

Pesticide Storage Fact Sheet

Read your pesticide label(s) for specific storage instructions. Remember, the label is the law!

Keep pesticides in their original containers. Never store pesticides in any food or drink containers, even temporarily. Unmarked containers can be a risk to people, as they do not have additional health precautions or PPE instructions.

Keep out of reach of children! Storing pesticides at heights inaccessible to children will help to limit incidents.

Store pesticides in cool, dry areas.

- Proper storage minimizes the risk to people and animals and helps to prolong product shelf-life
- Never store pesticides near food, drinking water, medical supplies, PPE not included in spill kits, or application equipment

Keep emergency contact information and safety data sheets (SDS) ready.

Keep your spill kit in good condition. Items to consider for a spill kit:

- Phone numbers for emergency assistance
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) for use with pesticides
- Absorbent materials such as spill tubes, cat litter
- Shovel, broom, and dustpan
- Heavy duty detergent

First aid equipment, including eye wash stations, wash soap and water, and clean towels should be easily accessible in a known location, but not in the pesticide storage area.

Lock your storage area. This helps prevent access to unauthorized people.

Storage areas located outdoors should not have dense vegetation surrounding it, because this vegetation could increase fire risk.

Avoid storing pesticides near storm drains and sewer systems. Spills near these sites could harm the environment and contaminate drinking water.

Storage areas should not be located near a flood zone, nor have porous surfaces.

Separate and label sections in storage areas for each category (e.g., herbicides, insecticides, fungicides). This separation can help prevent the mixing of incompatible pesticides.

Store dry pesticides above liquids, to prevent contamination in case of a spill.

Provide sufficient containment for leaks. Putting pesticides in storage bins or trays can limit the spread of spills or leaks.

Pesticide storage areas should be constructed in such a manner to be secure, well ventilated, well lit, and not located near ignition sources, water bodies, or wells.

In case of a fire or an accident, communicate the quantity and the name of pesticides stored on site. Notify first responders where you keep pesticides on site. Use signs in accordance with NFPA 704 to show buildings that contain chemicals.

For more information about the storage of hazardous chemicals, consult Oregon Administrative Rules [437-004-1680](#)

In the advent of an accidental release or fire, call 911

For accidental spills, contact Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (number?)

Call **Oregon Poison Center** for emergency information regarding pesticide exposures, **1-800-222-1222**

Call the **National Pesticide Information Center** for non-emergency information about pesticides, **800-858-7378**