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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 G. Phillips and Sons, LLC form 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 a new vendor, G. Phillips & Sons, LLC, who won a three-year contract for the upper Midwest United States.

**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

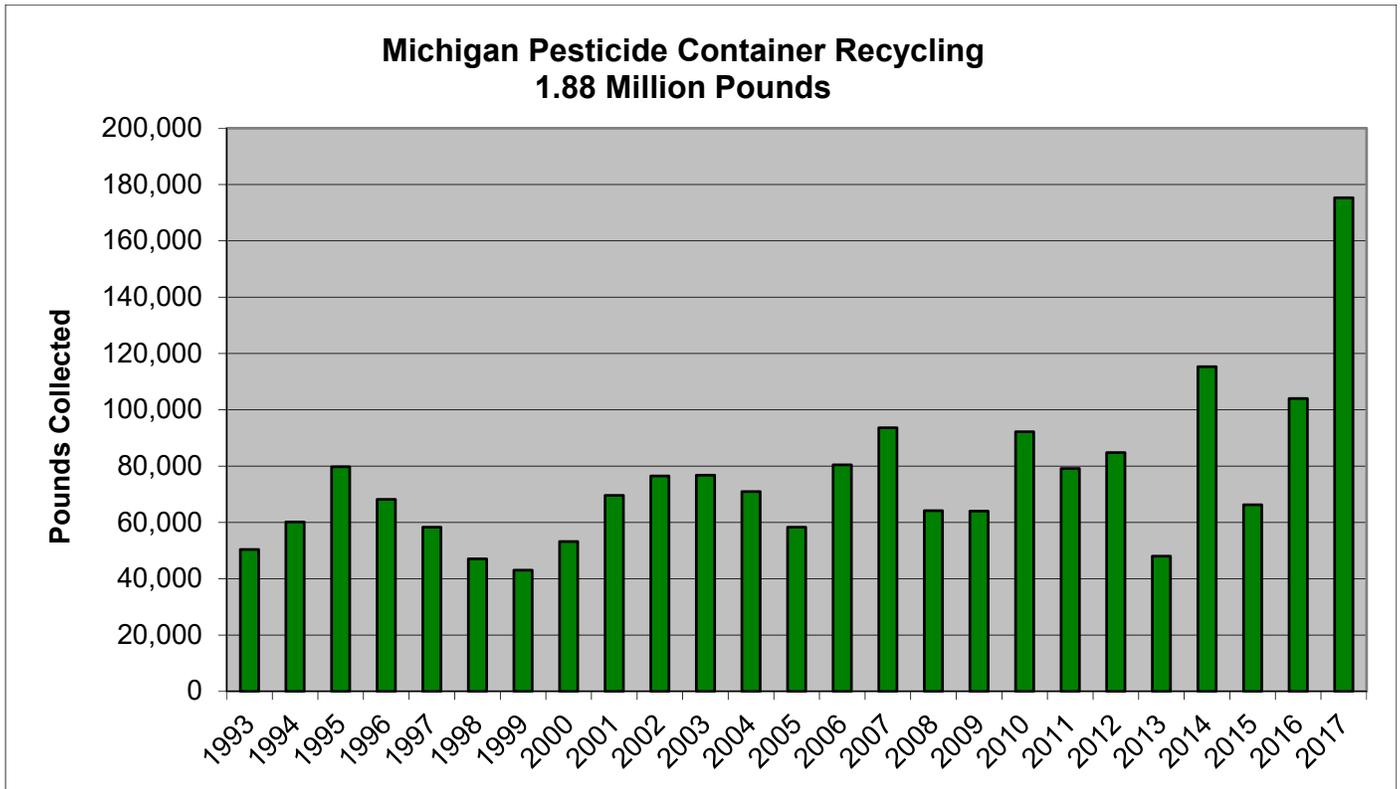
**Key Deliverables**

- 43 agribusiness locations participating as collection sites in 2017
- 1.88 million pounds recycled since 1993
- Freed up limited landfill space

### FY17 Accomplishments:

- A total of 175,316 pounds of empty, properly cleaned pesticide containers collected and recycled in 2017. The new vendor exceeded 2016 collections by 41%.

### Measuring Success:



### Dashboards and Scorecards:

- The Pesticide Container Recycling Program did not have an item on the departmental scorecard for FY17. 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, through reverse distribution or otherwise, which would increase this number significantly.

### 2018 Program Goals:

- MDARD is looking forward to increasing outreach to more agribusinesses with G. Phillips & Sons, LLC to improve program services.
- G. Phillips & Sons, LLC continues to look at new models of facilitating participation of recycling empty, clean pesticide containers in Michigan for 2018.
- MDARD will explore options, along with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Conservation Districts, for the development of a program for collection and recycling of other agricultural plastics. These include silage wrap, mulches and greenhouse covers.