



Colorado State University Extension
Golden Plains Area Extension

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PEST SWEEP!

Old and unused pesticides stored in partially empty containers tend to accumulate in garages, sheds, and basements, eventually becoming a hazard to the people living there. It is important to know that the longer we store a pesticide that isn't being used, the more the risk of contamination increases. Pesticide containers can become degraded and leak or the product label on the container can fall off or become unrecognizable with time. Also, someone unaware of the pesticide danger may knock over the container and the contents can spill. The best way to dispose of small amounts of excess pesticides is to use them – apply them where the product label allows. However, when leftover pesticides aren't able to be used, proper disposal is the best solution.

Colorado State University Extension will be hosting a pesticide pickup program at various locations within the Golden Plains Area. "We'll accept any pesticide delivered to us and properly dispose them through a hazardous waste contractor," states Ron Meyer, Colorado State University Extension Agent. Charges for any product dropped off will be \$4 per pound. Both liquid and solid pesticides will be accepted. DuPont, Syngenta and Monsanto companies are helping with sponsorships.

However, keep in mind that the cost of disposing is minor compared to the cost of cleaning up pollution, health hazards, and contamination that can result from improper disposal of unwanted pesticides.

Dates and locations for pesticide drop offs are:

- Tuesday, March 10 – 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. – Phillips County Extension Office, Holyoke
- Wednesday, March 11 – 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. – Sedgwick County Weed District Office, Julesburg
- Thursday, March 12 – 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. – Irrigation Research Farm, Yuma
- Thursday, March 12 – 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. – Washington County Extension Fairgrounds, Akron
- Friday, March 13 – 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. – Kit Carson County Fairgrounds, Burlington

Pre-registration is necessary for this program. This can be done by calling Ron Meyer at the Kit Carson County extension Office (719) 346-5571 or Dennis Kaan at the Washington County Extension office (970) 345-2287. Pre-register the pesticide weight (or an approximation) or the container size. Payment by checks or credit cards will be accepted at each site.

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Colorado State University Extension programs are available to all without discrimination.

Colorado State University Extension is your local university community connection for research-based information about natural resource management; living well through raising kids, eating right and spending smart; gardening and commercial horticulture; the latest agricultural production technologies and community development. Extension 4-H and youth development programs reach more than 90,000 young people annually, over half in urban communities.