

Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development
Environmental Stewardship Division
MAEAP PESTICIDE CONTAINER RECYCLING – FY15



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Legal Authority: Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Public Act 451 of 1994, Part 87 (Groundwater and Freshwater Protection), as amended

Description of the Program:

- The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development the Michigan Agri-Business Association, the Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC) and Container Services Network have formed a partnership designed to promote the proper cleaning and recycling of pesticide containers.
- Information on proper container rinsing techniques and recycling locations is distributed by the partnership to pesticide users.
- A network of agri-businesses and conservation districts is available for the collection and recycling of properly cleaned plastic containers into appropriate post-consumer products. Containers up to 56 gallons in size are accepted.
- This program is driven by a contract between ACRC and the vendor, Container Services Network. A number of agri-businesses, including Crop Protection Services, now have their own in-house recycling efforts, which are not reported to MDARD. Crop Production Services accounted for 22 additional collection sites in previous years.

Why it Matters:

- Reduces environmental and human health risks by promoting safe container rinsing practices.
- Decreases the likeliness that unclean or improperly stored containers will leach pesticide residue into the environment.
- Allows plastics to be recycled or converted to other beneficial uses rather than taking up valuable landfill space.



Key Stakeholders

- Agricultural pesticide and fertilizer users
- Turfgrass industry
- Michigan agri-businesses
- Greenhouse industry
- Conservation districts
- Ag Container Recycling Council

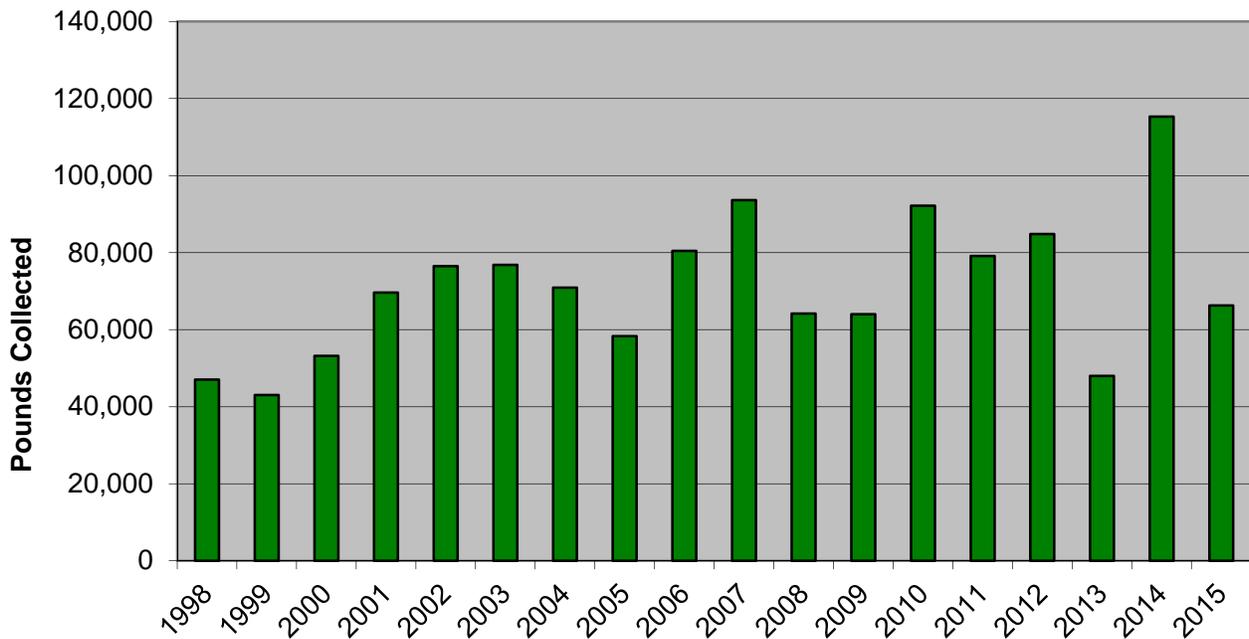
Key Deliverables

- 23 agribusinesses participating as collection sites
- 1.6 million pounds recycled since 1993
- Freeing up limited landfill space

FY15 Accomplishments:

- In FY15, Clean Tide, the Michigan-based subsidiary of IBC North America in Clarkston, was sold and redefined their business model which no longer includes participation in the program. American Recycling, in Grand Traverse County, switched to incineration of incoming plastic for co-generation and can no longer be counted as recycling. It should be noted that several thousand pounds of producers' plastic that would normally have been counted in the Michigan effort were diverted to this latter facility.
- A total of 66,281 pounds of empty, properly cleaned pesticide containers collected and recycled in 2015.

Measuring Success:



Dashboards and Scorecards:

- The Pesticide Container Recycling Program did not have an item on the departmental scorecard for FY15. Collection numbers reported to MDARD only reflect efforts of this state/industry/producer partnership. They do not include pesticide container recycling efforts by agribusiness in their entirety, which is much larger.

2016 Program Goals:

- MDARD will work with Container Services Network of South Carolina, and American Recycling to coordinate recycling and quantity reporting efforts.
- MDARD will identify additional potential options for producers to recycle empty, clean pesticide containers, especially in hard to service areas of the state.