British Columbia HHW Flammables Decision Tree

This Decision Tree is intended to be used to determine if liquids and aerosols are included in the British Columbia flammable liquids category ONLY. For other regulated materials in PCA’s BC programs, please review the BC Accepted Products List. Please note that there may be differences in the product classification criteria under the flammable liquids category in each of the provincial HHW stewardship programs. Therefore, the status of a product under one provincial stewardship program may not reflect its status under another provincial program.

STEP 1: Is your product listed below?
If yes, the product is NOT a designated material under the program and is excluded from the program. If no, the product may be included in the program; proceed to Step 2.

- Wine and distilled spirit beverages
- Cosmetic and beauty products
- Drugs, medicines and other health products
- Unpackaged products or products not ordinarily sold to, used or purchased by a consumer without repackaging
- Pre-packaged products produced for use by commercial or industrial enterprises without resale to other consumers as pre-packaged goods
- Products in the paint product category
- Coatings formulated for industrial or automotive use
- Pre-packaged kerosene in containers larger than 9 litres
- Product has a WHMIS or GHS label (symbol contained in red diamond)
- Windshield washer fluid
- Products sold in containers greater than 10 litres for flammable liquids or greater than 680 grams/24 ounces for aerosols

STEP 2: Is your product a pesticide (has a PCP number)?
If your product is a pesticide, then you should evaluate that product according to the pesticide material definition; see the Pesticide Category in the accepted products list here and do not proceed to Step 3. Otherwise, proceed to Step 3.
STEP 3:

1. The definition of flammable liquid applies to liquid intermediates or product concentrates in aerosols. The Consumer Chemicals and Containers Regulations, 2001 (CCCR) regulates hazard labelling for consumer products in Canada. Although the labelling criteria for flammable aerosols is dependent on flame projection and not flashpoint it is generally true that aerosol products with flammable symbol (having a flame projection of greater than 15 cm) would contain a product concentrate that meets the definition of a flammable liquid. In the event that flame projection does not accurately capture flammable liquid as defined in the BC Recycling Regulation, the flashpoint of the product concentrate will take precedence.

2. Flash point limit specified per BC Recycling Regulation. BC Recycling Regulation specifies for the flashpoint to be measured using the ASTM D1310 Tag Open Cup Test Method.

3. Exception: Products containing less than 50% water-miscible flammable liquid by volume with the remainder of the product not being flammable are excluded (with reference to the National Fire Code of Canada, 1990, as published by the National Research Council of Canada and cited in the BC Recycling Regulation).