**Required Atrazine Product Setbacks**

**Surface Water Setbacks for Atrazine Products**

- **Stream or River**: No atrazine application within 66 feet of points of runoff to rivers and streams.
- **Intertmittent Stream**: No atrazine application within 200 feet of lakes and reservoirs.
- **Lake or Reservoir**: No atrazine mixing or loading within 50 feet of surface water or wells.

**Fifty-foot Atrazine Product Setback for Wells and Sinkholes**

- **Wells and Sinkholes**: 50' setback.

**Sixty-six Foot Atrazine Product Setback for Terrace Inlet Standpipes**

- **Terrace Standpipe**: 66' setback.

Do not apply atrazine within 66 feet of any standpipe in a terraced field unless:
- Immediate incorporation to a 2-3 inch depth
- Or No-till is used with no residue removal

Atrazine products vary on this requirement. Follow label of product being used.

**READ THE LABEL!**

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Herbicide products containing atrazine have several setback requirements on their labels. This fact sheet defines the topographic features mentioned in the setback requirements. Refer to the label of all atrazine products for specific setback requirements.

### Products that contain atrazine cannot be:

- Mixed or loaded within 50 feet of intermittent streams, rivers, natural, or impounded lakes or reservoirs.
- Mixed, loaded, or applied within 50 feet of sinkholes and any well; including drinking water, irrigation, drainage, and abandoned wells.
- Applied (aerial or ground) within 66 feet of the points where field runoff (surface water) enters perennial or intermittent streams or rivers. The 66-foot setback must be planted to the crop or seeded with another suitable crop if the land is “highly erodible.”
- Applied within 200 feet of natural or impounded lakes or reservoirs. **Exception:** Farm ponds are excluded from this setback requirement if ponds are wholly located on a farmers land, are not used as a source of drinking water, and do not discharge into a perennial or intermittent stream, lake or river directly or through a clearly defined channel.
- Applied within 66 feet of a tile inlet, if the tile inlet is located within 66 feet and drains into a perennial or intermittent stream or river, or, the tile inlet is located in a terrace and drains to a perennial or intermittent stream or river. **Exception:** atrazine may be applied if immediately incorporated 2 – 3 inches and/or if the entire field is managed using a no-till system where little or no crop residue is removed.

### Using USGS maps to identify setbacks

United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographical maps can be used to identify potential areas which require application setbacks for atrazine products. These maps, commonly referred to as “topo maps,” designate location of lakes, reservoirs, rivers, perennial streams, intermittent streams, and depressions (sinkholes). USGS topographical maps do not designate location of tile inlets. Changes in rainfall and artificial drainage can result in differences between water bodies designated on USGS topographical maps and those which actually exist on the land. When not in agreement, actual conditions takes precedence over mapped conditions when determining application setbacks for atrazine products.

### Map feature definitions from the USGS

**INTERMITTENT STREAM**
A stream that is dry sometime during a normal year; usually flows only during wet periods, when it receives water from rainfall runoff or springs, or from surface sources such as melting snow.

**PERENNIAL STREAM**
A stream is a body of water flowing in a natural surface channel. Rivers are characterized by the presence of slope, riffles and pools.

**LAKES/PONDS**
Any impounded body of water, natural or artificially made.

**DEPRESSION (SINKHOLE)**
A depression in the landscape resulting from the dissolution of limestone, and the subsequent collapse of overlying soil and rock.

### USGS map resource sites

Pesticide applicators are advised to use 1:24,000 scale USGS topographical maps, also called 7.5-minute quadrangle maps, because they are the most accurate. These maps can be downloaded or purchased from [http://store.usgs.gov](http://store.usgs.gov), using the website’s “Map Locator” option. The “7.5 X 7.5” option should be selected when ordering or downloading maps to obtain maps in 1:24,000 scale (some maps are in 1:25,000 scale).


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For more information:
Call 651-201-6141 or go to: [www.mda.state.mn.us/herbicidebmps](http://www.mda.state.mn.us/herbicidebmps)

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In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, an alternative form of communication is available upon request.

TDD: 1-800-627-3529. The MDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider