Chlorothalonil is a fungicide that can be used on turf, ornamentals, vegetables, trees, small fruits, and other agricultural crops. It controls a wide range of fungi that cause plant disease. Formulations include concentrate, granule, and wettable powder, and the chemical also can be found in combination with other pesticides.

Potential hazards of chlorothalonil:

✦ Slightly toxic to mammals including people and pets.
✦ Highly toxic to fish, aquatic invertebrates, and marine organisms.
✦ Can cause severe eye and skin irritation.

Water quality issues:

Overall, chlorothalonil has a low potential for runoff or to contaminate groundwater. However, if there is sediment in the runoff, there is the chance that chlorothalonil can be carried with the sediment and into waterways.

Tips for keeping chlorothalonil out of water:

✦ Avoid spraying on hard surfaces, especially when water from irrigation or rain can wash the fungicide away.
✦ Avoid runoff by not overwatering.
✦ Apply only when needed.
✦ Use spot treatments to apply the fungicide only where it is needed.

Options to consider when pesticides are recommended:

✦ Always select the least toxic product that can solve the problem and consider nonchemical alternatives. Always use pesticides in an integrated pest management program that includes a combination of methods.
✦ See the UC IPM Web site, www.ipm.ucdavis.edu, for nonchemical or safer chemical control alternatives.

More about chlorothalonil:

✦ Chlorothalonil is a general-use, broad-spectrum fungicide.