

## MIXING / LOADING SITES:

YES   NO

1. Do you have a mixing/loading pad with an impervious surface?
2. If you mix and load pesticides in the field, do you vary the location each time?
3. Do you pressure or triple-rinse disposable pesticide containers as soon as they are emptied?
4. Do you clean up small spills as soon as they occur?
5. If you clean tanks and spray equipment in the field, do you change the location every time?
6. Do you always check to be sure the field location where you mix and load pesticides or clean application equipment is at least 50 feet from any well?
7. Are all people who handle pesticides on your farm properly trained?

For each question, if you checked "Yes", you are taking positive steps to protect yourself and the environment. If you checked "No", you may want to re-examine your practices.

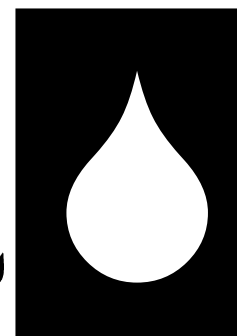
### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
PESTICIDE REGULATION SECTION  
50 HARRY S. TRUMAN PARKWAY  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401  
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## PESTICIDE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

# FARM SITE EVALUATION CHECKLIST

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Here's a list to help you determine whether you're using pesticide management practices which help protect ground and surface water. Please take the time to walk through the appropriate areas on your farm while referring to the list.

**FIELDS:****YES**   **NO**

- |                          |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Do you always read the label on each pesticide prior to using it each year and follow the appropriate instructions?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Do you scout your fields for weeds every year before deciding what herbicide and application rate to use?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Do you maintain field records of pesticide applications?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Do you consider alternate means of suppressing hard-to-control weeds (those that may have become resistant to your usual herbicide), rather than simply increasing rates? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Are you aware of the setbacks required or recommended when applying atrazine near wells, bodies of water, ponds and streams?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Do you maintain grass or other types of buffer strips between the edges of your fields and other runoff points that drain into bodies of water or streams?                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. If you farm on highly erodible soils, are you following all proper precautions?   |

**FARM / HOMESTEAD:****YES**   **NO**

- |                          |                          |   |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Have you stopped using atrazine for general weed control around buildings, driveways, well heads and fence rows?                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Do you follow recommended methods for disposal of pesticide containers?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Do you have an emergency plan and the necessary equipment to handle an accident (fire or spill) where you have your pesticides stored? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Are your pesticides stored in a locked, well marked building?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Do you have a written inventory of the products stored?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Have you taken extra precautions to protect the areas around well heads on your farm?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Do you inspect and maintain your wells and connections on an annual basis?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. Do you use devices to prevent backsiphoning or back flow on fill hoses connected to your water supply?                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9. Do you avoid burning pesticide containers?   |

If you check "No" to any of the questions, please refer to the Maryland Voluntary Atrazine Best Management Practices brochure or contact your local Cooperative Extension Agent for information on the practices you should be following.

If you use a custom applicator or dealer who offers a full service program, he or she also can inform you of steps you can take to protect the water resources on or near your property. You also may contact the Pesticide Regulation Section of the Maryland Department of Agriculture at (410)841-5710 for more information.