

Green Section Record

REGIONAL UPDATE

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Organizing pesticide and fertilizer storage areas is a common winter task. Having a plan to dispose of unwanted products ensures they do not accumulate. (USGA/Jonathan Kolbe)

WHERE TO BEGIN WITH UNWANTED PESTICIDES AND FERTILIZERS

BY ZACH NICOLUDIS | AGRONOMIST, CENTRAL REGION

The offseason typically provides an opportunity for agronomic teams to clean and organize the maintenance facility. Among the many tasks to be completed are organizing pesticide and fertilizer storage. This includes confirming the inventory of products on hand, inspecting the condition of individual containers and ensuring that the materials are being stored properly in accordance with the label. During an assessment, keep an eye out for containers that are in poor condition, not clearly labeled or simply not needed anymore. Unwanted pesticides and fertilizers can accumulate in storage areas for a variety of reasons. Whether you have a small amount of leftover product or your needs have changed, golf facilities should avoid storing products for long periods of time.

There are a variety of resources that are available should you find yourself needing to get rid of unwanted products. Calling 1-800-CLEANUP or consulting

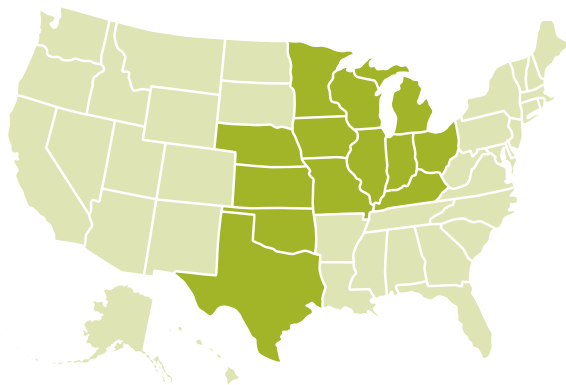


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with your state's environmental agency is a great place to start. The [National Pesticide Information Center](#) is another great educational resource that provides tips for storing and disposing of pesticides. If you cannot find a good use on the golf course for some of your product inventory, or you would simply prefer to get rid of a particular product, the material will likely have to be treated as hazardous waste and taken to a specific treatment facility.

As you look to free up space at the maintenance facility, be sure you and your team understand the appropriate pesticide and fertilizer disposal steps.



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