info on less common pests.

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