

From: WSDA Pesticide/SPI Licensing <pesticideneews@agr.wa.gov>

February 11, 2015

Dear Pesticide License Holder,

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) Waste Pesticide Program is planning to hold events in Eastern Washington in April and May 2015 to collect unusable and unwanted pesticides. Please contact WSDA by **February 27** to notify us that you wish to dispose of pesticides at one of these spring events. Collection events will be scheduled as needed. The event locations will be determined, largely by the where the people who contact WSDA are located. Once events are scheduled, Program staff will notify potential customers and provide them with additional details about the collection event, time and location.

As a reminder, WSDA operates the Waste Pesticide Identification and Disposal Program. The Program collects unusable agricultural and commercial grade pesticides from residents, farmers, small businesses and public agencies **free of charge**. Events are held at locations across Washington State where customers can take their unusable pesticides for proper disposal. The Program's goal is to help Washingtonians properly dispose of unused or unusable pesticides to prevent human and animal exposure, prevent use of cancelled pesticides on crops and to eliminate the potential source of environmental contamination. Proper disposal is also a requirement for growers seeking Good Agricultural Practices certification.

Until 2012, WSDA would schedule and announce pesticide collection events and interested people would contact WSDA to sign-up for an event and then submit a disposal inventory. **Now**, collection events are scheduled, based in part, upon pre-determined customer interest. You can now apply any time throughout the year to participate in a collection event by visiting the Program's web site agr.wa.gov/wastepesticide to obtain a disposal inventory form and then "apply for pesticide disposal" by submitting a completed inventory form to the Program. Go to the website and/or contact the Program when you have a disposal need. Do not wait for WSDA to announce a collection event.

To participate in these April and May events, all that you need to do by February 27 is to contact WSDA and let us know that you are interested. We will work with you during March to obtain a pesticide disposal inventory. However, if you already know what you wish to dispose, simply email your completed disposal inventory form to WSDA at wastepesticide@agr.wa.gov and you will be signed up. Those who have already submitted inventories are signed up and will be contacted by WSDA in March with event details.

To sign up, either visit the WSDA Waste Pesticide Program website, send e-mail to wastepesticide@agr.wa.gov or call 1-877-301-4555 (toll free).

If you do not feel safe or are uncomfortable handling the pesticides, have containers larger than 5-gallons with unknown contents or more than seven containers of any size with unknown contents, please contact

WSDA and request on-site assistance. Upon request, the Program will provide on-site assistance at **no charge** to safely inventory your unwanted chemicals and overpack dangerous items and containers in poor condition (cracked, corroded or leaking). The Program also provides clear, plastic overpack bags at no charge. In certain circumstances, WSDA may be able to arrange collection of unusable pesticides directly from your property.

Whenever you are in need of pesticide disposal services, you may now visit our website for 24-hours per day self-service. Download a fillable inventory form and instructions from the website by clicking on the following links to the [inventory form](#) and the [instructions document](#). If you do not know a container's contents, simply write "unknown" on the inventory form. Once completed, email the form to WSDA at WastePesticide@agr.wa.gov. Upon receipt of your inventory form, the application process is over and we will send a confirmation of receipt to your email address. If you need assistance during the application process, contact the Program via email at WastePesticide@agr.wa.gov or by telephone toll free at 1-877-301-4555 or directly at 360-902-2056.

Program staff will screen your inventory for materials that may need special handling or do not qualify for disposal by WSDA. Staff will contact you at a later date to reserve a space for you in an upcoming collection event. If you have requested clear plastic bags (list them on the inventory form), they are shipped to you after your inventory is processed.

This Program only collects unusable/unwanted agricultural and commercial grade pesticides. Materials such as fertilizers, micronutrients, motor oil and Household Hazardous Wastes (HHW) are not accepted at WSDA collections; however, most Washington State counties have HHW and small business programs. To find out more about disposal/recycling of other materials, contact your local solid waste program or visit the [Earth 911 website](#), click on "recycle search" and enter your zip code and follow the site's instructions to determine your local disposal and recycling options.

You can find "Answers to Frequently Asked Questions" on the WSDA website at <http://agr.wa.gov/pestfert/pesticides/wastepesticide#FAQ>.

In addition to WSDA's Waste Pesticide Identification and Disposal Program, Agri-Plas Inc., operates a statewide empty plastic pesticide [Container Recycling Program](#). Their email address is recycle@agriplasinc.com. The [Agricultural Container Recycling Council](#) sponsors a national pesticide container-recycling program and is an excellent source for container recycling information.

WSDA Program Contact Information:

Website: agr.wa.gov/wastepesticide

E-mail: WastePesticide@agr.wa.gov

Phone: Call toll free 1-877-301-4555,
select option 1 for English, then option 5 for Pesticide Disposal
or select option 2 for Spanish. Alternatively, dial direct (360) 902-2056.

Mail: WSDA PESTICIDE DISPOSAL PROGRAM
PO BOX 42589
OLYMPIA WA 98504-2589

To date, the Waste Pesticide Identification and Disposal Program has safely disposed of nearly 3 million pounds of unusable pesticides from over 7,700 customers since the program was initiated in 1988, (385 lbs/customer average). WSDA thanks you for your interest in pesticide stewardship, proper disposal of unused products and recycling your empty containers!

Sincerely,
WSDA Waste Pesticide Identification and Disposal Program Team
WA State Dept. of Agriculture
PO BOX 42589
OLYMPIA WA 98504-2589
Web: agr.wa.gov/wastepesticide
Email: wastepesticide@agr.wa.gov
Telephone: 360-902-2056
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