



COLORADO ENVIRONMENTAL PESTICIDE EDUCATION PROGRAM

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PESTICIDE SECURITY

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This fact sheet deals with security of pesticides for applicators and dealers.

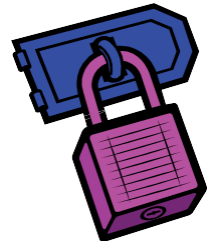
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Pesticide Security

As pesticide applicators, dealers, and distributors, we need to pay particular attention to our activities in regard to pesticide security. Pesticide products could be used intentionally to harm our citizens and therefore, we all need to remain vigilant and follow a few important precautions to safeguard and secure all pesticide products.

Private Applicators

- Pesticide products should always be kept in a secured storage area that is not accessible by any person other than the applicator or grower. This is not only good practice for safety reasons, but locked storage will keep unauthorized persons from altering a pesticide or stealing the products.
- The best option is to purchase only the pesticides you will need for a season. However, even with the best planning, you may have unused or leftover pesticides. If you do have unusable pesticides, either dispose of them properly or call Colorado CHEMSWEEP for assistance (888-AG-CHEM2).
- Do not sell or give pesticides to someone that you do not know. Remember that pesticide products could be used in any number of ways to cause harm to citizens. Poisoning water supplies or food commodities are examples.
- Make sure that all of your application equipment (including tanks, pumps, and sprayers) are securely locked or stored in areas that make theft difficult.



Commercial Applicators

- Follow all mandated storage requirements for pesticide storage listed in the [Rules and Regulations](#) pertaining to the [Colorado Pesticide Applicators' Act](#).
- Ensure that you limit the access to your pesticide storage areas to only authorized persons/employees.
- Make sure that all pesticide products are properly inventoried on a regular basis.

- Equipment security is essential. Application equipment including aerial application, mosquito abatement, and other pest control applications may be used as weapons.

Pesticide Dealers and Distributors

- Follow all requirements for pesticide storage listed in the Colorado Pesticide Applicators' Act Rules and Regulations.
- Ensure that you limit the access to your pesticide storage areas to authorized persons/employees.
- Make sure that all pesticides products are properly inventoried on a regular basis.
- Check the pesticide license information of the buyer. Remember that pesticide dealers may not sell any restricted-use pesticide to persons that do not have a valid private or commercial applicator license. Applicators must be properly licensed in a category in which the pesticide will be used.
- Be suspicious of anyone purchasing a large amount of highly toxic pesticides with cash.
- If you have any questions concerning the validity of a pesticide license, please contact the [Colorado Department of Agriculture](#) at (303) 239-4140.

Pesticide Security is Everyone's Responsibility!

- Always store pesticides in a locked, secure facility. Assure that locks are tamper-resistant and in top working order (see Pesticide Fact Sheet [Proper Pesticide Storage](#)).
- Limit access to your pesticide storage. Be aware of who has keys and access to storage areas.
- Post all storage areas (i.e., "Pesticides - Keep Out").
- Post names, addresses, and telephone numbers for contact persons at the primary entrance to the storage area (list at least two people, if possible).
- Regularly inspect storage areas.
- Keep inventory records current and readily available.
- Do not keep excess inventory. Purchase only what you can use in the next week or month.
- Sell pesticides only to authorized persons/applicators.
- Secure all pesticide application equipment.
- Make sure that you have the appropriate personal protective equipment for all persons/employees.

- Report any suspicious activity.
- Report any theft of pesticides or equipment immediately!

References and Resources:

Idaho State Department of Agriculture. 2001. *Pesticide Updates! Emergency Alert! Pesticide Security*, Special Issue, October 5, 2001. Division of Agricultural Resources, Idaho State Department of Agriculture, Boise, ID.

Schulze, L.D. 2001. *The Label*, Vol. 13, No. 8. Pesticide Education Office, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE.

Whitney, S.P. 2001. *Safe and Secure Pesticide Storage*, Pesticide Storage Notes, Pesticide Safety Program, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension, Newark, DE.

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