

Pad-mounted equipment wrap policy

Part of our efforts to protect equipment from graffiti includes permission to install decorative wraps on pad mounted equipment. Successful applicants are responsible for initial costs, future maintenance and replacements of the wraps. This policy outlines the eligibility, requirements and responsibilities needed to qualify and install the wraps.

Who can apply

- municipal governments
- strata councils
- property managers
- businesses established for five years or more
- well-established and sustaining community groups
(e.g. Business Improvement Associations, Kinsmen, Lions or Rotary Clubs, Neighbourhood Associations, etc.)

Requests from individual homeowners or renters are not being accepted at this time.

Costs and responsibilities

1. The applicant is responsible for all associated costs of decorative wraps including submittals, design, approvals, installation and future maintenance of the wrap. This includes graffiti removal and removal of the wrap, in the future, if necessary.
2. Applicants must adhere to safety regulations and use qualified installers (see prerequisites) who have training to work around high voltage equipment.
3. The owner must sign a wrap agreement, which will remain valid for 10 years.

BC Hydro does not assume ownership or any costs associated with the wraps.

Design recommendations

Designs with a busy pattern can act as a graffiti deterrent and are strongly recommended. When choosing or designing a wrap, please ensure that the design doesn't contain any:

- third party logos or credits
- advertising
- offensive material, as determined by BC Hydro or the local municipality.

We reserve the right to reject any design we don't deem appropriate.



Figure 1: Unit labelling with wrap installed.

Safety for installers

Keep yourself and the public safe while working around pad-mounted electrical equipment by taking safety training for trades workers and following safety procedures.

What is pad-mounted electrical equipment?

Transformers and switches for underground electrical systems are sometimes installed above ground, bolted to a concrete pad and covered with a padlocked metal box (kiosk) to allow for easier installation and maintenance access. Pad-mounted equipment is safe to clean, wrap, or paint unless it has been damaged willfully, by accident, or by an act of nature. Broken, displaced, leaking, or vandalized equipment may not be safe or may need repair work.

How do I know if the equipment is safe?

Check that the equipment is:

- Locked with no signs of damage to enclosure
- Free of obvious signs of tampering or openings
- Sitting solidly and squarely on the concrete pad
- Free of oil leaks
- Free of major or structural rust (rust covers less than 1% of the surface)
- Free of large blistered or unpainted areas
- Free of visible structural defects
- Not hidden in overgrown vegetation

If any of these conditions above are present, contact us immediately.

Personal protection

- Take the mandatory electrical safety training for trades workers annually at [bchydro.com/safetytraining](https://www.bchydro.com/safetytraining).
- Before cleaning and painting kiosks, consult and follow the **Steel Structure Painting Council (SSPC) standards** for surface preparation.
- Ensure weather is suitable and you have enough daylight to complete the work.
- Wear protective clothing, eyewear and footwear.
- Read the labels and follow manufacturer recommendations to prevent exposure to chemicals.
- Do not sit or climb on kiosks.
- Do not use power tools to perform any of the work.
- Do not power wash the units during cleaning.
- Have a personal safety plan in case of emergency.

If you have any doubt about your electrical safety or that of others about to clean, paint, or wrap a pad-mounted kiosk, stop work and contact us immediately.

Resources

- Standards and Best Practice for Surface Preparation of Steel Structures at www.sspc.org
- Safety training sessions for trades workers [bchydro.com/safetytraining](https://www.bchydro.com/safetytraining)
- Working Safely Around Electricity at **WorksafeBC**

If there is an electrical emergency or injury, call 911 and 1 888 POWERON (769 3766) to have us shut off the power.

Installation requirements

Before beginning any wrap manufacturing or installation, all prerequisites must be met.

Prerequisites

- The installation contractor/company has at least five years experience wrapping equipment and/or vehicles.
- Each installer must have completed a **Safety Awareness for Trades Workers Course** (online or classroom training) sponsored by BC Hydro within the past 12 months. Find out more at bchydro.com/safetytraining.
- The applicant has a signed and valid wrap agreement with BC Hydro for the specific unit(s) being wrapped.

Unit inspection and preparation

Before installing the wrap, the installer must inspect and prepare the units to be wrapped by following these steps.

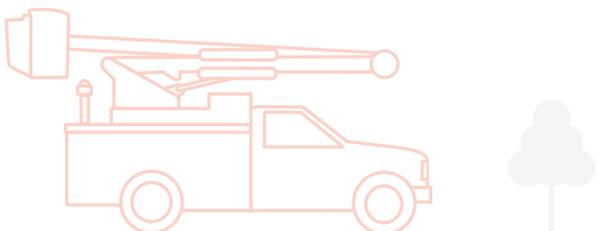
1. Inspect the unit for paint defects or damage, oil leaks, rust, broken locks, as well as any worn or missing identification and warning decals (see Figure 2). If any required decals are missing they must be replaced before the wrap can be applied.
2. Contact us at distributionmaintenancegraffitirequests@bchydro.com to report any damage to the equipment or to request new or replacement decals.
3. Before cleaning and painting, consult and follow Steel Structure Painting Council (SSPC) standards for surface preparation at www.sspc.org.
4. Remove worn decals and clean the equipment enclosure with products which don't damage the painted finish. Don't use any power tools or power washing equipment to clean the equipment surface.
5. Immediately after cleaning and removing any old decals, attach new identification and clearance warning decals in the previous locations or in a clearly visible location approved by us.

Required labels and decals include:

- yellow "Electrocution" decal
- red "Danger Keep Out" decal
- orange/blue "Warning call before you dig" decal
- equipment rating label
- colour tag
- unit ID number



Figure 2: Typical unit labelling



Installation procedures

Wrapping requirements and procedures are meant to protect our equipment and ensure that safety labels on the units are clearly visible after the wrap has been installed. None of these requirements are intended to override the warranties offered by the film and laminate manufacturer. If any of these requirements cause a conflict, the installer must let us know before beginning work.

- All wraps must be 3M™ Controltac™ Graphic Film with 3M™ Comply Adhesive™, IJ18OC-10, printed film covered with a 3M™ Scotchcal™ Gloss Overlamine 8528™.
- Follow the film and laminate manufacturer's recommendations.
- Ensure that decals and wraps are applied in dry conditions.
- The wrap must not cover any of the identification or warning decals (see Figure 2). The wrap must be cut out around the original warning and identification decals—warning labels or identification decals applied over the wrap or reproduced as part of the wrap graphic are not acceptable.
- The equipment ratings and colour tag must remain visible, if present. This can be done by providing cut-outs in the wrap, or by incorporating them into the graphic design.
- Existing BC Hydro logos may be removed or covered by the wrap.
- An additional layer of clear 3M™ Scotchcal™ Gloss Overlamine 8528™ may be applied over wrap cut out areas and warning, identification, if desired, to provide additional protection from peeling and water infiltration.
- To avoid equipment damage and injury, installers may not climb over or sit on the unit.
- Cutting the wrap on the equipment is allowed, however any evidence of scoring or surface damage on the unit will require us to remove the wrap and refinish the unit with costs charged to the wrap owner.
- Ensure all latches and locking devices are accessible after the wrapping process by cutting the wrap as required to maintain access.
- Keep the work area clear during the installation process and upon completion, with no scrap materials, supplies or tools left behind.
- Do not plant any vegetation around the newly wrapped unit.
- Photos of the completed wrap should be sent to wraaps@bchydro.com.

Inspections

We reserve the right to inspect the installation to confirm that it meets the above requirements. Wraps that do not meet the requirements will be brought to the attention of the owner for remediation.

Application review and wrap agreement

We'll review the photos, maintenance records and system improvement plans and advise you if the unit needs to be repaired or is scheduled to be replaced in the next 10 years.

If the unit is eligible and approved for wrapping, we'll require:

- A copy of the proposed graphic design to be printed on approved material 3M™ Controltac™ Graphic Film with 3M™ Comply Adhesive™, IJ180C-10, printed film covered with a 3M™ Scotchcal™ Gloss Overlamine 8528™. If an original design or trademarked material is used, written consent by the legal owner must be provided.
- Written approval from the local municipal government to use the graphic design (municipal requests excluded). Please contact your local city hall to arrange approval.
- The name and experience of the installer (i.e. number of years wrapping equipment and/or vehicles) who will manufacture and install the wrap, along with proof they have completed the required BC Hydro **Electrical Safety for Trades Workers** training program.
- A valid wrap agreement signed by the applicant and BC Hydro. Please note that the wrap agreement does not guarantee the unit won't be replaced within the 10 year term—units may be replaced due to unanticipated equipment damage or failure.
- Photos of each side of the unit after the wrap has been installed to ensure all identification and warning labels are clearly visible to workers and first responders.
- Copy of paid invoice, if applicable.

Contact us

Contact wraaps@bchydro.com, your Key Account Manager, or the **Community Relations representative** in your area for more information.

To report defects and damage to the equipment, or to request new decals for the kiosks, please contact distributionmaintenancegraffitirequests@bchydro.com.

