

PREVENTION

Obsolete, unwanted and banned pesticides are serious environmental hazards. The best way to prevent stockpiling future obsolete pesticides is to buy the right product and only enough for a given job.

Here's how:

- Know your pest. Not sure? Visit GotPests.org or call the University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Pest Management Office at 1-800-287-0279.
- Make sure the product you buy controls the pest. If the pest is not listed on a product's label, the product is not for you!
- Avoid buying volume to save money. The dollar or two saved today can later cost hundreds in hazardous waste disposal fees.
- Surplus pesticides can be difficult to store properly.
- Keep products in good condition. Don't let liquids freeze or moisture damage dry materials.
- Give recently purchased pesticides you no longer need to someone who does. **The best way to dispose of a pesticide is to use it according to its labeled directions.**



...and remember, when using any pesticide product *always*...



READ THE LABEL FIRST !

The label tells you...

- how to use the product effectively and with the least personal and environmental risk.
- how to store and dispose of the product.
- how to give first aid.
- where to call for help or more information.

All products do not work in every situation. Labels explain what a product is meant to do and how it should be used. Before buying a product you must correctly identify the pest you are trying to treat.



MAINE BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL

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ANNUAL OBSOLETE PESTICIDE COLLECTION PROGRAM



The program:

The Board of Pesticides Control (BPC) and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) provide Maine citizens with a responsible, *free* solution to their obsolete pesticide problem.

Once a year, the BPC and DEP collect obsolete, banned, or otherwise unusable pesticides for secure disposal.

The program is available to homeowners, family owned farms and greenhouses.

ANNUAL OBSOLETE PESTICIDE COLLECTION PROGRAM

How to participate

1. Obtain an Obsolete Pesticide Inventory Form from the BPC website, or call us to have one sent to you.
2. Fill out the form completely. Describe unidentified products in as much detail as possible.
3. Store pesticides properly until the date of the collection. The BPC will contact you several weeks prior to the drive to inform you of your local collection date and location. Travel directions, a map, transport instructions and two copies of shipping papers will be mailed to you 10 days before your collection date.
4. Safely pack and transport your pesticides to the assigned site on the collection date at the appropriate time.

Signed up but unable to make the collection date? No problem. Give the BPC a call to inquire about other arrangements

Proper pesticide storage

- Keep pesticides high, dry, and locked away from kids and pets.
- Dry materials should be free of moisture and wrapped in heavy duty plastic bags.
- Liquids in glass bottles require no special attention other than to store beyond the reach of children.
- If a bottle, bag, or other container leaks, is rusty, or otherwise unsound, call DEP for advice on proper cleanup at 800-452-8735.



Transporting safely

Until the day of the collection program, safe storage practices remain the best way to prevent an environmental or health crisis from occurring in your backyard.

- Dry materials should be free of moisture, wrapped in heavy duty plastic bags, and placed in a cardboard box or plastic bucket.
- Never transport pesticides in the interior of your vehicle. Use the truck bed or the car trunk and brace items to prevent shifting during travel.
- Keep one copy of the shipping papers in the vehicle and the other on yourself in case an accident requires you leave the vehicle and inform authorities. Note phone numbers for fire and police.
- Drive directly to the pesticide site after you load your vehicle
- Drive carefully, please! You are responsible for any spills and the associated clean-up costs.