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# THE PESTICIDE REVIEW

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## Copper Napthenate Label Interpretation

*Are crawl spaces considered interior use?*

The State recently published their response to a label interpretation request for the product Jasco Termin-8 Wood Preservative. The label for this product and all other copper napthenate products state: "For Exterior Use Only". The question arose whether the crawl space under homes is considered interior or exterior use.

DPR's interpretation of 'interior use' includes crawl spaces. Therefore the application of copper napthenate to wood in crawl spaces is prohibited. An application of one of these products to a crawl space or to the interior surface of any structural wood items would be in conflict with the product's labeling and a violation of Food and Agricultural Code Section 12973.

## Cleaning Pesticide Spray Equipment

*Cleaning tanks and rinsate disposal*

As you well know, cleaning your spray equipment on a regular basis is an important step in caring for your equipment. Pesticides can corrode and clog tanks, seals, and hoses if they are allowed to sit or accumulate.

Where should you clean your equipment?

You should select a location where any spilled rinsate will not contaminate storm drains, desirable plants, wildlife, etc.

If you have a wash area that drains into a sanitary sewer system, call your sanitary district and ask them about your pesticide rinsate. Sanitary districts do have some restrictions on the type of pesticides that can be sent to waste treatment plants.

Is rinsate hazardous waste?

That depends on what you do with it. Pesticide rig rinsate can be considered hazardous waste if you wash the material down a storm drain. The only substance that is allowed to go down a storm drain is water. Diluted rinsate that has been neutralized is not water!

On the other hand, rinsate can be considered a diluted pesticide and not hazardous waste. After rinsing your tank and hoses with water and tank cleaner / neutralizing agent, you can spray your rinsate and cleaning solution onto a site that is consistent with the use of the pesticide. By discharging your rinsate onto a use site, you are essentially spraying out diluted pesticides. However, be aware of how much you discharge in one area, especially if you are discharging onto desirable plants. Even though your spray solution is very diluted, a large accumulation of the material may harm plants.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Copper Napthenate Label Interpretation
- 2 Cleaning Pesticide Spray Equipment
- 3 County Health has a New Phone Number
- 4 Pesticide Registration Numbers
- 5 Posting of Storage Areas
- 6 Landscapers: Being Green Keeps Your Business Growing

## County Health has a New Phone Number!

*Structural notices need to be updated.....again.*

Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health recently moved and consequently changed their phone number. Their old number, (408) 299-6060, has a forwarding service alerting callers to their phone number change. Their new phone number is **(408) 918-3400**. Please be sure to change your structural notices to reflect this new number.

Speaking of phone numbers, we are still finding our old phone number on structural notices. Please use our new phone number on your customer notification. Santa Clara County Division of Agriculture: **(408) 918-4600**.

## Pesticide Registration Numbers

*What do those numbers mean?*

As all of you know, either the U.S. EPA or the California EPA assigns a Pesticide Registration Number to each pesticide in California. So what do those long numbers mean?

The first digits refer to the manufacturer or basic registrant. The second set of digits identifies the product itself. The third set of digits, if applicable, identifies the distributor.

In some cases, a product is assigned a letter(s) after the number. This occurs when a pesticide has multiple names for the same formulation or if the product undergoes a label change.

Because each segment of the registration number holds important information, it is essential to include the spaces or dashes in between these numbers when you record them on your use records and use reports. If the numbers are run-together, it becomes difficult to ascertain what pesticide was used. If applicable, be sure to record the letters after the number too!

## Posting of Storage Areas

*What is required?*

If you only use category 3 pesticides, do you need to post your storage area?

No. California Code of Regulation Section 6674 requires storage areas to be posted if they hold category 1 or 2 materials (Danger & Warning). This code section does not apply to pesticides in category 3 (Caution). Even though it is not a requirement, our office recommends posting all storage areas, regardless of the categories of the pesticides stored. If you have all of your storage areas posted, and you purchase a new chemical in a higher category, you never have to worry about being out of compliance.

What is required to be on the sign?

Each sign must be readable from 25 feet away and must have the following verbiage:

DANGER

POISON STORAGE AREA

ALL UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS KEEP OUT

KEEP DOOR LOCKED WHEN NOT IN USE

In addition to these statements, the notice must "be repeated in an appropriate language other than English when it may reasonably be anticipated that persons who do not understand the English language will come to the enclosure." This would mean that if you have workers that speak Spanish and not English, you would need to post your storage area with this same verbiage in Spanish. (Most storage signs already have English and Spanish on them.)



# LANDSCAPERS: Being GREEN keeps your business growing...

Santa Clara County Green Business Program  
Carol Berg

Sustainable landscaping practices are not only good for the environment, but can also save your business money.

*"Practices like grasscycling, water conservation, and selection of appropriate plants have helped me save money by reducing plants that need to be installed, the material that needs to be removed from sites, and water use."*

Landscaping businesses in the Bay Area are also beginning to see the market benefits of being GREEN:

*"Green practices help me attract customers that want safe, environmentally-friendly landscapes."*

How can you take advantage of the "green" practices you already use in your landscaping business? How can you learn more about implementing sustainable landscape practices?

1. Join the new landscaper certification program, part of the **Bay Area Green Business Program**
2. Attend the **"Sustainable Landscape Practices Workshop"** at one of these locations/dates:

• **February 5, 2003**, 8:30am-5:00pm as part of the daylong Integrated Pest Management Symposium, Oakland, (510) 832-2852 x 106 for more information.

• **February 21, 2003**, 1:30-3:00pm as part of the Northern California Turf and Landscape Council Expo 2003, Santa Clara Convention Center, (510) 505-9600 or for more information you can visit their website: [www.nctlc.com](http://www.nctlc.com)

The workshops will describe maintenance practices that help landscape professionals lower impact on the environment and also lower costs. These practices, in areas of waste reduction, water conservation, and integrated pest management (IPM) are already in use every day and are proven to be effective in both lowering environmental impacts, as well as maintaining the health and appearance of the landscape.

## How many of these GREEN landscaping techniques are you currently using?

1. **Conserve water** - Save water, reduce run-off damage, reduce disease susceptibility
2. **Use compost / compost green waste** - Grow healthier plants, increase water retention capacity, recycle green waste for composting
3. **Reduce pesticide/chemical use** - Reduce costs, lessen watershed impact, improve safety for workers and clients
4. **"Grasscycle"** - Reduce hauling and disposal costs, add nutrients, reduce run-off
5. **Select appropriate plants** - Less maintenance, disease and pests, install fewer plants and save money
6. **Best business practices** - Save energy, reduce disposal costs, improve employee morale

Implement these practices and others to start benefiting from being Green Business certified.

*"I was already using many of the green practices because they make good business sense. Now that I'm certified, I'm getting the added benefits of advertising and business recognition which helps me attract clients."*

Request certification guidelines today!  
Call the Santa Clara County Green Business Program at: (408) 441-1195 x 4453.

## The Pesticide Review Newsletter Postcards

### *Quick response*

At the time of this mailing, we have had 103 postcards returned to our office. We appreciate the quick turn around and the large number of respondents choosing to download from our website!

Your positive comments and suggestions for topics are also appreciated. Receiving these responses demonstrate the value and benefits of our newsletter outreach efforts.

(If you would like to continue receiving this newsletter by mail, please return your postcard)