



GETTING RID OF PESTICIDES

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Happy 2016! I hope that your year is off to a good start. The weather has been a bit unpredictable lately but that is to be expected. This is the mid-South you know! Many people are taking inventory of the chemicals they have in place and are wanting to get rid of those pesticides that they are no longer using or are out of date. Here are a few things you would need to consider:

1. The product label will tell you how to properly dispose of that particular pesticide. Look for the "Storage and Disposal" statement on the product label.
2. If any product remains in the container it must be disposed of as household hazardous waste.
3. Once you have emptied a pesticide container, rinse it out properly for disposal or recycling. Do not reuse a pesticide container for any reason!
4. It is always safer to wear protective clothing (chemical resistant gloves and eye protection) when rinsing pesticide containers.
5. Apply rinse water according to the label directions.
6. Unless it is written on the label, do not pour rinse water into any drain or on any site.
7. If you mixed a pesticide and have too much left over, consider asking a neighbor if they can use any leftover mixtures.
8. Take your unwanted pesticides to the household hazardous waste collection facility which is located on 6305 Haley Rd here in Memphis. They are open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm.



Remember that it is best to practice Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to reduce the need for pesticides. Be sure to properly identify the pest in question and make sure the product that you are purchasing will be effective against that particular pest. Please be sure to mix only what you need at that time. Pesticides need to be disposed properly to avoid accidents and to protect the environment.

Until next month, happy gardening!



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