

Affordable, Safe Disposal of Commercial and Agricultural Pesticides

The Issue: A Hidden Public Health Hazard

The absence of a formal, state-managed disposal system forces commercial and agricultural pesticide applicators into an untenable situation.

The Cost Barrier: Private disposal fees are financially prohibitive for many small and medium-sized applicators, often running into the thousands of dollars.

The Result: Unused and often expired pesticides are stored long-term on farms and business properties across the state.

The Risk: Extended, unsecured storage leads to container damage, leaks, and potential chemical exposure, creating environmental and human health risks in our rural communities and watersheds.

The Solution: A Self-Funding Enterprise

Establishing a Pesticide Disposal Enterprise Program. The primary funding source will be a fee on pesticide product registrations, a successful model used in other states.

Multiple disposal events will be held throughout the year at convenient locations across the state.

A modest per product drop off fee will make it significantly more affordable than current private disposal options.

As an enterprise, the program will be **funded by the agricultural and commercial pesticide industry it serves.**



Projected Impact and Benefits

- No General Fund required
- Helps increase access to free container recycling up to 55 gallons
- Affordable pesticide disposal in rural areas
- Provides essential and affordable disposal while safeguarding public health and the environment

Support the creation of the Pesticide Disposal and Container Recycling Program to implement a financially sound solution that protects Colorado.



HB26-1111 Pesticide Product Disposal & Container Recycling

Amendment L.004 and L.005 - Addressing Stakeholder Feedback

The amendments address issues raised by various stakeholders following the bill's introduction. Specifically, it was identified that there is a need to clarify the container recycling portion of the bill and to clarify that the pesticide product disposal fee applies to all pesticide products registered in the state unless exempted by the Enterprise Board through rulemaking. Additionally there was no upper limit of the disposal fee assessed by the Enterprise Board.

L.004

Clarifies the Role of the Enterprise in Pesticide Container Recycling

- Clarifies that the enterprise only coordinates recycling events with a recycling service provider and provides education and information on proper recycling practices.
- The bill and amendment do not put any additional regulatory requirements on existing services or organizations, such as the Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC).

Ensure the Fee is Paid by Eligible Products

- The amendment clarifies that the fee is applied to all product registrations unless explicitly exempted by the Board through a robust stakeholder and rulemaking process.
- This approach gives stakeholders the ability to ask the Board for an exemption and for all those impacted to provide information and assist the enterprise in identifying if products should be exempt.

The amendment also includes additional technical conforming changes.

L.005

Setting An Upper Fee Limit

- Provides certainty to pesticide product registrants by setting an upper limit for the Pesticide Disposal Fee at \$50 per year, increasing each year at the rate of inflation.