



Requirements for Pesticide Dischargers Below Thresholds Checklist

Pesticide NPDES Permit Program National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)

Doc Type: Permitting Checklist

Instructions: This checklist provides a summary of permit requirements. Be sure to read your permit for complete details and responsibilities. Consider printing this page and using it as an easy-reference checklist.

If you are discharging pesticides in, over, or near waters of the state but are below the Thresholds that would require you to submit a Notice of Intent, you are automatically covered by the permit and you must follow these requirements.

1) Minimize Pesticide Discharges

- ☐ Use the lowest effective amount and application frequency necessary to control the pest while maintaining compliance with the label.
- ☐ Use appropriate pest management measures, such as manufacturer specifications, industry standards, recommended industry practices, and other prudent provisions to control the pest and minimize the discharge.

2) Monitor

Confirm that pesticide discharges are minimized.

- ☐ If conducting post-application surveillance, decision-makers shall assess areas for possible Adverse Incidents (see Step 6).

3) Report Adverse Incidents

See Step 6 for more detailed reporting information. If you are aware or are made aware of an Adverse Incident – such as distressed or dead plants or animals – which may be the result of your pesticide application, you must:

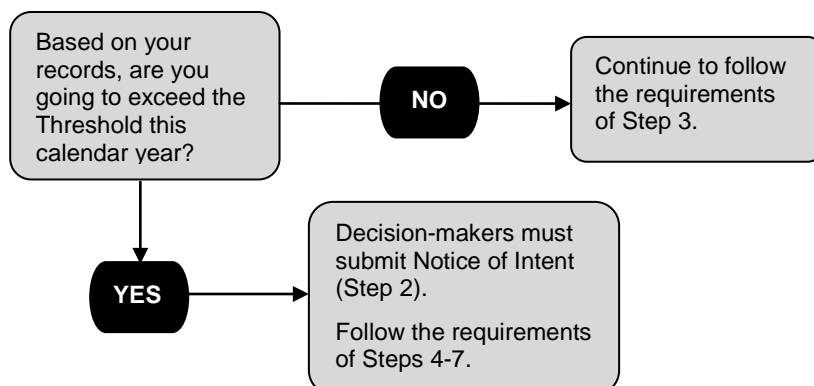
- ☐ Immediately notify the Minnesota Duty Officer at 651-649-5451 or 800-422-0798.
- ☐ Submit an Adverse Incident Report within 15 days. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has developed an *Adverse Incident Report* form for you to use (see Step 6).
- ☐ If you determine that the adverse incident was not a result of your pesticide application, submit a justification letter or e-mail to the MPCA within 15 days.

Note: These Adverse Incident reporting requirements are in addition to those required by Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

4) Keep Records

You can substitute records developed for other obligations, such as FIFRA and state or local pesticide programs, if all requirements of this permit are satisfied. Keep a file with the following records:

- ☐ A copy of any Adverse Incident reports.
- ☐ Your rationale for determining that reporting of an identified Adverse Incident is not required (more info in Step 6).
- ☐ Up-to-date records of acres treated, linear miles treated, and/or gallons of pesticides applied. Record this data in the same units as the Threshold (acres, miles, or gallons). This will help you determine if and when Thresholds will be reached.



5) Corrective Actions

Make changes if any of the following situations occur, ensuring that the situation is eliminated and will not be repeated in the future:

- ☐ You discover that you are using more pesticides or are applying them more often than needed to control the pest.
- ☐ You report an Adverse Incident.
- ☐ A spill or leak occurs.
- ☐ You become aware (or MPCA concludes) that your control measures are not sufficient for the discharge to meet applicable water quality standards.
- ☐ An inspection or evaluation of your activities reveals that changes are necessary.

Make necessary changes to pest management measures before the next pesticide application or as soon as possible.

Applicators' Responsibilities

Applicators are any entity who perform the application of a pesticide or who has day-to-day control of the application (i.e., they are authorized to direct workers to carry out those activities). In addition to the requirements above, Applicators must also:

1) Minimize Pesticide Discharges

- ☐ To the extent not determined by the Decision-makers, use the lowest effective amount and application frequency necessary to control the pest while maintaining compliance with the label.
- ☐ Calibrate, clean, and repair equipment regularly. Regular maintenance minimizes leaks and spills and ensures the correct amounts of pesticides are applied.
- ☐ Assess weather conditions in treatment area (temperature, wind speed, and wind direction).

2) Monitor

Confirm that pesticide discharges are minimized.

- ☐ During application, conduct spot-checks if safe and feasible for possible Adverse Incidents (see Step 6).

3) Keep Records

In addition to the records above, the Applicator must also keep records as required by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and supply them to their customers:

- ☐ Name of target pest
- ☐ Applicator's name, including license number and company name.
- ☐ Application dates & times
- ☐ Name of the pesticide used, EPA registration number and dosage used.
- ☐ Location of site, including number of units treated.
- ☐ Temperature, wind speed, and wind direction at time of application (if applicable).
- ☐ Name of target pest
- ☐ If visual monitoring occurred during application, and if not, why not, and if monitoring identified any adverse incidents.

4) Corrective Actions

- ☐ In addition to the above corrective actions, Applicators must make changes if equipment is not being maintained regularly.