

● CONNECTICUT PESTICIDE CONTROL ACT

STATUTORY CITATION: Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 22a-46 – 22a-66x

RELATED REGULATIONS: Conn. Agencies Regs. §§ 22a-49-1 – 22a-65-1

GENERAL SUMMARY: The Connecticut Pesticide Control Act regulates the distribution, sale and use of pesticides in the state. The Act confers broad authority on the state environmental protection department to adopt pesticide standards in several regulatory areas.

SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS

PROHIBITED ACTS — Among other illegal practices under the Act, it is unlawful for anyone (1) to use, distribute, sell, transport, deliver or receive any pesticide that is not registered with the state, or any product that has been adulterated or misbranded, (2) to use any registered pesticide in a manner inconsistent with restrictions prescribed under the Act or inconsistent with labeling, or (3) to detach, alter, deface or destroy any pesticide labeling required under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

REGISTRATION OF PESTICIDE APPLICATION BUSINESSES — No one may operate a pesticide application business without first obtaining a certificate of registration from the state.

CERTIFICATION OF APPLICATORS — It is unlawful for anyone to use or supervise the use of any restricted-use pesticide in Connecticut without a private or commercial certificate issued by the state, unless the use is under the direct supervision of a certified applicator. Before a certificate can be issued, each applicant must pass an examination demonstrating knowledge concerning the proper use of pesticides, the dangers involved, and the precautions to be taken in connection with their application.

APPLICATOR RECORDKEEPING — Private agricultural applicators are required to keep a record of every use of a restricted-use pesticide. The record must include the name of the applicator, the kind and amount of pesticide used, the date and place of application, and the crop and acreage treated. Similarly, application businesses and commercial applicators are obligated to make a record with respect to their use of and supervision of the use of pesticides, including the name and registration number of the commercial supervisor and commercial operator, the kind and amount of pesticide used, the date and place of application, the target pest, and the crop or site treated.

DISPOSAL OF PESTICIDES AND PESTICIDE CONTAINERS — It is illegal for anyone to dispose of a pesticide or pesticide container in such a manner as to endanger plant or animal life or the public health and safety. Pesticides may not be discarded into any public sewage disposal system.

SPECIAL NOTES OR ADVISORIES

EFFECT OF FEDERAL RULE CHANGES ON STATE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS — Effective March 6, 2017, amendments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's regulations governing the certification of pesticide applicators (*see entry, U.S. — Pesticides & Agricultural Chemicals — General Application Standards*) may require state pesticide regulatory agencies to strengthen their requirements for the certification of commercial and private applicators of restricted-use pesticides. In general, existing state rules approved by EPA before the effective date of the new federal regulations will remain in effect until March 6, 2020. If, however, the state agency submits an amended certification plan before that date, the existing state rules will remain in effect until EPA has reviewed and responded to the plan, but generally no longer than two more years.

ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT AGENCY — *Pesticide Management Program, Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Hartford, Connecticut 06106 (860-424-3369)*. The Department is authorized (1) to enter any establishment or other place where pesticides are used, stored, sold or distributed, (2) to observe the application of pesticides, (3) to inspect equipment or devices used to apply pesticides, (4) to request records, and (5) to take other measures to assure the safety of workers and the public at large against the adverse effects of pesticide exposure. The Act prescribes both civil and criminal penalties for violations.

SECONDARY OR ASSOCIATED ENFORCEMENT AGENCY — *None.*