

AG. WATER QUALITY ACT



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- Technical Assistance
- Funding Assistance
- Important Considerations

PEST MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING CULTURAL CONTROL

CROPS BMP #12



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Description:
Apply insecticides, herbicides, and other agriculture chemicals wisely in the production of farm crops and livestock. Safely store unused chemicals and properly dispose of empty containers and wash materials. Use cultural control to reduce the prevalence of weeds and pests.

AWQA Minimum Requirements:
Read and follow label directions when using pesticides. Evaluate and use a tailored pest management system to reduce crop and environmental damages.

Recommendations:
Rarely will all pesticides purchased in a season be used in that season. Build and maintain an effective pesticide storage facility. Triple rinse used pesticide containers and puncture to prevent use for other purposes. Reduce spraying to spot treatment of major problems, rather than spraying the entire field, if possible.

An integrated pest management (IPM) program can reduce agri-chemical water pollution and unnecessary pesticide applications. Implementation of IPM by farmers can contribute significantly in improving water quality.

Use extreme care to minimize contamination of waterways, streams, ponds and lakes. Never drive equipment into these water areas for filling or cleaning. Use either a pump or suction line to fill equipment tanks to reduce water pollution. Prevent back-siphoning by using an airbreak or anti-back siphoning device between the sprayer tank and source of water.

Technical References

- University Publications
- [University of Kentucky College of Agriculture Extension publications](#)
 - [ENT-66 Timing Control Actions for Landscape Pests](#)
- USDA/NRCS Publications
- [Practice Code 595](#) Integrated Pest Management
 - See Crops BMP#16-Backflow Prevention

Funding Assistance Options

- State Cost Share
- See your local Conservation District to [apply](#).
- Kentucky Ag. Development Fund (KADB/KAFC)
- Select from [available program options](#).
- NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Select from [available program options](#).

Important Considerations

- Water Quality Benefit (💧💧💧💧): 💧💧
(KEY: 💧=good, 💧💧💧💧=best: see [PLET model](#))
- Wildlife Benefits
- Contact the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife’s [Habitat Improvement Program](#) how to improve wildlife habitat with select BMPs (1-800-858-1549).