

## Managing Waste Pesticide

### Details managing waste pesticide according to the Universal Waste Rule

#### Background

Waste pesticides can be managed using the streamlined management requirements of the "universal waste rule." Before the adoption of this rule, waste pesticides needed to be managed using the more stringent hazardous waste management rules. This fact sheet provides guidance to individuals who create and manage waste pesticides according to the universal waste rule.

For detailed information on the management of waste pesticides, refer to the Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) Chapter 340, Division 109. Universal waste rules are found in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 40, Part 273 and (OAR) Chapter 340, Division 113.

#### What is a "waste pesticide"?

For the purposes of this fact sheet, *waste pesticides* are defined as any pesticide-containing material that:

- Cannot or will not be used, and
- Will be discarded or disposed.

Waste pesticides can include, but are not limited to, unused or unusable:

- Pesticide products destined for disposal;
- Banned, canceled or recalled pesticide products;
- Surplus spray solutions, spray concentrate, dust or granules;
- Pesticide contaminated water produced by cleaning the interior surfaces of pesticide application equipment or by rinsing empty pesticide containers; and
- Empty, unrinsed pesticide containers.

Waste pesticides do not include pesticide-containing materials (*e.g.*, soil, carpet and foodstuffs) where pesticides are applied according to pesticide label instructions.

#### Managing waste pesticides

The following management requirements of waste pesticides, according to the universal waste rule, are designed to minimize releases of pesticide into the environment.

#### Tanks and containers

Waste pesticides must be managed in a container or tank that remains closed, structurally sound and is compatible with the waste. This can be the

original container that held the pesticide product when it was purchased. The container must not be leaking or damaged in a way that could cause leakage. Any container showing signs of leakage must be placed inside a larger container, suitable to contain any leakage.

#### Storage time limits

Persons generating waste pesticides may store them for up to one year after they decide to dispose of the pesticide.

#### Labeling

Containers holding waste pesticides must be labeled or marked with:

- The label that was on or accompanied the original product when it was sold. If the label is not available, the container must be marked with the appropriate label as required by the U.S. Department of Transportation Regulation 49 CFR Part 172,
- The words "Waste Pesticides," *and*
- The date the pesticide became a waste (state-only pesticide waste requirement).

#### Response to releases

A generator of waste pesticides must be able to respond to releases. Any release of waste pesticide must be immediately contained and transferred to an appropriate container.

A good way to remember the steps for a spill emergency is the "Three C's"- *Control, Contain, Cleanup*:

- *Control* the spill situation: protect yourself, stop the leak, protect others, and stay at the site.
- *Contain* the spill: confine the spill, protect water sources, absorb liquids, and cover dry materials.
- *Cleanup* clean up the spill: decontaminate the spill site, neutralize the spill site, decontaminate equipment, and decontaminate yourself.

**Note:** *The state reportable quantity for a spill of a pesticide is 1 pound. Spills of pesticides greater than 1 pound must be reported to the Oregon Emergency System (OERS) at 1-800-452-0311. Spills of pesticides greater than the federal reportable quantity (see 40 CFR Part 302 Table 302.4) must be reported to the National Response Center at 1-800-424-8802.*



State of Oregon  
Department of  
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Quality

**Waste Prevention &  
Management  
Hazardous Waste**  
811 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204  
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(800) 452-4011  
Fax: (503) 229-6977  
Contact: Rick Volpel  
[www.deq.state.or.us](http://www.deq.state.or.us)

## Where must the waste be disposed?

Waste pesticides managed according to the universal waste management requirements must be transported to the following sites for management or disposal prior to the end of the one-year storage limit:

- A site or facility that has registered with DEQ as a pesticide collection program, or
- A permitted hazardous waste facility.

## Transporting waste pesticides

Generators may self transport their waste pesticides to a registered collection event or facility. Transportation should be done with prior approval from the collection program or facility. Transporting waste pesticides according to the universal waste rule in Oregon does not require a hazardous waste manifest. However, applicable Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations must be observed.

## Deciding where to send your waste pesticides

When deciding to send waste pesticides to a pesticide collection program or to a hazardous waste management facility, you should know how your waste will be managed. You should feel assured that the waste will be managed properly and your potential liability, if the waste is mismanaged, is minimized.

Before you transport your waste to a collection site or facility, you should know the following:

- How the waste will be managed, stored and transported;
- How long will the waste be stored before it will be treated or disposed;
- How the waste will be treated or disposed of; and
- How you will know that the waste has been properly treated or disposed of.

## Recommended safety practices

*Note: No safety precautions and protective measures can be suggested that eliminate risks. However, here are some suggestions that may assist you in minimizing exposure as you manage waste pesticides.*

## For handling waste pesticides

Inspect waste containers and bags. If, upon inspection you have reason to suspect that a container or bag will tear or rupture when moved, do not attempt to move or load for transport. Notify collection site personnel for assistance.

Wear the protective clothing and protective equipment (*e.g.*, goggles, gloves, respirator, *etc.*) described on product labels when handling waste pesticides.

Use the respiratory protection described on product labels. If you suspect that any of the older chemicals or unlabeled chemicals are highly volatile or are packaged under pressure, consider the need for appropriate respiratory protection.

In the event that the waste pesticides are not labeled, the product label is not legible or the product label does not contain a “Hazardous to Humans and Domestic Animals” panel with protective clothing information, wear protective clothing that you would normally wear when applying pesticides. At a minimum, wear a long sleeved shirt with sleeves buttoned at the wrist, a pair of chemical resistant gloves, preferably a chemically resistant apron, rubber boots, goggles or full face shield and a wide brimmed hat.

Have spill control materials available (*e.g.*, a 10-pound bag of commercially available safety absorbent, a shovel and a container for spilled material collected with the absorbent and any contaminated soil). These may be useful in control and cleanup of a spill involving a small amount of waste pesticides.

*Note: Handle all waste and unused pesticide containers and bags with care to minimize the possibility of container rupture and loss of the material.*

## For transporting waste pesticides:

- Inspect all waste pesticides to ensure that they are securely packaged. Only transport containers that are securely closed. Containers that cannot be securely closed should be packed within containers that can be securely closed.
- Line the storage area of the transport vehicle with plastic sheeting to contain any spillage that might occur, and therefore, minimize any cleanup or decontamination.
- If possible arrange the waste pesticides by hazard class (*i.e.*, flammable, corrosives, oxidizers, poisons, *etc.*) to prevent mixing of incompatible materials should spillage occur.
- Assure all labels are securely attached. Unlabeled containers can result in greater expense for testing before disposal. Attention on your part to this detail can minimize your disposal costs. Management as a universal waste requires the product label be attached to containers.

- Arrange waste containers in your vehicle so that they are braced to prevent shifting which may result in container damage and/or leakage.
- All waste containers should be kept dry during transport. Loads in open vehicles such as pick-up trucks should be covered in the event of rainfall.
- Do not transport waste pesticides in a manner that will allow fumes from those wastes to enter the passenger compartment of the transportation vehicle.
- Make a list of the waste pesticides that you are transporting. Include on the list the name(s) of the pesticide, number of containers and hazard class (when known). In addition, include the emergency telephone numbers for fire and police assistance. Make another copy of that list. In case of an accident leave one copy on the driver's seat and take the second copy with you to the telephone for help. The copy you leave is in case emergency services arrive while you are away seeking assistance.
- Drive directly to the pesticide collection site or facility after you load your vehicle.
- If at the collection site, proceed to the line to which a designated project representative directs you. If you observe spillage from your vehicle while waiting in line at the collection center, get out of your vehicle and move upwind to the designated "safe zone."
- **DRIVE CAREFULLY.** You are responsible for any spillage, damage, subsequent cleanup and restoration that might occur while you are transporting the wastes, whether the accident is your fault or someone else's. You are responsible for any spillage that occurs before the waste is accepted at the collection site

#### **For more information**

For specific regulatory guidance, you are encouraged to refer to the actual rule that is available from the DEQ. Rules and fact sheets are available under the hazardous waste section of the DEQ's web site at <http://www.deq.state.or.us>.

Fact sheets and other information can be obtained from the DEQ by contacting the nearest DEQ office listed below:

Eastern Region  
*Bend (541) 388-6146*  
*Pendleton (541) 276-4063*

Northwest Region  
*Portland (503) 229-5263*

Western Region  
*Salem (503) 378-8240, ext. 253*  
*Roseburg (541) 440-338, ext. 230*  
*Medford (541) 776-6010, ext. 227*

#### **Additional sources of information**

The following is a list of contacts that may be useful sources of information for the management of waste pesticides:

*Oregon Agricultural Chemicals and Fertilizers Association (OACFA)*  
*503-370-7024*

*Oregon Association of Nurserymen*  
*800-342-6401*

*Oregon Department of Agriculture Plant Division*  
*503-986-4638*

*Oregonians for Food and Shelter*  
*503-370-8092*

*Oregon State University Agricultural Chemistry Dept.*  
*Attn.: Extension Pesticide Coordinator*  
*541-737-1811*

*Western Wood Preservers Institute*  
*360-693-9958*

#### **Alternative Formats**

*Alternative formats of this document can be made available. Contact the DEQ Office of Communications and Outreach for more information (503) 229-5696.*