

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
FACILITY USE GUIDELINES**

SUBJECT: Outdoor Use of Chalk, Paint, Colored Powders and Like Products

POLICY OF: Facility Use Committee

DATE: September 2019

BACKGROUND

Multiple campus departments are responsible for the upkeep and stewardship of the Campus landscape and buildings. In order to accomplish its mission, the University must enforce content-neutral time, place and manner measures to protect the safety of persons and property, promote efficient operations and maintain aesthetically pleasing and orderly facilities. The Campus proximity to Lake Mendota and the fragile ecosystem of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve demand that these areas are managed in an ecologically responsible manner.

While many paints and colored powders are labelled non-toxic, eventually all Campus storm water drains into Lake Mendota. These paints and colored powders can upset the delicate lake ecosystem.

Use of chalk on sidewalks affects the campus visual landscape. While plain sidewalk chalk is transitory, since it does wash off with wear and rain events, aerosol and oil-based chinks persist much longer.

Chalking (an act of writing or drawing messages using chalk) is illegal by law and the UW Administrative Code 18.08(9)(a) and Wisconsin State Statute 943.01 prohibit this activity. Inappropriate use of paints, colored powders or improper chalking is considered vandalism and potentially subject to fine or disciplinary action. However some chalking is allowed by the UW Police, UW FP&M and the Dean of Students, if the following restrictions are met and followed:

GUIDELINES

A. Use of Chalk

1. Chalking or any markers are not allowed on any vertical surface, building, courtyard areas, bridges, Lakeshore Path, underneath any overhang, outdoor furniture, snow covered surfaces, etc.
2. Aerosol chalk, paint or oil-based chalk are not allowed on any campus surface

3. Chalking is allowed on University sidewalks and streets using only water-soluble chalk.
4. The University may remove, without notice, any chalking that does not comply with University policies and regulations.

B. Use of Paints, Powders, or Sand

1. Use of paint by any unauthorized individuals, whether oil or water soluble, is not allowed on any campus surface and will be considered vandalism.
2. Use of powders or sand, colored or otherwise for recreation or educational events is not allowed, unless specifically authorized by the chief administrative officer.

C. Unauthorized use of Chalk, Paints, or Powders.

1. These products will be removed by the appropriate university department and the organizations or individuals responsible may be billed and/or fined. The responsible organization's privileges may be suspended temporarily or permanently.