

## Information from Cleanfarms

### Changes to Pesticide & Fertilizer Container Collection Program

Cleanfarms operates the collection program for <23L pesticide and fertilizer containers on behalf of Canada's leading developers, manufacturers, distributors and retailers of pest control products and fertilizers. Together, these companies support good stewardship in and away from the field.

Since the founding of the container management program (CMP) in 1989, Alberta Municipalities have served as collection sites for pesticide and fertilizer containers. From our team to yours, thank you very much for your role in ensuring these containers were recycled responsibly.

Pesticide & fertilizer containers are collected at agricultural retail (ag-retail) locations in all Canadian provinces, except Alberta and Manitoba, where they are collected at municipal waste transfer stations and landfills. In August 2021, Alberta's Agriculture Service Board (ASB) passed a resolution (Resolution 2-21) to work with Alberta Environment and Parks (AEP) and Cleanfarms to shift the responsibility of collecting <23L containers from Alberta municipalities to ag-retail locations in the province.

Following the ASB Resolution, Cleanfarms staff brought the recommendation to Cleanfarms's Board of Directors to standardize the <23L pesticide and fertilizer container collection program across Canada by transitioning the collection to ag-retailers in Alberta and Manitoba. This recommendation was based on careful consideration of the additional benefits of a return-to-retail model, such as higher collection rates of containers, higher rates of rinsing containers, lower incidences of old chemicals being dropped off along with the empty containers and harmonized logistics and communications across the Prairie Provinces. In September 2021, Cleanfarms' Board of Directors approved the recommendation to fully transition small container collections from municipal locations to ag-retail locations by the end of 2024.

Cleanfarms will use a phased approach to ensure that municipalities, ag-retailers and growers have adequate time to adjust to the transition and ensure that all participating locations receive good service from collection contractors. The key to success for the transition will be effective engagement with the impacted sites and strategically managing workflow through careful and deliberate site selection in each phase of the process.

What this means for municipal collection site partners:

- . Over the next three years (2022 through 2024) the collection of <23L containers will transition from a municipal collection model to an ag-retail collection model.
- . In Spring 2022, ag-retail locations will have the opportunity to collect <23L containers (in addition to collections offered by municipal collection sites).
- . There will be a blended collection logistics for the duration of the transition period. Under this hybrid ag-retail and municipal model, Cleanfarms will pick up from both.
- . By December 31, 2024, all <23L containers will be collected at ag-retail locations.

The North Peace Regional Landfill will continue to collect containers until December 31, 2023 however, we request that farmers begin taking the containers to the ag-retailers when picking up their next supply of herbicides/pesticides. We also have a supply of plastic bags that the chem jugs should be put in prior to bringing them in and farmers are welcome to come to the landfill and get the amount they require.

In Clear Hills County, containers will still be accepted at the Worsley and Hines Creek Transfer Stations until 31 December 2022 after which they can be taken to the ag-retailer or brought into the Regional Landfill.



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