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How to Dispose of DDT - Guidelines

Michigan State University

Cooperative Extension Service

Farm Science Series

August 1969

2 pages

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# How to Dispose of DDT

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## GUIDELINES

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### Homeowners

To get rid of DDT (dichloro diphenyl trichloroethane) products such as aerosol bombs, liquid sprays, powders, and dusts—bury them on your own property. If each homeowner does so, these products will be safely dispersed and will reduce dangerous concentrations of DDT and other toxic materials at public disposal sites. By law, ingredients are listed on the label.

1. Select a place away from trees and other desirable shrubs or plants and at least 50 feet from any well or surface water such as a lake, stream, pond, or drain.
2. Dig a hole deep enough to cover the DDT products and containers with three feet of dirt.
3. Aerosol (pressurized) cans should not be punctured, but put in the hole intact.
4. Glass and metal containers should be opened and put in the hole tilted down to allow drainage. The glass should not be broken.
5. Bags and boxes should be buried intact.
6. The hole should **not** be left open. It should be filled with three feet of dirt immediately.

The only exception to the above recommendations is if the water table on your property is less than five feet below the ground. (If you do not know your underground water level, call your local health department.) If the water table on your property is less than five feet below the ground, your health department will advise you on what to do.

NOTE: DDT and other toxic products should **NOT** be flushed down the toilet, poured down a drain, put in the garbage or trash can, or taken to a public dump or landfill.

### Agricultural, Commercial and Municipal Users

The disposal of DDT in larger quantities should be done in one of the following ways:

#### A. Bury on Own Property

1. Select a site at least six feet above the **highest groundwater** table in an area that is not likely to be used for crops or building purposes. The site should be at least 300 feet from any well or surface body of water including lakes, streams, ponds and drainage ditches.
2. Dig a hole deep enough to cover the insecticide and containers with three feet of soil.
3. Open containers of liquids before placing them in the hole so as to permit drainage of the insecticide from the containers.
4. Place bags or cartons containing wettable powders or dusts in the hole intact.
5. Fill in the hole with soil **immediately**.

#### B. Disposal Through Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Notify your field office, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, of products to be disposed of, particularly those in 30 and 55 gallon drum lots. The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will take them to central collection facilities. Here, storage facilities will be posted and locked and materials will be held for proper disposal.

IN CASE OF ACCIDENTAL POISONING OR SUSPECTED POISONING—A LOCAL POISON CONTROL CENTER OR PHYSICIAN SHOULD BE CONTACTED IMMEDIATELY. (over)

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These guidelines for proper disposal of DDT (dichloro diphenyl trichloroethane) were established by the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service and Agricultural Experiment Station and the Michigan Department of Public Health.

## Poison Control Centers

### ADRIAN

Poison Control Center  
Emma L. Bixby Hospital  
818 Riverside Drive  
Colfax 5-6161  
Robert Greiner, M.D.

### ANN ARBOR

Poison Control Center  
University Hospital  
1313 E. Ann St.  
Normandy 3-1531, Ext. 589  
George H. Lowrey, M.D.

### BATTLE CREEK

Poison Control Center  
Community Hospital  
200 Tomkins St.  
Woodward 3-5521  
Sterling L. Butterfield, R.Ph.

### BAD AXE

Poison Control Center  
Hubbard Memorial Hospital  
CO 9-6444  
Alice J. Schoemaker, R.Ph.  
E. E. Steinhardt, M.D.

### BAY CITY

Poison Control Center\*  
Mercy Hospital  
100 15th St.  
Twinbrook 3-9554  
Theodore Meyer, Pharmacist

### BENTON HARBOR

Mercy Hospital\*  
960 Agard  
(see St. Joseph)

### COLDWATER

Poison Control Center  
Branch County Community  
Health Center  
274 E. Chicago St.  
379-9501  
John C. Heffelfinger, M.D.  
Office 278-2359

### DETROIT

Poison Control Center  
Children's Hospital  
5224 St. Antoine St.  
Temple 3-1000  
Paul V. Wooley, Jr., M.D.  
Rosalyn Weintraub, M.D.

Poison Information Center  
Registrar's Office  
Herman Kiefer Hospital  
1151 Taylor Avenue  
Trinity 2-3334  
Paul T. Salchow, M.D.  
William G. Frederick, Sc.D.

Poison Treatment Center\*  
Saratoga General Hospital  
15000 Gratiot Ave.  
Lakeview 6-5100  
Wm. B. Hennessey, Chief  
Pharmacist

### FLINT

Poison Control Center\*  
Hurley Hospital  
6th Ave. & Begole  
Cedar 2-1161  
Douglas L. Vivian, R.Ph.

### GRAND RAPIDS

Poison Control Center  
Butterworth Hospital  
300 Bostwick, N.E.  
Glendale 1-3591  
John R. Wilson, M.D.  
Poison Control Center  
Blodgett Memorial Hospital  
1800 Wealthy, S.E.  
Glendale 6-5301  
John Montgomery, M.D.  
Poison Control Center  
St. Mary's Hospital  
201 LaFayette  
Glendale 9-3131  
Craig E. Booher, M.D.

### JACKSON

Poison Treatment Center\*  
Foote Memorial Hospital  
205 N. East St.  
State 3-2711  
Ethan Stone, M.D.

### KALAMAZOO

Poison Control Center  
Bronson Methodist Hospital  
252 E. Lovell St.  
Fireside 2-9821  
H. Sidney Heersma, M.D.;  
Wm. E. Johnson, Chief  
Pharmacist

### LANSING

Poison Control Center  
St. Lawrence Hospital  
1210 W. Saginaw St.  
372-2610  
Robert F. Thimmig, M.D.  
Poison Control Center  
Edw. W. Sparrow Hospital  
1215 E. Michigan Ave.  
Ivanhoe 4-7721  
Harry C. George, M.D.  
Poison Treatment Center\*  
Lansing General Hospital  
2800 Devonshire Ave.  
Ivanhoe 5-4311  
John Morgan, Chief  
Pharmacist

### LINCOLN PARK

Poison Control Center  
Outer Drive Hospital  
26400 Outer Drive  
386-0606  
W. S. Wheeler

### MARQUETTE

Poison Information Center  
St. Luke's Hospital  
West College Ave.  
Canal 6-3511  
Thomas Bell, Pharmacist

### MIDLAND

Poison Control Center  
Midland Hospital  
4005 Orchard Drive  
TE 5-6771  
B. E. Lorimer;  
D. N. Fields, M.D.

### MONROE

Poison Control Center  
Memorial Hospital of Monroe  
700 Stewart Road  
241-6509

### PETOSKEY

Poison Control Center\*  
Little Traverse Hospital  
416 Connable  
Diamond 7-2551  
Norbert R. Wegemer, Chief  
Pharmacist

### PONTIAC

Poison Control Center\*  
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital  
900 Woodward Ave.  
Federal 4-3511  
Robert J. Mason, M.D.

### PORT HURON

Poison Control Center  
Mercy Hospital  
2601 Electric Ave.  
Yukon 5-9531  
Robert Lugg, M.D.

### SAGINAW

Poison Control Center  
Saginaw General Hospital  
1447 N. Harrison Rd.  
753-3411  
Wm. G. Mason, M.D.  
Poison Treatment Center  
Saginaw Osteopathic Hospital  
515 N. Michigan  
Pl 3-7751  
Nicholas Latkovic, D.O.

### ST. JOSEPH

Memorial Hospital\*  
2611 Morton Ave.  
Marshall J. Feeley, M.D.;\*  
James W. Skinner, M.D.  
2615 Niles St.  
YUKON 3-1674

### WAYNE

Poison Treatment Center  
Annapolis Hospital  
33155 Annapolis  
PA 2-4400  
House Physician on duty

### WEST BRANCH

Poison Control Center  
335 E. Houghton  
345-2777

\* Facilities available for determining cholinesterase levels in blood samples.