



You have your Michigan commercial pesticide applicator business license; what pesticide regulations do you need to comply with?

APPLICATOR CREDENTIALS - Act 451, Section 8314: every person applying pesticides for a licensed business must be either a certified or registered applicator with the State of Michigan. This is true even if the person only applies pesticides infrequently.

FOLLOW THE PESTICIDE LABEL - Act 451, Section 8311(9) and Regulation 637, Rule (4)(a): Applicators are responsible for following all directions for use on a pesticide label. Label directions include pesticide mixing instructions, where the product can be applied, method(s) of application, personal protective equipment, and any precautionary statements. The label is the law.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) – A pesticide applicator shall follow all label directions regarding PPE. In addition, Regulation 637, Rule 9 requires applicators to wear long pants, protective footwear, impervious gloves, and long sleeves (unless water and soap are available then short sleeves may be worn). Always read the label before determining which PPE must be worn.

VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION - Regulation 637, Rule 4(l): All vehicles transporting pesticides must be identified with the firm name plus address or phone or DOT number in text three inches tall or larger.

SPILL KIT - Regulation 637, Rule (4m): All vehicles carrying pesticide concentrates or dilutions in containers larger than 16 oz. must be equipped with a spill kit. The spill kit needs to be appropriate to contain and clean-up the type and volume of pesticide being carried. For instance, a broom and dustpan are not effective for liquid pesticides, nor is an absorbent material effective for granular pesticides. All spills must be cleaned up and contained.

NOTIFICATION REGISTRY - Regulation 637, Rule 5: MDARD maintains a Notification Registry of persons who have documented health concerns requiring notification. Applicators must notify persons on the Registry prior to making turf or ornamental applications. Each year, turf and ornamental firms will be sent a website address where they can access an updated copy of the Registry and determine if any of their customers are located at addresses which require notification.

DRIFT MANAGEMENT PLAN - Regulation 637, Rule 10: Firms making applications with the potential to drift (just about any outdoor type of application) must have a written drift management plan describing how the applicators evaluate the potential for drift, mitigation measures, securing informed consent, and notification procedures. See MDARD's website for a [template](#).

RISK/BENEFIT INFORMATION - Regulation 637, Rule 12(4): At the initiation of a service agreement, firms are required to provide their customers with specific information on using pesticides. A template is available [online](#). You can obtain an MDARD-approved generic version of a drift management plan, risk-benefit information, and a chart on required recordkeeping and customer information.

POSTING - Regulation 637, Rule 11: Several types of pesticide applications require posting but it's NOT required for fertilizer ONLY applications. Posting requirements include:

- **Turf and ornamental** - Broadcast or foliar applications must be posted for 24 hours. Standard lawn posting signs must be printed on both sides and contain ONLY the information shown in the illustration.
- **Indoor applications** - Use a sticker with a house in a cloud symbol and the date of application in the entrance to commercial buildings, public buildings, or health care facilities at the time of the application when broadcast, foliar or space insecticide applications are used indoors.
- **Other types of posting or notification** - Golf course, right of way and community-wide applications such as mosquito control also have specific posting or notification requirements.

CUSTOMER PAPERWORK - Regulation 637, Rule 12.2: At the time of the application* you must provide your customer with the following information:

- Name, address, phone number of your firm
- Applicator's full name
- Target pest
- Common name of active ingredients of pesticides applied
- Date and time of application
- Precautionary warnings on the pesticide label applicable to the situation.

*If agreed to **in writing**, you may provide customer information electronically within 48 hours.

APPLICATION RECORDS - Regulation 636, Rule 15: All commercial applicators are required to keep records of applications for at least one year for general use pesticides or three years for restricted use pesticides. Records must contain the following:

- Name and EPA registration number of the pesticide applied
- Concentration of the pesticide applied
- Amount of pesticide end use dilution applied
- Target pest, purpose, or crop site
- Date the pesticide was applied
- Address or location of the pesticide application
- Method and the rate of application.

MIX/LOAD PAD - Regulation. 637, Rule 6: Applicators mixing or loading more than 10 days per calendar year in one location must mix and load pesticides at a mixing and loading facility. Hand-held equipment is exempt from a mix load facility.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) - Act 451, Sections 8304(5) and Section 8316; Regulation 637, Rule 14: Firms making applications in schools, licensed day care centers, health care facilities, and public buildings must first evaluate the pest problems and develop a written management plan prior to making applications. IPM in schools and daycare centers includes requirements for avoiding applications when students are present, notifying guardians of upcoming applications, and additional recordkeeping requirements.

This is not a complete list of requirements. For further information regarding pesticides and the regulations described above, visit www.michigan.gov/mdapest or call 800-292-3939 and ask to be referred to your local pesticide inspector.