

Pesticide Facility Requirements

This fact sheet was prepared by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture to provide information on some of the state requirements for facilities which distribute, handle, use and dispose of pesticides or store them on their premises. This guidance is intended to supplement--not replace--Federal and State Laws and rules.

PESTICIDE STORAGE, SALES AND USE

1. Pesticides must be separated from food, feed, seed and other products and stored in a manner that prevents contamination which would cause injury or damage other products or materials.
2. Pesticide products cannot be stored near an open drain. If an open drain is present in a pesticide storage area, pesticides should be moved to a different location and secured in a nonflammable containment area such as a leakproof metal container or the drain should be permanently closed.
3. Always follow the pesticide label for proper storage, safety precautions and directions for use. The label is the law.
4. Small packaged pesticides being offered for sale must be in unopened and sealed containers.
5. Small packaged pesticides may only be stored in the original container.
6. All pesticides being distributed or offered for sale must be currently registered for use in Minnesota and in properly labeled containers.
7. A person may not allow any pesticide or pesticide rinsate to be stored, kept, or to remain on any site without safeguards adequate to prevent an incident.

WASTE PESTICIDES

Banned or old pesticides which are no longer registered for use in Minnesota must be securely stored and adequately safeguarded. These pesticides may not be used, sold or otherwise distributed. For information regarding disposal of unwanted, old and no longer registered, or banned pesticides, call your County's Household Hazardous Waste.

EMPTY PESTICIDE CONTAINERS

1. Unrinsed pesticide containers must be held in a secure and safeguarded area to prevent an incident from occurring.
2. Pesticide containers must be properly rinsed (triple or pressure rinsed) and then may be disposed of through reconditioning, recycling rinsed program, or disposal at a sanitary landfill (dependent upon type of container). Unrinsed or improperly rinsed containers cannot be legally disposed of in Minnesota.
3. Do not reuse empty pesticide containers.
4. Check with your pesticide retailer for pesticide container recycling options. Pesticide containers cannot be recycled through curbside or household recycling programs.
5. For detailed information contact your pesticide retailer or the MDA at (651) 201-6136

RINSATE DISPOSAL

All rinsate produced by rinsing of pesticide containers, washing of equipment, or changing chemicals must be disposed of by using the rinsate according to label directions. This can be accomplished by using the rinsate as "make-up" water in the tank mix or by applying the rinsate to a site as specified by product label directions.

BACKFLOW PREVENTION DEVICES

Firms must have an adequate backflow prevention device on their water supply when filling application equipment. MDA strongly recommends a backflow prevention device for rinsing pesticide containers at the facility. Backflow prevention device(s) must comply with the Minnesota Plumbing Code under Minnesota Rules. For more information, see the fact sheet Backflow Prevention Guidelines for Filling and Rinsing Fertilizer or Pesticide Application Tanks.

STORAGE OF BULK PESTICIDES

1. Bulk pesticides in containers of 56 to 499 gallons must be in containment that meets Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Pesticide Storage Rules, Parts 1505.3010 - 1505.3150.
2. Bulk pesticides in containers of 500 gallons or greater must be in containment and the person storing must obtain a pesticide storage permit (prior to any construction) from the commissioner as required by Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Pesticide Storage Rules, Part 1505.3010 - 1505.3150.
3. Loading and unloading of bulk liquid pesticides require a curbed load pad. See Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Storage Rules, Part 1505.3070.

INCIDENT RESPONSE PLAN

An incident response plan is required for those firms that have any of the following licenses:

- Bulk Pesticide Dealer's License
- Commercial Pesticide Applicator's License
- Commercial Aquatic Pest Control Company/ Applicator Licenses
- Structural Pest Control Company/Applicator Licenses
- Noncommercial Pesticide Applicator's License

RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

1. Small package pesticide containers should be stored on an impervious surface and off the floor.
2. Entrances to pesticide storage areas should be posted with warning signs.
3. A State Emergency Incident Notification placard should be posted at firm's place of business.
4. Pesticide storage areas should have sufficient lighting and be adequately ventilated.
5. Floor plan of pesticide storage area should be filed with the local fire department.
6. Schedule with the local fire department at least annual inspections or the pesticide storage facility.
7. A fire extinguisher rated for materials stored should be present in the pesticide storage area.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information contact: Greg Harding at 651/201-6274 or E-mail greg.harding@state.mn.us