

Everything You Wanted to Know About Pesticides



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General Information



- **Need**
- **Who must be licensed in NJ? – Anyone purchasing/using ethylene oxide**
- **Pesticide classifications**
 - **GENERAL**
 - **RESTRICTED USE - need pesticide applicator's license**

Certification Exam Waivers for EO Users



- Complete approved CS course
- Complete at-home exam - need grade of 80% to pass (open book test)
- **Issued Commercial Pesticide Applicator license (CPA)**
- Recertify every 5 years; need 8 CORE and 16 category points (12B sterilization)
- CPA must be available if and when needed
- Must have immediate voice contact
- Available on site within 2 hours

Certification Waiver (continued)



- All points must be approved by the NJDEP
- Departmental Inservices can be submitted for CORE and/or category points
- All continuing education programs to be submitted to Fran Gerding, NJDEP

Commercial Pesticide Operator



- **No exam needed**
- **Includes ANY user of EO (including those changing EO tanks)**
- **All Operators must be trained annually by the CPA with competencies verified and documented**

Pesticide Use in New Jersey



- **PEST = any plant, animal or microorganism that is bothersome, causes economic loss or carries disease**
- **Pesticide = kills pests**
- **FIFRA = Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act**
- **Benefits of pesticides outweigh the risks**

Benefits



- **Agriculture – to increase crops and reduce disease**
- **Health – kill microorganisms which can harm people**
- **Landscape – keep lawns well maintained**
- **Structures – keep pests out of homes and hotels (e.g. bedbugs)**
- **Personal comfort – mosquito repellent**
- **Pets – flea and tick repellent**

Is It a Pesticide?



- **When purchasing products, READ THE LABEL FIVE (5) TIMES**
 - **Before you buy it**
 - **When taken home**
 - **Before using**
 - **After using**
 - **Before putting away**

Pesticides



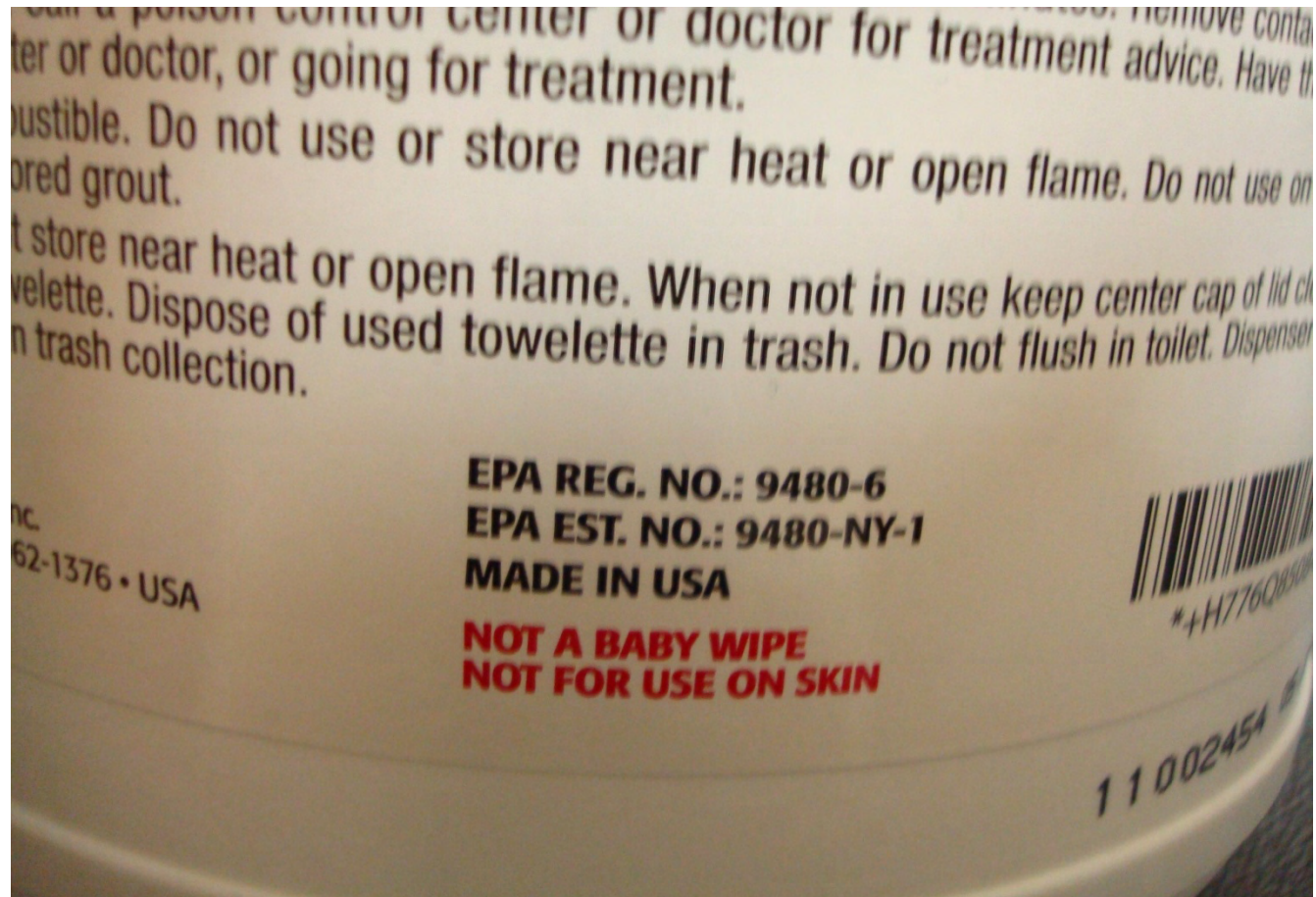
- Homeowners can be liable for pesticides
- Don't use pesticides until you read the label
- Example: If the pesticide is used during windy conditions it can blow onto your neighbor's property and any damage you would be liable

Pesticide Label



- Standard format
- Label is the law
- EPA registration # **only given to pesticides**
- **Need to know how to interpret labels**

EPA Registration Number



Label



- The label is the information printed on or attached to the container of a pesticide.
- To the manufacturer, the label is a "license to sell."
- To the state or federal government, the label is a way to control the distribution, storage, sale, use, and disposal of the product.

Label



- **To the buyer or user, the label is a source of facts on how to use the product correctly and legally.**
- **To physicians, the label is a source of identification and information or proper treatment for poisoning cases**

Product Use



Label



- Use of every pesticide is classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as either "general" or "restricted."
- Every restricted pesticide product must carry a statement in a prominent place at the top of the front panel of the pesticide label:

Label



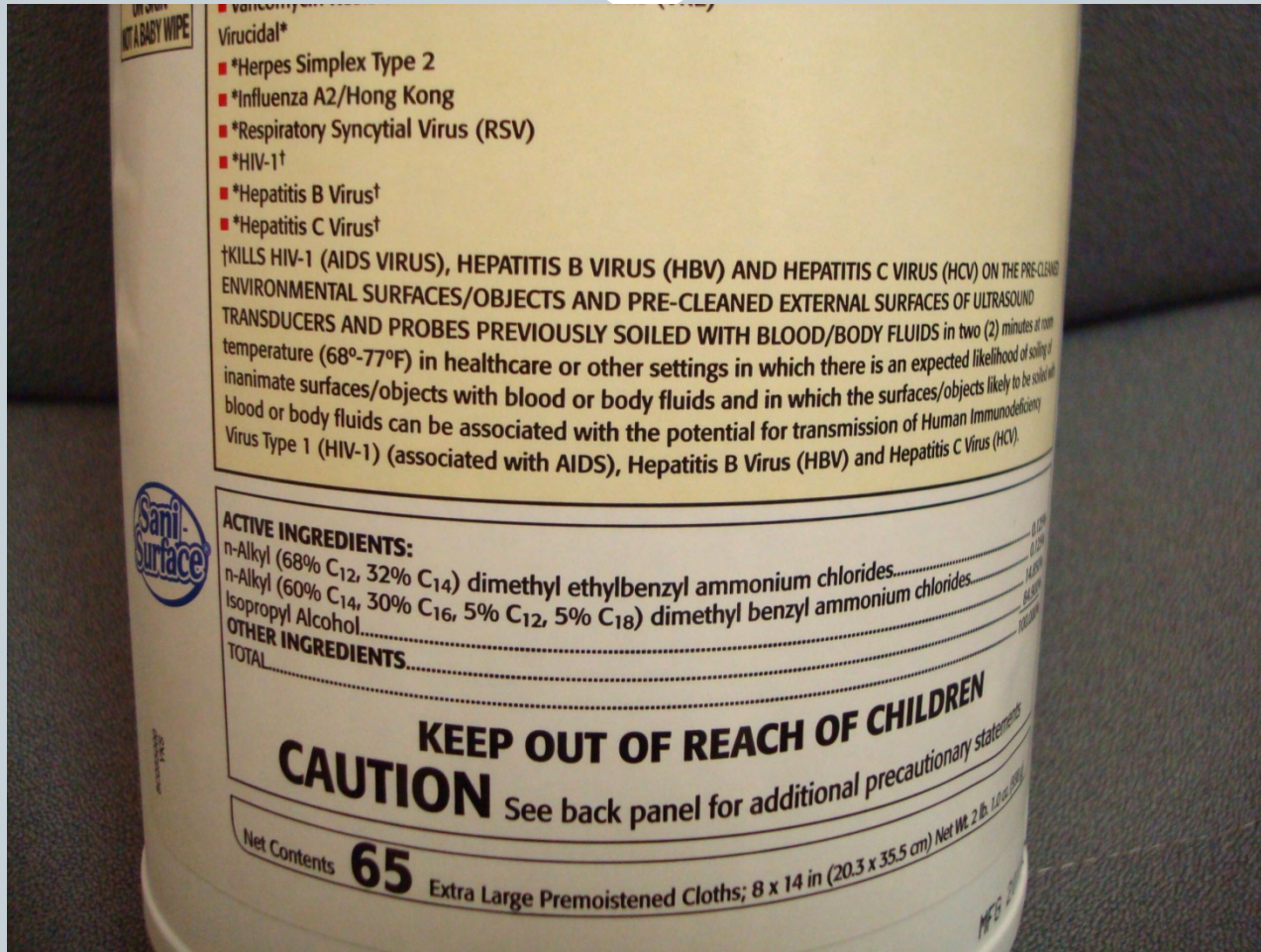
- **"RESTRICTED USE PESTICIDE. For retail sale and use only by certified applicators or persons under their direct supervision and only for those uses covered by the certified applicator's certification."**

Label – Ingredient Statement



- Each pesticide label must list what is in the product.
- Should be listed so you can see quickly what the active ingredients are and the amount (in percentage) of each ingredient listed.
- Ingredient statement must list the official chemical names and/or common names for the active ingredients. Inert ingredients need not be named, but the label must show what percent of the total contents they comprise.

Ingredients Statement



Pesticide Type



- **The type of pesticide usually is listed on the front panel of the pesticide label.**
- **This short statement usually indicates the kind of pests that the product will control.**

Label



- **Net contents – weight of the container**
- **Manufacturer name and address**

Registration Numbers



- An EPA registration number appears on all pesticide labels, unless an older label has a USDA number.
- Indicates the pesticide label has been registered by the federal government.
- Most products will contain only two sets of numbers, for example, EPA Reg. No. 3120-280; the first set of digits, 3120, is the manufacturer's identification number and the second set, 280, is the product identification number.

Signal Words



- **DANGER** Any product, which is highly toxic orally, dermally, through inhalation, or causes severe eye or skin burning, will be labeled DANGER.
- All pesticides which are highly toxic orally, dermally, or through inhalation will also carry the word **POISON** printed in red and the skull and crossbones symbol

Signal Words



- **WARNING** Any product which is moderately toxic orally, dermally, or through inhalation or causes moderate eye and skin irritation, will be labeled WARNING.
- **CAUTION** Any product which is slightly toxic to relatively non-toxic orally, dermally, or through inhalation or causes slight eye and skin irritation, will be labeled CAUTION.

Precautionary Statements



- All pesticide labels contain additional statements to help you decide the proper precautions to take to protect yourself, your helpers, and other persons (or domestic animals) which may be exposed.

Route of Entry Statement



- **The statements, which immediately follow the signal word, either on the front or side of the pesticide label, indicate which route(s) of entry (mouth, skin, and lungs) you must particularly protect.**

Protective Clothing and Equipment Statements



- **Information about protective equipment is required.**
- **You should follow all advice on protective clothing or equipment, which appears on the label.**
- **The lack of any statement or the mention of only one piece of equipment does not rule out the need for additional protection recommended to protect yourself.**

First Aid Statements

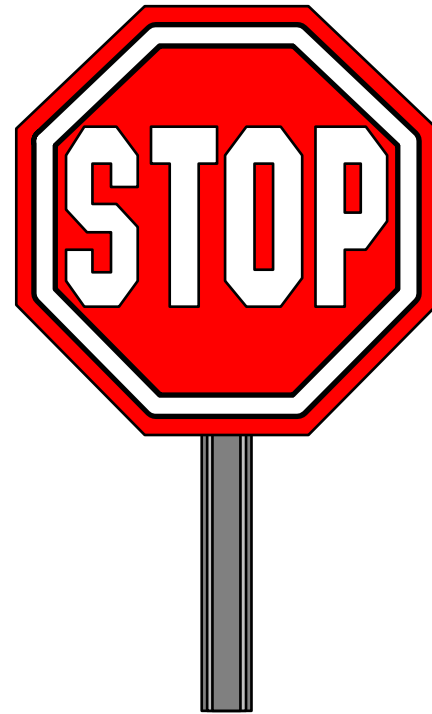


- The label must tell you the first aid treatments recommended in case of poisoning. Typical statements include:
- In case of contact with skin, wash immediately with plenty of soap and water.
- In case of contact with eyes, flush with water for 15 minutes and get medical attention.
- In case of inhalation exposure, move from contaminated area and give artificial respiration if necessary.
- If swallowed, drink large quantities of milk, egg white, or water do not induce vomiting

Is It a Pesticide????????????????



- **READ THE LABEL**
- **LOOK FOR THE WORDS - “KILLS”
“CONTROLS”
“DISINFECTS”**
- **Is there an EPA registration number?**



Reducing the Risk



- **Know your chemicals**
- **Know the pesticide regulations**
- **Always check the label FIRST**
- **Know the dilution recommendations**
- **Check the weather when using outside**
- **Pay attention to special instructions**

Reducing the Risk

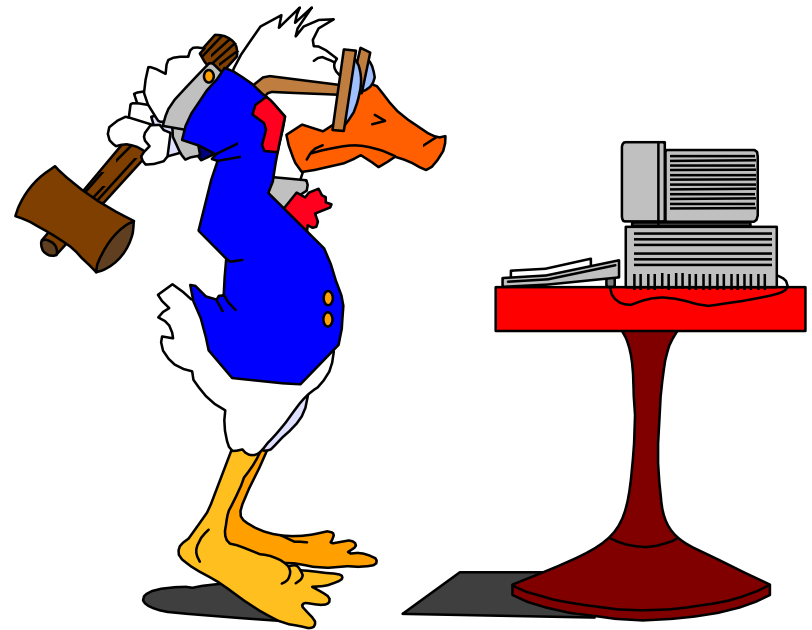


- **Always wear recommended PPE**
- **Label is the law - homeowners can be held liable!**
- **Store pesticides correctly**
- **Never place pesticides in food containers – can cause poisoning**
- **Dispose of all pesticides properly!**

Reducing Pesticide Use



- Physical controls – e.g. swatting
- Mechanical controls such as mouse traps
- Sanitation – keeping areas clean



Conclusion



- If you **MUST** use a pesticide
- **Select it carefully**
- **Read the label 5 times**
- **Use extreme caution**
- **Evaluate the risks versus the benefits**

