

Rinsing and Recycling Plastic Pesticide Containers

The Empty Pesticide Collection and Recycling Program was developed to save a resource from being thrown away and to provide pesticide users with an alternative method of disposing of empty pesticide containers. Plastic pesticide containers can be recycled providing the containers have been rinsed and are free of pesticides. The plastic from the collected containers is mixed with new plastic to make other pesticide containers.

Rinsing Pesticide Containers is IMPORTANT!

By effectively rinsing pesticide containers, the following happens.

- Saves money; puts all the pesticide and rinsate into the spray tank where it can be used.
- Protects the environment from a potential source of contamination.
- Complies with state and federal regulations on pesticide use.

Common Problems that cause pesticide to remain in or on a container making it unacceptable for recycling.

- The pesticide container was allowed to dry before being rinsed. The dried product is very difficult to remove by normal rinsing. Pesticide containers need to be rinsed as soon as they are emptied.
- Inadequate time was allowed for the rinsate to drain out of the container. The rinsate often contains pesticide.
- The outside of the container was not cleaned. Pesticides sometimes splash or spill onto the outside of the container. The spilled material must be cleaned off. Pay special attention to the threads in the cap area.

For information about the Empty Pesticide Container Collection and Recycling Program contact:

Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Agronomy Services
90 West Plato Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55107

Telephone: (612) 296-5136; FAX: (612) 297-2271
TDD (612) 297-5353



Some of the MGCSA members enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and conversation after the mixer.

1995 Metro Area Empty Pesticide Container Collections

Date	Location	Time
Carver County		
July 11	Mid-County Co-op, Cologne	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
July 12	Waconia Farm Supply, Waconia	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
July 13	Hennepin Co. Shop, Burschville (Cty. Rd. 10&19)	8:30 a.m.-noon
Dakota County		
July 13	Farmers Mill, Castle Rock	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
July 14	Cenex, Hampton	9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Aug. 10	Central Rivers Co-op, Isanti	8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Anoka County		
Aug. 15	Lino Lakes City Hall 1189 Main St. (Cty.Rd. 14)	8:00 a.m.-noon
Aug. 16	Burns Twsp. Recycling Ctr. Cty. Rd. 5 & 65	noon-4:30 p.m.
Aug. 17	Peterson's Mill, North Branch	8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Sept. 7	Hennepin Cty. Shop, Hopkins	8:30 a.m.-noon

The empty pesticide container collection program is open to all pesticide users. Containers must be rinsed and free of any pesticide residue on the inside and outside of the containers.

Containers can be brought to any collection site. There is no charge for participation in the program. All containers collected are recycled.

For more information about the empty container collection program contact: Steven Poncin, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 90 West Plato Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55107. Phone: 612/296-5136 FAX 612/297-2271.