



# PESTICIDE REGULATION IN VERMONT

## US Environmental Protection Agency

For every pesticide, the EPA decides:

1. If it should be registered for use in the US, taking into account the pesticide's label, effectiveness, and effects on the environment.<sup>1</sup> The EPA's goal is to review registrations every 15 years, and the EPA can cancel a registration earlier if the pesticide isn't meeting its registration requirements with respect to its label, effectiveness, and effects on the environment.<sup>2</sup> **In 2009, the EPA began accepting public comments on its risk assessments and proposed registrations.**<sup>3</sup>
2. If a pesticide should be registered for "General Use" or "Restricted Use" (Restricted Use Pesticides may cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment, and may only be applied by a certified applicator).
3. If other restrictions should be placed on the use of a pesticide based on its chemical properties and toxicity. This EPA label is the law.

Examples of restrictions on EPA labels:

<b>Atrazine 4-L</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Don't apply when weather conditions favor drift</li><li>❖ 66 foot use setback from streams &amp; rivers</li><li>❖ 200 foot use setback from lakes &amp; rivers</li><li>❖ 50 foot use setback from all wells</li></ul>	<b>Chorpyrifos EPro 4 Insecticide:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Don't apply directly to water, surface water, or intertidal areas below high water mark</li><li>❖ Don't apply to blooming crops or weeds if bees are visiting</li></ul>
Note: These examples do not cover every regulation on the label of these chemicals, and some examples are subject to exceptions. To find a particular pesticide's label online go to: <a href="http://www.cdms.net">http://www.cdms.net</a> , click "Services," then click "Labels/MSDS."	

## VT Agency of Agriculture

For the most part, the state of Vermont administers and enforces EPA guidelines.

1. The Agency requires chemical companies to register a pesticide before it is sold in the state, and to re-register annually. Companies must submit a \$92 fee and an application form available online, requiring contact information, certification of compliance with VT tax laws, and a copy of the government labeling. **The Agency doesn't consider health/environmental impacts during this process.**
2. The Agency considers the toxicity and hazards associated with a pesticide to determine whether to change an EPA classification of "General Use" to "Restricted Use," which again means that the pesticide can only be applied by certified applicators.
3. The Agency licenses private applicators applying Restricted Use Pesticides and all commercial applicators. To become licensed, a person must pass a written exam testing an applicator's knowledge of application procedures and regulations. These licenses must be renewed every five years. The Agency also licenses sellers of Class A or B pesticides.

**ENFORCEMENT:** Enforcement Officers with the VT Agency of Agriculture are primarily responsible for enforcing compliance with label requirements; EPA enforcement tackles violations of federal environmental law.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). 7 U.S.C. §136 et seq.

<sup>2</sup> **Reevaluation: Review of Registered Pesticides.** <http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/reevaluation/>

<sup>3</sup> **Public Involvement in Pesticide Registration.** <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/registration-public-involvement.html>

<sup>4</sup> **Pesticides: Compliance and Enforcement.** <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/enforcement/index.htm>