



## Pesticide Storage & Disposal

Texas Nursery & Landscape Association • 7730 South IH-35 • Austin, TX 78745 • 800.880.0343 • www.txnla.org

*Objective:* Participants will be able to show how to correctly store and dispose pesticides.

**APPLICATION:** Review proper techniques for pesticide storage and disposal. To ensure that participants fully understand techniques, prepare a scavenger hunt as a review. For example, have two scenarios prepared (such as “Pesticide is stored in warm, sunny area” or “Pesticide is stored in cool, dry area”) with clues that lead participants to another group of questions depending on if they answer the question correctly. Have participants practice pesticide disposal.

The label on a pesticide container explains how to use a pesticide safely and properly. This includes the correct way to store and dispose of the pesticide. Always follow the recommended recommendations and precautions listed.

### **Pesticide Storage:**

Pesticide labels should *always* be read for specific storage instructions.

PESTICIDES SHOULD BE:
• Stored in a locked and posted place away from children & pets.
• Storage area should be dry, cool, well ventilated and out of direct sunlight.
• Storage area should be well insulated to keep pesticide from freezing or over-heating.
• Stored in its original container ( <i>never</i> store pesticides in food or drink containers).
• Stored away from food, feed, seed or animals.
• Stored away from combustible materials such as gasoline or oily rags.
• Stored away from areas where things are burned or welded.

Once a proper storage area has been found for your pesticides, be sure to often check the containers for leaks or breaks. If the container is damaged replace it with a new container. The replacement container should either be a container that held the EXACT same pesticide or a new container. If a new container is used, transfer the label from the old damaged container to the new container.

Pesticide spills should be cleaned up as recommended on the pesticide label. Always isolate or contain the spill. NEVER hose down the area when the spill occurred because run-off could occur. To absorb pesticides use sand, dirt, rags, etc. Always wear proper protective equipment when cleaning up pesticide spills.

### \* Pesticide Disposal:

There are 4 steps to proper pesticide container disposal:

ONE: **Rinse** container 3 times.

TWO: **Use** contaminated rinse water as part of spray solution.

THREE: **Punch** holes in container and **crush** them to prevent further use.

FOUR: **Dispose** of the container at an approved sanitary landfill.

To avoid disposal problems, mix only as much pesticide as needed for each use.