

Disposing of Waste Pesticide Products

After a number of years, it is not uncommon to accumulate full or partially full containers of pesticide products that you no longer need or want. When disposing of pesticide products, it must be done in a legal and safe manner. Pesticide products and application related wastes, such as rinse water (rinsates), that are improperly disposed of may present



health risks for people and pets, or environmental risks to water, soil, and wildlife.

To dispose of unwanted pesticide products, contact ODA or DEQ for information about where and when you can drop off the products. There are periodic drop-off events throughout the state. Contact the product manufacturer for more disposal information.

ODA or DEQ sponsored disposal events, do not accept pesticide rinsates. A rinsate is pesticide-containing water (or other liquid) that results from cleaning application equipment or rinsing out pesticide containers. Rinsates may be applied to a labeled site, at a rate which does not exceed the application rate (lbs. active ingredient per acre/unit) on the product label.

Pesticide Disposal FACT SHEET

Reducing Pesticide Solution Accumulation

When preparing a pesticide solution (concentrated product plus water and possibly other ingredients), mix only the amount needed for the application. Should you have left-over solution, apply the excess according to the label. Do not store mixed pesticides in a sprayer. It is not advisable to store pesticide solutions because settling or changes in composition may occur. However, if a pesticide solution needs to be temporarily stored because of an unforeseen event and it is not disallowed on the label, it should be stored in a labeled, dated and secure nonfood container.



Empty Container Disposal

If allowed by the label, **empty** pesticide containers must be triple rinsed to ensure that residue is removed from the container. Once containers have been triple rinsed, remove the label and puncture the container

to prevent re-use. Water used to rinse out pesticide containers also needs to be disposed of properly. If improperly disposed of, rinsate can contaminate the environment, including ground and surface waters. Contaminated water could also be consumed by pollinators and other wildlife.



If properly cleaned, some containers may be recyclable. Contact your local recycling program for more information. If possible, recycling is the best management option as the container is not wasted and the container is removed from the user's property. Contact Oregon DEQ for more information about your county's solid-waste management agency. Or, visit: agriplasinc.com.



Spills/Leaks

Following a spill/leak of pesticides, the materials used to clean up the spill must also be disposed of properly to minimize the environmental risks. Absorbent materials used to contain spills/leaks should be collected and placed in a bucket or container



for disposal. Review the product's Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for information about the type of container to use. This also includes clothing that has been contaminated by pesticides. Contaminated clothing can often be disposed of in the trash.

Conclusion



WHAT TO DO

- **Read the label!** Each label will have disposal instructions with specific requirements.
- Read the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for additional information.
- Properly dispose of unwanted pesticides and pesticide containers
- **Only mix the amount of pesticide solution that you need.**

- **Re-use** rinse water by using it to dilute the next batch of the formulated product, or
- **Apply** rinsate to treated areas or sites listed on pesticide labels

WHAT NOT TO DO



- Do not dump pesticides, including rinsates on the ground. There are no labels which allow for pit disposal by pesticide users.
- Do not allow pesticides, including rinsates to contaminate septic systems, ground water or surface water. This includes, not pouring pesticides down sanitary drains or storm drains.
- Do not burn pesticides or pesticide containers.



Need more info?

First, review the disposal instructions on the label. If you still have questions or need clarification the product label may list specific contacts for help. Also, one may contact the manufacturer or the **National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC)** at **800.858.7378** (npic@ace.orst.edu).

Contact ODA at 503.986.4635 to find free local state sponsored waste collection events.

Call **Oregon Poison Center** for emergency information regarding pesticide exposures, 800.222.1222

ODA's storage and disposal webpage (<https://oda.direct/PesticideStorageDisposal>)

NPIC (Disposal: <http://npic.orst.edu/health/disposal.html>)

