



An Important Message to:

Growers, Other Pesticide Applicators and Schools of Columbia, Greene, Delaware, Otsego, Schoharie, Albany, Rensselaer, Montgomery and Schenectady Counties

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), is pleased to announce the CleanSweepNY Program for the Spring of 2009. During the week of April 6, 2009 there will be an entirely legal and economical opportunity to dispose of all cancelled, obsolete or otherwise unusable pesticides. At these same events, other hazardous chemicals, elemental mercury, particularly from dairy manometers, school chemicals and accumulations of triple-rinsed plastic containers will also be collected and recycled. This collection event is called "CleanSweepNY" and is funded through monies made available by NYSDEC.

The CleanSweepNY Program will:

1. Hire a professional waste hauler to dispose of unwanted pesticides and other chemicals.
2. Provide on-farm or on-site assistance, when needed.
3. Provide analytical services to identify unknown/unlabeled pesticide products.
4. Collect for recycling triple-rinsed HDPE-2 plastic pesticide containers.
5. Provide on-farm pickup for predetermined structurally unstable containers.
This program was originally funded expressly for New York growers or former growers applying products to agricultural commodities; and for those participants, the service will be free of charge. Other potential holders of pesticides who have approached NYSDEC requesting participation in this worthwhile program have also been encouraged to participate. These include professional/commercial applicators, local municipalities, schools, golf courses, cemeteries and retail/distribution establishments.

CleanSweepNY will accept, free of charge, only the first 100 pounds of pesticides from any non-farm participants. The CleanSweepNY waste hauler, Care Environmental Corp., will charge businesses, government agencies, commercial agricultural and non-agricultural applicators **on the actual day of collection** on a per pound basis for any remaining weight over 100 pounds. Disposal costs can be found at <http://www.cleansweepny.org>. This program is not able to accept any pesticides or chemical waste from homeowners.

There will be no charge to anyone returning empty, triple-rinsed HDPE-2 plastic pesticide

containers. Instructions for triple rinsing pesticide containers can be found at:
http://www.acrecycle.org/triple_rins.html

It is important to note that NO enforcement action will be taken by NYSDEC for participation in this program.

This collection effort will be facilitated by NYSDEC staff with support from the New York State Dept. Of Agriculture and Markets, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and the Agricultural Container Recycling Council. You may be contacted by a representative of your NYSDEC Pesticide Office, Cornell Cooperative Extension, local agribusiness or your trade association concerning participation in this program.

Registration forms must be completed and returned no later than March 16, 2008 for holders of unknowns or compressed gas cylinders or March 27, 2009 for all known pesticides. These deadlines must be met to assure participation in the program.

Because it may be necessary to contact you with questions, it is important that you give us a contact name, phone number, mobile phone number, fax number or an e-mail address. We stress that your confidentiality will be maintained. Please make sure that the number(s) provided are those with the highest likelihood for successfully contacting you up to and including the collection week in April. **Do not include phone numbers for seasonal establishments that will not be open in March or April.**

Additionally, it is important that we know:

1. The name and EPA number, if available, of the pesticide to be turned in. Although you may know what the pesticide is, an unlabeled container is an unknown and should be labeled as such on the registration form.
2. The number of obsolete pesticides, container sizes, and estimated quantity remaining in liquid or dry measurement units.
3. Whether or not the packaging surrounding each product is in a condition that allows for its safe transportation to a collection site without spilling or leaking. Please indicate this in the appropriate box on the registration form.

Should you need forms or have any specific questions about this program, please contact 1-877-SWEEPNY (1-877-793-3769), weekend or evening inquiries may be returned during working hours. Alternatively, you may send an email to info@cleansweepny.org. An informational website has been established at: <http://www.cleansweepny.org>

On or before April 1, 2009 you will receive an appointment card with your drop-off location and time, as well as the necessary transportation information.

In summary, this is your best opportunity to clean out old, unwanted, canceled or otherwise unusable pesticide products and to dispose of HDPE-2 plastic pesticide containers. The cost to you is little or nothing, yet the value to you and the environment are considerable.

We urge you to participate in the CleanSweepNY program!