

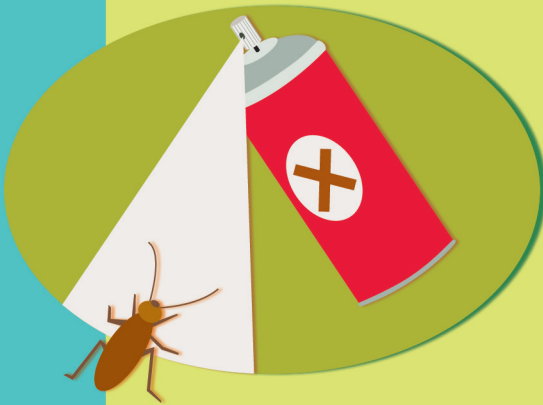
Pesticides & You

Do you use pesticides in your home?

Pesticides are used to kill or control insects, weeds, mice, and things that grow on plants and food. They also get rid of bad odors and germs in the air, on walls, and on floors. Pesticides include flea and tick sprays and powders, pet collars, kitchen, laundry and bath disinfectant and sanitizers, products that kill mold and mildew and some swimming pool chemicals.

APPLYING PESTICIDES YOURSELF:

- ALWAYS read and follow the pesticide label directions and safety warnings.
- Use baits first and not sprays to kill insects (cockroaches) or mice.
- Apply pesticides only to pest prone areas such as crevices and cracks.
- Do not use fogging devices (insect bombs) unless absolutely necessary.
- Use ready-to-use products (no mixing required), whenever possible.
- Use the correct pesticide—DO NOT use outdoor pesticides inside.
- Do not use pesticides more than needed—use the label amount!



HIRING A PEST CONTROL OPERATOR TO APPLY PESTICIDES:

- Make sure the person is certified to apply pesticides in homes.
- Ask the person to find the pest problem such as openings and leaky pipes before applying pesticides.
- Ask the person where pesticides were applied and when it is safe to re-enter these areas.
- Ask the person for the label or material safety data sheet, (MSDS), so you can read more information about the applied pesticide.

STORING PESTICIDES:

- DO NOT store a lot of pesticides in your home, if necessary, only buy pesticides that you will use each time.
- Store pesticides ONLY in their original containers NEVER in containers used to store food and beverages.
- Make sure pesticides are stored in locked cabinets, or out of the reach of children.

DISPOSING OF PESTICIDES AND PESTICIDE CONTAINERS:

- Read the label to find out how to dispose of pesticides and their bottle.
- DO NOT pour pesticides down the drain or in garbage containers.
- Contact your local waste disposal authorities about collections of old or unwanted pesticides.



For more information contact the Pesticide Exposure Surveillance and Prevention Program at: (850) 245-4277 or toll free, 1-800-606-5810. Visit the website: www.myfloridaeh.com/community/pesticide/

For medical assistance for any suspected poisoning, please call the Poison Control Center's toll free number at 1-800-222-1222.