

Managing pesticide spills

This fact sheet has been developed by:

NetRegs



sepa



Prevention

Storage: Store pesticides well away from surface waters and wells/boreholes.

Store pesticides in an area where spills can be contained using secondary containment.

Transport and mobile storage: Ensure concentrated and diluted pesticides are safely transported to the application area and safely stored on site.

Mixing and handling: Take extra care when handling, mixing, filling, cleaning and maintaining sprayers and pellet applicators.

Emergency planning

Action plan: Anyone who uses pesticides as part of their job must be trained in emergency procedures and must have and understand their own action plans.

Spill kits: Prepare and maintain spill kits. When working with pesticides carry an appropriate spill kit and know how to use it. Ensure spare PPE such as chemical gloves and goggles are also readily available.

Dealing with a spill

Steps to take in the event of a spill:

1. Keep people and animals away.
2. Wear PPE and avoid contaminating yourself.
3. Control the spill – Prevent further spillage e.g. use drip trays or emergency folding pools and block any drains. It is good practice to always carry a spade on your sprayer.
4. Contain the spill – Use spill kits, absorbent materials, booms etc. to keep contamination away from surface waters and drains and soak up the spill.

Contact SEPA immediately on
0800 80 70 60.

The required actions will vary depending on the type and volume of pesticide that has been spilled. If you are unsure, please seek professional advice or contact SEPA for further information.



Scan the QR code for further information and links on the NetRegs website.



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