

A guide
to recycling
non-nutrient
agricultural
waste in
Ontario



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
What is product stewardship?	1
Agricultural waste products collected	3
Empty pesticide containers	4
Obsolete pesticide collection	5
Farm tires	6
Paints and solvents	7
Oil filters and containers	8
Additional resources	10



The agriculture industry generates a number of different waste products – from empty pesticide containers to oil filters and containers, and used tires. As part of the industry's commitment to environmental responsibility, it operates and participates in various waste management programs. In Ontario, there are a variety of these recycling and disposal programs – referred to as stewardship programs – all of which are detailed in this guide.

What is product stewardship?

Product stewardship means that the people who manufacture, sell and use a product ensure that it is safely and responsibly recycled or disposed of at the end of its life.



Why is product stewardship important?

Recycling products at the end of their life reduces the burden on landfills across the province.

Materials that were once considered waste can often be recycled into new and valuable products, and hazardous substances can be safely disposed of. All of this helps ensure the agriculture industry can continue to operate in a sustainable way.

It's important that farmers avoid burning waste products. Burning certain products can actually be a violation of provincial legislation, especially if it causes off-site adverse effects.

Everyone involved in the agriculture sector, from the farmers to the companies that manufacture and sell farm inputs, to governments, must work together to ensure that products used in agriculture are safely and responsibly disposed of or recycled.

Product manufacturer

Typically, companies that produce agricultural products are responsible for developing, and paying for, a program to collect and recycle or safely dispose of products no longer in use. This is referred to as extended producer responsibility (EPR).

Provincial government

The provincial government can enact legislation and regulations that outline what kind of programs manufacturers must have in place. Where programs are not legislated, some industries have developed their own voluntary product stewardship programs, often with input from government and stakeholders.

Municipal government

Local governments sometimes collect product at their facilities or help facilitate the actual recycling or disposal of products. They also play an important role in educating the agricultural sector about available programs.

Retailers

Retailers often have direct contact with farmers. As such, they play an important role in informing farmers about available stewardship programs and details about fees, refunds and collection locations.

Farmers

Farmers are the key to successful stewardship programs. They must return products to collection sites for safe disposal or recycling.

Waste management service providers

Farmers, municipalities and agricultural businesses rely on a variety of service providers for the collection, recycling and disposal services for agricultural waste products. It is very important to ensure that all waste materials are properly prepared (rinsed, sorted, bundled, etc.) in order to meet requirements for safe handling, recycling and disposal.

Shared responsibility

Program costs are covered by consumers and manufacturers as appropriate. A deposit or levy can be charged at the time of purchase.

Level playing field

All manufacturers are responsible for their own products and there is no cross subsidization.

Results-based

Manufacturers are encouraged, and in some cases government mandated, to achieve certain targets. The ultimate goal is to minimize waste.

Transparency and accountability

Program diversion rates are generally reported on an annual basis. Financial statements of stewardship organizations are often independently audited and made publicly available.

Ease of access to all

All farmers should have reasonable access to collection facilities so they can participate in product stewardship initiatives.

There are stewardship programs for the following agricultural products:

- Empty pesticide containers
- Obsolete pesticides
- Farm tires
- Oil filters and containers
- Paints and solvents



Empty pesticide container collection

In Ontario, farmers can return their empty pesticide containers to ag-retail sites for recycling. CleanFARMS is the non-profit industry stewardship organization that operates this program.

What's included?

Commercial class pesticide containers 23 litres in size or smaller.

What's not included?

Containers from products that have been used for home lawn and garden care. These containers will have a domestic class label and should be recycled at Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste (MHSW) or Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) programs. Commercial class pesticides containers larger than 23 litres should be returned directly to the point of sale or manufacturer for disposal.

Where can I bring my acceptable products?

Contact info@cleanfarms.ca, call 1 877 622 4460

or visit

www.cleanfarms.ca.



Fees

The cost of the program is covered entirely by CleanFARMS member companies – the manufacturers of the pesticides. Farmers can return their empty containers for recycling at **no charge**.

Achievements

Since the empty pesticide container collection program started in 1989, more than 91 million pesticide containers have been collected and recycled.

How the program works:

Product collection: Empty pesticide containers are collected from more than 250 ag-retail sites across the province from May through to October. All containers must be triple or pressure rinsed and the cap and booklet removed so that they can be recycled.

Product recycling: The empty containers are shredded, washed and further processed into a recycled plastic that is used to manufacture valuable new products such as field drainage tile.



Obsolete pesticide collection and disposal

Farmers across Ontario can safely dispose of expired, de-regulated or unwanted commercial class pesticides to designated ag-retail sites across the province. CleanFARMS, a non-profit industry stewardship organization, operates this program.

Fees

The cost of the program is covered entirely by CleanFARMS members companies – the manufacturers of the pesticides. **There is no cost to return pesticides for safe disposal.**

Achievements

Since the obsolete pesticide collection program began in 1998, more than 1.5 million kilograms of obsolete pesticides have been collected and safely disposed of. There have been three provincial collection programs in Ontario to date – one in 2000/2001, one in 2005 and one in 2009 – with more than 400,000 kilograms of obsolete pesticides being collected.

How the program works

Product collection: Province-wide obsolete pesticide collection programs run every four years. Farmers return their obsolete or unwanted pesticides to participating ag-retail locations.

Product disposal: Obsolete pesticides are packaged and safely transported to an approved hazardous waste high-temperature incineration facility.



What's included?

Commercial class pesticides that have a commercial or agricultural label and a Pest Control Product Number (PCP).

What's not included?

Consumer pesticides that are used for lawn and garden care and have a domestic class label. These products can be disposed of through the local Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection program.

Where can I bring my acceptable products?

Contact info@cleanfarms.ca, call 1 877 622 4460 or visit www.cleanfarms.ca.





Tire recycling program

The Ontario tire recycling program collects, recycles and disposes of scrap tires, including car tires, truck tires, recreational vehicle tires and agricultural tires.

Fees

Consumers pay a stewardship fee when they purchase a new tire. Retailers pass this fee on to the Ontario tire stewardship program, which manages the collection, recycling and disposal of tires.

Goals

The program aims to collect 90 per cent of on-road scrap tires and 50 per cent of off-road scrap tires by 2014.

How the program works

Product collection:

Tires are collected at locations around the province, including many tire retailers and municipal sites.

Product disposal:

Scrap tires are recycled into various new products.



Where can I bring my acceptable products?

For more information on the Ontario tire stewardship program call 1-888-OTS-2202 or visit **www.ontariots.ca**.



Paint and solvent collection

The **Orange Drop Program**, which is run by Stewardship Ontario, collects, recovers and recycles paints and solvents. Paints and solvents may contain flammable and toxic ingredients and must be carefully managed so they do not contaminate landfills and waterways.

Fees

People can return their unwanted paints and solvents at no charge. The cost of the program is covered by the manufacturers and first importers of the products.

Achievements

In 2009, the Orange Drop program recycled or safely disposed of more than 7,500 tonnes of paints and coatings and more than 280,000 litres of solvents.

How the program works

Product collection: Paints and solvents can be dropped off at select retail and municipal locations. Containers must be sealed in non-spill containers.

Product disposal: The liquid and solid material is separated from the outer container. Paint liquids are recycled into new paint and solids are safely disposed of. Plastic and metal containers are recycled.



What's included?

Paints and solvents, including those used for architectural, consumer automotive and consumer marine purposes.

- Alkyd (oil) paints
- Latex paints
- Solvent-based stains and coatings
- Water-based stains and coatings
- Primer
- Basecoat
- Solvents

What's not included?

Products sold in containers larger than 30 litres.

Where can I bring my acceptable products?

Unwanted paints and solvents can be dropped off at municipal transfer sites and mobile MSHW collection locations. Architectural paint can also be deposited at retail stores, including participating Lowe's, Home Depots and RONAs. To find the collection site nearest you, visit www.makethedrop.ca.

What's included?

Containers that held:

- Petroleum derived crankcase or engine oil
- Synthetic crankcase or engine oil
- Hydraulic fluid
- Transmission fluid
- Compressor oil
- Chain oil
- Rustproof oil
- Quench oil
- Food grade white mineral oil

Filters including spin-on or element style oil filters used in hydraulic, transmission or internal combustion engine applications, such as:

- Oil filters
- Diesel fuel filters
- Household furnace fuel filters
- Coolant filters
- Storage tank diesel fuel filters
- Sump-type automatic transmission filters
- Plastic or paper element style filters
- Diesel fuel filters used at retail and commercial pump islands



Oil filters and container collection

The Municipal Household Hazardous Waste (MHWSW) program includes the collection and recycling of oil containers and filters from residential and agricultural users. Used oil containers require careful management as they can contain oil residues that could contaminate waterways and soil.

Fees

People can return their used oil filter and containers free of charge. The cost of the program is covered by the manufacturers and first importers of the products.

Statistics

More than 3,000 tonnes of oil containers less than 30 litres in size are generated each year in Ontario. The agricultural sector accounts for 20 per cent of this volume. If all the oil filters sold in Ontario were recycled it amount to about 15,000 metric tonnes of steel.

How the program works

Product collection: Oil containers and filters are collected at 7,500 municipal and retail locations throughout Ontario.

Product disposal: Oil containers and filters are recycled into valuable plastic and steel, and any residual oil is recovered and recycled.

Where can I bring my acceptable products?

Oil filters and containers can be dropped off at most municipal transfer sites as well as various automotive collection sites such as participating Jiffy Lube, Pro Oil Change and Canadian Tire locations. To find the collection site nearest you, visit

www.makethedrop.ca

What's not included?

Containers that held:

- Glycol based heat transfer fluid
- Silicone heat transfer fluid
- Hydraulic oil dye
- Synthetic compressor oil
- Diesel fuel treatment
- Brake fluid
- Undercoating
- Penetrating oil
- Hydraulic jack oil
- Aerosol propelled lubricant
- Gun oil
- Kerosene
- Cooking oil
- Windshield washer fluid
- Emulsified oil
- Urethane coating
- Sewing machine oil
- 3-in-1 household oil
- Grease
- Oil additive/treatment
- Cleaning flushing fluids for motors/equipment



For more information on the safe disposal and recycling of the agricultural waste products listed in this guide, as well as those not discussed here, please visit:

**Ontario Ministry of Agriculture,
Food and Rural Affairs**
Agricultural Information Contact Centre
1-877-424-1300
www.omafra.gov.on.ca

Ontario Ministry of Environment
Public Information Centre
1-800-565-4923
www.ene.gov.on.ca

Government of Ontario Legislation
Environmental Protection Act
[www.http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/
english/elaws_statutes_90e19_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_90e19_e.htm)

For information about how to properly dispose of household waste, contact your local municipality.



The Guide to Recycling Agricultural Waste in Ontario is printed with vegetable inks on 100% post-consumer and recycled papers instead of virgin paper. In the production of this booklet and as a part of our commitment to sustainability, we have preserved trees for the future, saved waterborne waste and waste water, avoided generating solid waste and net greenhouse gases and consumed minimal energy.



For more information, please visit
www.cleanfarms.ca