

STORING PESTICIDES SAFELY AT HOME

- Use only the original container.
- Store away from children, pets, heat sources (if flammable), foods and medicines.
- Store in a locked, well-ventilated cabinet protected from freezing and moisture.
- Make sure that lids are fastened tightly, and that child-proof fasteners are closed correctly.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR STORING PESTICIDES AT SCHOOLS

(1) Pesticides must not be stored in such a manner as to endanger humans and their environment or to endanger food, feed, or any other product that may be stored with such pesticides.

(2) Pesticides shall not be stored over or adjacent to human foods, animal feeds, or drugs, or in any manner that may result in contamination of food, feed, or clothing.

(3) No person shall store any pesticide, pesticide container or apparatus in such a manner as to pollute water supplies or waterways, or cause damage or injury to land, humans, desirable plants and animals, or wildlife.

(4) Good generally accepted housekeeping practices shall be maintained for all pesticides and their containers.

(5) Storage enclosures and signage requirements vary depending on the signal word (toxicity category) of the pesticide. Requirements are most stringent for pesticides labeled with the signal word "danger/poison" compared to pesticides with lower toxicities of "danger," "warning," or "caution." There are no specific storage enclosures or signage for pesticides labeled for home and garden use only. For more specific information on enclosures and signage see the [Washington Pesticide Laws Hand-out Booklet](#).

GUIDELINES FOR LOCATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF PESTICIDE STORAGE FACILITIES AT SCHOOLS

- Avoid constructing pesticide storage facility within 100 ft of the bank of any surface watercourse or the ordinary high water mark of any surface watercourse, whichever distance is greater; or within 200 ft of a well or surface watercourse used as a private water supply.
- The floor surface should be made of steel, concrete or other similar durable material which is impervious to an absorbable liquid.
- Flooring should have a smooth surface and be capable of being cleaned and decontaminated of any pesticide stored in the facility.
- There should be a continuous, non-combustible curb on the floor which is integral with the floor and is at least 4 inches in height around the perimeter of the area and is capable of retaining liquids.
- There should be no floor drains, catch basins, sumps or other openings in the floor.
- The facility should have adequate ventilation by either natural or mechanical means to the outside atmosphere to prevent the accumulation of toxic or flammable vapors.
- There should be at least two entrances and exits to the facility located on opposite sides of the facility if the floor area of the facility exceeds 2000 ft².
- There should be a separate room or area at or near the area in which the pesticides are stored that contains adequate washing facilities for personal decontamination.
- A source of running water should be readily available in or adjacent to the area where pesticides are stored.
- The storage facility should have adequate interior lighting and sufficient outside lighting to be of use to emergency service personnel.
- The storage area should be a separate locked room or compartment that is partitioned from the floor to the ceiling with building materials that conform to fire and building codes and has no openings except those required for ventilation and entrances.
- All permanent storage racks or shelves should be constructed of non-combustible material that can be easily cleaned.
- A pesticide storage facility should have a fully-operative fire alarm system.
- There should be unobstructed access to the facility for emergency equipment and personnel.

Fireproof, locked cabinet can store pesticides used for grounds maintenance.



Locked storage cupboard for a few pesticides in the custodian's closet.



A stand-alone storage facility for hazardous materials such as pesticides.

