

HOW TO SAFELY TRANSPORT PESTICIDES

Pesticides should always be handled carefully and according to the label. When transporting pesticides and their containers, you must take appropriate safety precautions to minimize or prevent leaks or spills. The following transportation tips can help you be prepared, know what to do in case of spills, and have the proper spill cleanup equipment on hand. Always wash your hands after handling pesticides or pesticide containers.

Inspecting Your Pesticide Inventory



- **Wear personal protective equipment.** When examining your pesticide inventory, take appropriate precautions and wear protective gear such as, rubber gloves, a chemical-resistant apron, goggles or safety glasses, a long sleeve shirt and long pants, a dust mask or half-face respirator, chemical resistant footwear (i.e., rubber boots) and socks.
- **Visually check the pesticide container before handling.** Rusty metal, brittle plastic or aged paper containers may be unsafe to handle and could break upon moving. First, do a visual check. Is the pesticide container deteriorated or leaking? Can it be moved safely?
- **Examine labels for safety instructions.** If there is no label, treat the product as if it is highly hazardous.
- **Acquire Safety Data Sheets (“SDS”).** The SDS contains critical information for the driver and emergency responders. It lists steps to safely deal with spills, including the correct the personal protective equipment to use, whether the spill carries an inhalation or explosion risk, decontamination procedures, and emergency telephone numbers.
- **Work in well-ventilated areas.** Avoid breathing pesticide fumes and dusts.
- **Keep pesticide containers closed.** There should be no need to open the pesticide container; it may be unsafe.

For questions, comments, or concerns please contact Adam Williams - Pesticide Disposal Program Project Manager, 808-973-9408, adam.williams@hawaii.gov, or visit the HDOA webpage for more information: <https://hdoa.hawaii.gov/pi/main/pesticide-disposal-program/>



Thank YOU for Making Our Community Safer!



