

# Amnesty Days For Hazardous Wastes Set

NEWARK, Del. — Individual farms and homeowners often do not have a reliable means of disposal for leftover pesticides and other wastes.

To help individuals dispose of these unwanted hazardous substances, the Delaware Solid Waste Authority has begun a collection of hazardous materials as of November 1 through April 1992.

"This grace period for pesticide and hazardous waste pickup and disposal is a first for Delaware," said Dr. Susan Whitney, University of Delaware Cooperative Extension pesticides specialist. "Many other states have had what are called 'amnesty days' to enable farmers and homeowners to get rid of pesticides that are no longer needed or usable."

Whitney said disposing of pesticides properly helps protect groundwater, wildlife, and people from unintentional contact with the substances.

The Solid Waste Authority has contracted with Clean Harbors of Kingston Inc. to collect household-generated and agricultural-generated wastes.

Depending on the substance, some materials will be routed to treatment facilities, others will be incinerated or go to secure chemical landfills, and still others may be recycled or sent for energy recovery processing.

Individuals will not be charged for the collection, but will be responsible for a \$2 per ton solid waste disposal tipping fee. Included in the collection will be all pesticides (whether or not they are considered hazardous wastes),

paints, automotive fluids, and strong household cleaners.

The collection, a pilot program in Kent and Sussex counties, will operate Tuesdays through Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The collection in Kent County will be door-to-door. Collections in Sussex County will be handled at the Southern Solid Waste Facility near Georgetown.

Derby Walker, Extension agricultural agent, said there are many reasons that an individual may end up with pesticides that have been stored indefinitely. An individual may inherit pesticides when a farm or facility is inherited. An individual may purchase a home or farm and find that old paints and pesticides have been left behind by the previous owner. A product may be canceled by the government and no longer allowed for use on certain crops.

"If pesticides have been exposed to freezing temperatures, farmers and homeowners may not trust the product to work anymore, so it has remained on the shelf instead of being used," Walker said. "For whatever the reason, many people have been storing, potentially hazardous substances indefinitely. An amnesty period allows individuals to get rid of these wastes."

Walker warns people to use care when transporting hazardous substances to a collection center. The waste should not be carried in the passenger section of a vehicle. Place the original containers inside other leak-proof containers and secure so they will not tip over.

Walker urges anyone holding

hazardous wastes to act quickly in scheduling a collection. It is impossible to predict when cans may rust, bottles may break, or bags may rot while in storage.

"Even though the collection

goes through April, don't delay," Walker said. "In the spring, both farmers and homeowners get busy with other projects. Don't let this opportunity to rid your storage sheds of old pesticides and paints pass by. Act today."

To schedule a collection in Kent County or for directions to the collection center in Sussex County, call the Solid Waste Authority's Clean House Hotline at (800) 554-0606.

# Blue Paint Means Don't Trespass

COLLEGE PARK, Md.— At this time of year, thousands of hunters and other outdoor enthusiasts take to the woods for enjoyment and relaxation -- sometimes creating problems for woodland owners who post their property against trespassing.

"Many 'no trespassing' signs are destroyed or defaced every year by individuals who do not respect the private property rights of woodland owners," said Jonathan Kays, a natural resources specialist with the Cooperative Extension Service, Maryland Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources. "Replacing and maintaining these signs can be expensive and time-consuming."

To ease the burden for landowners, the Maryland Legislature passed a law last year that makes the posting of private lands against trespassing cheaper and easier.

Instead of having to post, maintain and replace signs destroyed or damaged by vandals, landowners will have the option of marking their property with vertical stripes of bright blue oil-based paint. Like the signs, the paint marks will let people know that they are entering private property that is posted against trespassing.

According to the regulation, the paint marks must be:

- At least 2 inches wide and 8 inches long
- Between 3 feet and 6 feet above the ground or water.
- Placed on trees or posts at each road entrance into the property and along public roads and waterways and adjoining land.
- Visible to any person with normal eyesight who approaches the property.

Although the law does not specify the distance between signs or

paint marks, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) recommends that they be close enough that a person standing in front of one mark can see the adjacent marks off to each side. This distance will vary, depending on terrain and vegetation.

"Hunters in particular need to be aware of the new regulation since they are most likely to come in contact with the new markings," said Kays. To help inform them, DNR has outlined the blue-paint posting law in the 1991 hunting regulation booklet distributed to all hunters when they purchase a license.



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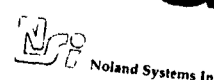


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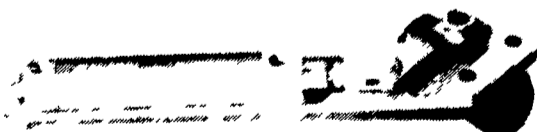
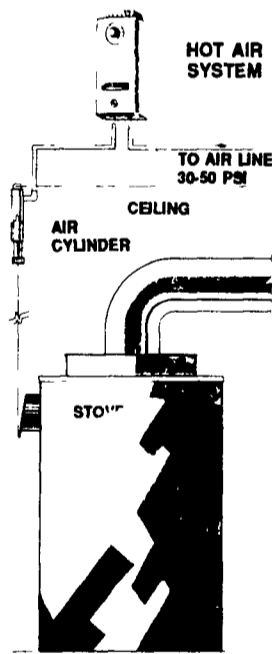
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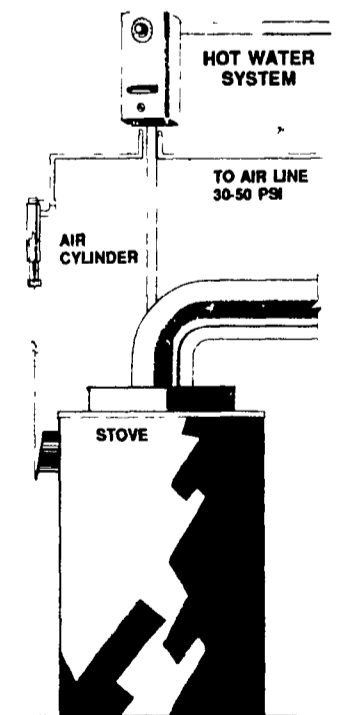
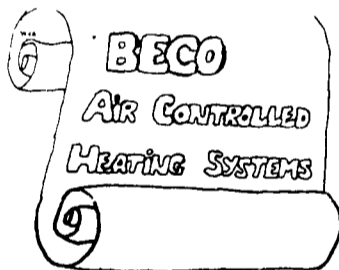
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