

## **Chemical Safety Items, Materials and Storage**

When handling chemicals proper eye and skin protection such as chemical resistant goggles, gloves, long sleeved shirt, long pants, socks and shoes are recommended. Chemical-resistant gloves, such as, Barrier Laminate, Nitrile Rubber, Neoprene Rubber or Viton are common. After handling, thoroughly wash with soap and water. Avoid contact with skin, eyes and clothing. If chemicals contaminate clothing, remove contaminating and wash.

Most pyrethrin and permethrin products are toxic to fish and other aquatic invertebrates. Avoid placing spray nozzles near lakes, rivers, streams, ponds or other fish habitats.

Improper pesticide storage and disposal can be hazardous to human health and the environment. Follow these safety recommendations:

- Don't stockpile. Reduce storage needs by buying only the amount of pesticide that you will need in the near future or during the current season when the pest is active.
- Follow all storage instructions on the pesticide label.
- Store pesticides high enough so that they are out of reach of children and pets. If possible, keep all pesticides in a locked cabinet in a well-ventilated utility area or garden shed.
- Never store pesticides in cabinets with or near food, animal feed or medical supplies.
- Store flammable liquids outside your living area and far away from an ignition source such as a furnace, a car, an outdoor grill, or a power lawn power.
- Always store pesticides in their original containers, which include the label listing ingredients, directions for use, and first aid steps in case of accidental poisoning.
- Never transfer pesticides to soft drink bottles or other containers. Children or others may mistake them for something to eat or drink.
- Use child-resistant packaging correctly - close the container tightly after using the product. Child resistant does not mean child proof, so you still must be extra careful to store properly - out of children's reach - those products that are sold in child-resistant packaging.
- Do not store pesticides in places where flooding is possible or in places where they might spill or leak into wells, drains, ground water, or surface water.
- If you can't identify the contents of the container, or if you can't tell how old the contents are safely dispose the contents and container.

## **Safe Disposal of Insecticides**

- The best way to dispose of small amounts of excess pesticides is to use them - apply them - according to the directions on the label. If you cannot use them, ask your neighbors whether they have a similar pest control problem and can use them.
- If all the remaining pesticide cannot be properly used, check with your local solid waste management authority, environmental agency, or health department to find out whether your community has a household hazardous waste collection program or a similar program for getting rid of unwanted, leftover pesticides. These authorities can also inform you of any local requirements for pesticide waste disposal.
- State and local laws regarding pesticide disposal may be stricter than the Federal requirements on the label. Be sure to check with your state or local agencies before disposing of your pesticide containers.
- If the container is partly filled, contact your local solid waste agency.
- If the container is empty, do not reuse it. Place it in the trash, unless the label specifies a different procedure.
- Do not pour leftover pesticides down the sink, into the toilet, or down a sewer or street drain. Pesticides may interfere with the operation of wastewater treatment systems or pollute waterways. Many municipal systems are not equipped to remove all pesticide residues. If pesticides reach waterways, they may harm fish, plants, and other living things.