



PESTICIDE DISPOSAL PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Pesticide Disposal Program?

The Pesticide Disposal Program is a voluntary program that provides farmers and producers with an opportunity to safely dispose of any unwanted, unused, banned, or expired pesticide materials at no cost.



Where will the program be conducted?

This is a statewide program that covers all 23 counties and Baltimore City.

How will I know about the status of the program?

Registration forms are available at mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/pages/pesticide_regulation.aspx or from the Maryland Department of Agriculture and the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension and must be submitted to the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) by September 15, 2021. Final collection of the pesticides will be targeted for completion by December 31, 2021.

Who can participate in the disposal program?

The program is available to **ALL** farmers or producers, such as orchardists, Christmas tree growers, nurserymen, and greenhouse operators, current or retired. In addition, retired farmers or individuals who have purchased farms which have large quantities of pesticides are eligible. Pesticide dealers, commercial applicators and homeowners with household pesticides are not eligible.

How do you participate?

Contact your county Cooperative Extension office or MDA to receive a disposal registration form. Complete the form listing the name and amount of each pesticide you want to dispose of and return the form to Maryland Department of Agriculture, Pesticide Regulation Section, 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, Maryland, 21401, (410-841-5710). If assistance is needed to fill out the form, MDA can help.

Which materials will be accepted?

MDA will accept any pesticide product with an EPA or USDA registration number and any material that can be identified as a pesticide. MDA will handle requests for identification. Fertilizers, antifreeze, motor oil, etc., will **NOT** be accepted.

How much does it cost to participate?

FREE. There is no cost to participate.

What is the expected timeline of the program?

The program will accept applications from March 15 - September 15. Upon review of your application, an MDA inspector will be in contact to schedule a site visit where they will verify information included on the registration form. Once the program has a complete inventory of material for disposal, it will contract a licensed hazardous waste hauler to transport from the storage site to an approved disposal facility. Pickups are expected to begin in October. Final collection of the pesticides will be targeted for completion by December 31, 2021.

What will MDA do with the information listed on the registration form?

MDA field personnel will verify the registration form by visiting the pesticide storage site and tagging products listed for disposal. Large quantities of unknown or unidentified materials will be sampled for analysis by MDA chemists. A list of pesticides registered for disposal and total amounts will be compiled by MDA staff for each site.

Will any agency besides MDA know who registered for the program?

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) regulates the disposal of hazardous waste, including waste pesticides. MDE is responsible for tracking disposal of these materials and will issue a disposal permit to MDA for only those sites registered in the disposal program that exceed 10,000 pounds of unwanted pesticides.

How will pesticides be collected and disposed?

MDA will contract with a licensed hazardous waste hauler who will overpack the pesticides and collect them directly from the storage site. The pesticides will be transported by the hauler to an EPA approved incinerator or hazardous waste landfill for disposal. **NOTE: MDA inspectors cannot collect unusable pesticides.**

Will participants of the program be subject to enforcement action by MDA or MDE?

The disposal program is strictly voluntary with no regulatory impacts. It is not a violation of state or federal laws to possess an unwanted, unusable, banned or outdated pesticide. MDA field personnel will visit storage sites only to verify registration forms (products, quantity). A participant may withdraw from the program at any time for any reason.

How can participants help make the disposal program a success?

Participants can accurately list the names and amounts of pesticides they want to dispose of and provide cropping or use information (crop or pest) on "unknown materials" to help identify them. Participants can also cooperate with MDA personnel and the contract hauler to promptly schedule inspections and collections to quickly complete the program.

Where can additional information be obtained?

Contact the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Pesticide Regulation Section at (410) 841-5710 or visit the section's website. You can also contact your county's University of Maryland Cooperative Extension office.

Maryland Department of Agriculture

Pesticide Regulation Section

50 Harry S. Truman Pkwy | Annapolis, MD 21401

Phone: (410) 841-5710

www.mda.maryland.gov