

2016

Waste Pesticide Collection Program

Legislative Report



March 6, 2017

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Cover photo: Participant delivering waste pesticides to collection site at Crookston, MN agricultural chemical dealership.

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Executive Summary

The Waste Pesticide Collection (WPC) program began in 1990 focusing on disposal of old, unwanted and unusable waste pesticides stored on farms in barns and sheds. During its first 10 years of operation, collection totals were high and hundreds of tons of farm waste was collected for proper disposal.

Gradually, farm pesticide collection volumes declined as less was stored. Eventually, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) entered into cooperative agreements with county-run household hazardous waste (HHW) facilities to make collections at local facilities. Cooperators agree to collect household waste pesticides, farm waste pesticides, or both when they sign an agreement.

HHW facilities have collected household hazardous wastes and some business wastes for many years and are natural partners. They make the WPC program better by leveraging their existing collection organization which offers local facilities, equipment and trained professional personnel. This partnership program helps homeowners dispose of chemicals that they might otherwise throw into the trash or into landfills.

Cooperators are valued partners and do a great job. Yields from collections they sponsored totaled more than 450,000 pounds of waste pesticides in each of the past three years. Cooperative agreements to collect household waste pesticides exist in all 87 Minnesota counties; agreements in 74 counties cover the collection of farm waste pesticides.

Cooperative collections netted about 505,000 pounds of household and farm waste pesticides in calendar 2016 which is the largest ever total for cooperators. The MDA organized collections in areas where cooperative agreements do not exist that yielded an additional 20,000 pounds of farm waste pesticides. This combined total is the largest single year collection yield in the history of the program.

Minnesota benefits from the elimination of the products that could harm people, water and state resources. The program has eliminated more than 7 million pounds of unusable and unwanted waste pesticides from the landscape with program costs paid by funds from the Waste Pesticide Account. The amount of waste pesticides collected on an annual basis continues to increase and program costs rise along with collection totals.

The Waste Pesticide Surcharge is a fee assessed on the approximately 13,600 individual household and farm pesticides distributed in Minnesota each year. The impact of the fee on a consumer is nominal; surcharge revenue is a fraction of the total gross revenue for pesticides sold in the state.

Fee revenue is deposited in the Waste Pesticide Account. The Account was established to cover the cooperative agreement costs and unspent funds may be used to cover programs costs in subsequent years. Cooperative agreement collection totals have risen and account funds are no longer sufficient to cover all collection costs.

All disposal opportunities are free for the user. The program helps farmers and homeowners by giving them opportunities to safely dispose of unwanted or unusable pesticides. Farm pesticide is often a highly concentrated and dangerous substance. Household pesticide accumulate quickly in small quantities.

The WPC Program is important environment stewardship for the state. The program aligns with the MDA's mission *to enhance Minnesotans' quality of life by ensuring the integrity of our food supply, the health of our environment, and the strength of our agricultural economy.* Partnerships are mutually beneficial and provide HHW programs a sustainable funding source for the implementation of their collection and environmental protection efforts.

Background

Pesticides control all sorts of pests including weeds, disease, insects, fungus, parasites, rodents and other pests. Pesticides are distributed in various formulations that range from highly-concentrated agricultural chemicals to ready-to-use home and garden products. Pesticides are a widely used in crop production, and also in greenhouses, nurseries, golf courses, and commercial lawn care and are commonly used in homes and gardens.

By their nature, pesticides are hazardous substances and are highly regulated. If not handled properly, including proper disposal of unused product, pesticides can pose health and environmental risks. The WPC program provides persons holding unwanted or unusable pesticides opportunities to safely dispose of them. Collections have removed more than seven (7) million pounds of farm and household waste pesticide from Minnesota.

For many years, the MDA organized collection events throughout the state that focused on farm waste. When farm waste totals began to decline, the MDA partnered with county HHW facilities to collect household pesticides. Today, all counties operate under a cooperative agreement to collect household and most also collect farm waste pesticides.

HHW facilities have operated for many years within counties and county clusters removing hazardous materials. They were and are natural partners with their established collection operations. The partnership makes the WPC program better by leveraging an existing collection organization. The HHW locations offer local convenience with facilities, equipment and trained professional personnel near the waste generators.

Cooperative agreements to collect household waste pesticides exist in all 87 Minnesota counties; agreements in 74 counties cover the collection of farm waste pesticides. The MDA pays all transportation, equipment and disposal costs for waste collected through cooperative agreements. The MDA also provides our partners an advertising stipend and \$0.25 per pound as a reasonable overhead to cover some of their related expenses. Yields from cooperative agreement collection activities have risen steadily in each of the past three years; 452,000 pounds in 2014, 478,000 in 2015 and 506,000 in 2016.

The Waste Pesticide Surcharge revenue funds the cooperative agreement expenses. Recently, cooperative agreement expenses have exceeded account revenue. The surcharge is assessed on each pesticide registered and distributed in Minnesota. This assessment includes approximately 10,000 household products and 3,600 farm pesticides. Currently, the surcharge generates approximately \$662,000 annually for the fund which is less than 0.001% of the \$825 million dollars in total gross pesticide sales in a year.

Funds generated by the Waste Pesticide Surcharge are deposited into the Pesticide Regulatory Account (PRA), which MDA uses to pay staff expenses to review and maintain

cooperative agreements contracts and validate and pay transportation and disposal invoicing. The MDA also sponsors farm pesticide collection events at least every other year in areas where counties have not signed a cooperative agreement. The MDA uses unspent account funds or PRA dollars to pay salaries and administrative expenses, transportation, equipment, and disposal costs for these collections.

For the first few years after the surcharge was implemented, the account held surplus revenue that was subsequently expended on cooperative agreements and MDA sponsored collection expenses in years with large collection totals. In 2016, all surplus funds were expended.

Legislation

Per Minnesota Statute, Chapter 18B.065, Sub. 3(b) (2016), the MDA must annually by March 15th report on WPC progress and pesticide collection totals. Statutory reporting requirements include:

1. Each instance of a refusal to collect waste pesticide or the assessment of a fee to a pesticide end user;
2. Waste pesticide collection information including a discussion of the type and quantity of waste pesticide collected by the commissioner and any entity collecting waste pesticide under “cooperative agreements” with the state during the previous calendar year;
3. A summary of waste pesticide collection trends; and
4. Any corresponding program recommendations.

Recording details of collected waste pesticides was suspended in 2013 by legislative action. Maintaining detailed Records on thousands of individual waste deliveries was an administrative burden. Several new counties signed on as cooperators when record keeping protocols changed.

Beginning in 2016, collection entities record only the actual or estimated weights of farm waste pesticides and overall collection totals; household waste pesticide totals are deduced. The MDA uses this data to monitor the collection waste stream and identify collection trends.

The Waste Pesticide Account was established to fund cooperative agreement costs, but the revenue is no longer sufficient to cover these costs. Currently, the surcharge generates \$662,000 for the fund; cooperative agreement costs were \$759,000 in 2015 and more than \$843,000 in 2016.

The MDA is proposing legislation to increase the surcharge assessed on about 10,000 household pesticides and 3,600 farm pesticides distributed and used in Minnesota each year. The proposal raises the fee on household pesticide from \$50 to \$125 per product and on farm pesticide from \$50 to \$75 per product. The rate is proportional to the collection waste stream and is expected to generate about \$1.5 million annual for the fund to cover program costs.

The impact of this fee on the consumer will be extremely small. MDA estimates that raising the surcharge on a \$15 household pesticide will cost \$0.09, using an average across products based on \$200M in annual sales. MDA estimates that raising the surcharge on a \$75 farm pesticide will cost \$0.03, using an average across products based on \$625M in annual sales.

Program Milestones

The Waste Pesticide Program has operated more for than 26 years. The WPC Program is an important environment stewardship effort for the state – it has meant the removal of about 7 million pounds of waste pesticides from Minnesota’s landscape. The program aligns with the MDA’s mission *to enhance Minnesotans’ quality of life by ensuring the integrity of our food supply, the health of our environment, and the strength of our agricultural economy.*

Program highlights are listed in Table 1. All opportunities to safely dispose of unwanted or unusable pesticides opportunities are free for homeowners and farmers. Without this program, these substances might end up in the trash and accumulate in landfills. Our state benefits from the safe removal of products that could harm people, water and state resources.

Table 1. Program milestones.

Year	Milestone
1989	Survey shows 3 million pounds of waste pesticides are stored on farms.
1990	First waste pesticide collections occur.
1990-2002	Collection of farm waste pesticides averages 150,000 lbs. per year.
1996	MDA and counties establishes informal collection partnerships.
1999	Household collection totals surpass farm collection totals for the first time.
2000	Collection total = 225,000 pounds/farm waste; 180,000 pounds/ household waste.
2008-2009	Waste Pesticide Task Force proposes program changes; legislation take effect.
2009	Waste Pesticide Surcharge established to cover cooperative agreement costs.
2009	MDA collects waste pesticides in counties without an agreement. Recordkeeping requirements are established.
2009	MDA pays transportation and disposal costs, and overhead costs to cooperators.
2013	Legislature suspends recordkeeping requirements for 2013-2015.
2013-2014	Waste Pesticide Collection Program data analysis 2009 – 2012.
2014	86 counties sign agreements to collect household waste pesticides; 51 counties agree to collect farm waste pesticides.
2015	Legislative directives changes record keeping and promote program efficiencies.
2015-2016	Cooperative agreement expenses exceed funds generated by surcharge revenue.
2016	87 counties sign agreements to collect household waste pesticides; 74 counties agree to collect farm waste pesticides.

Participation and Results

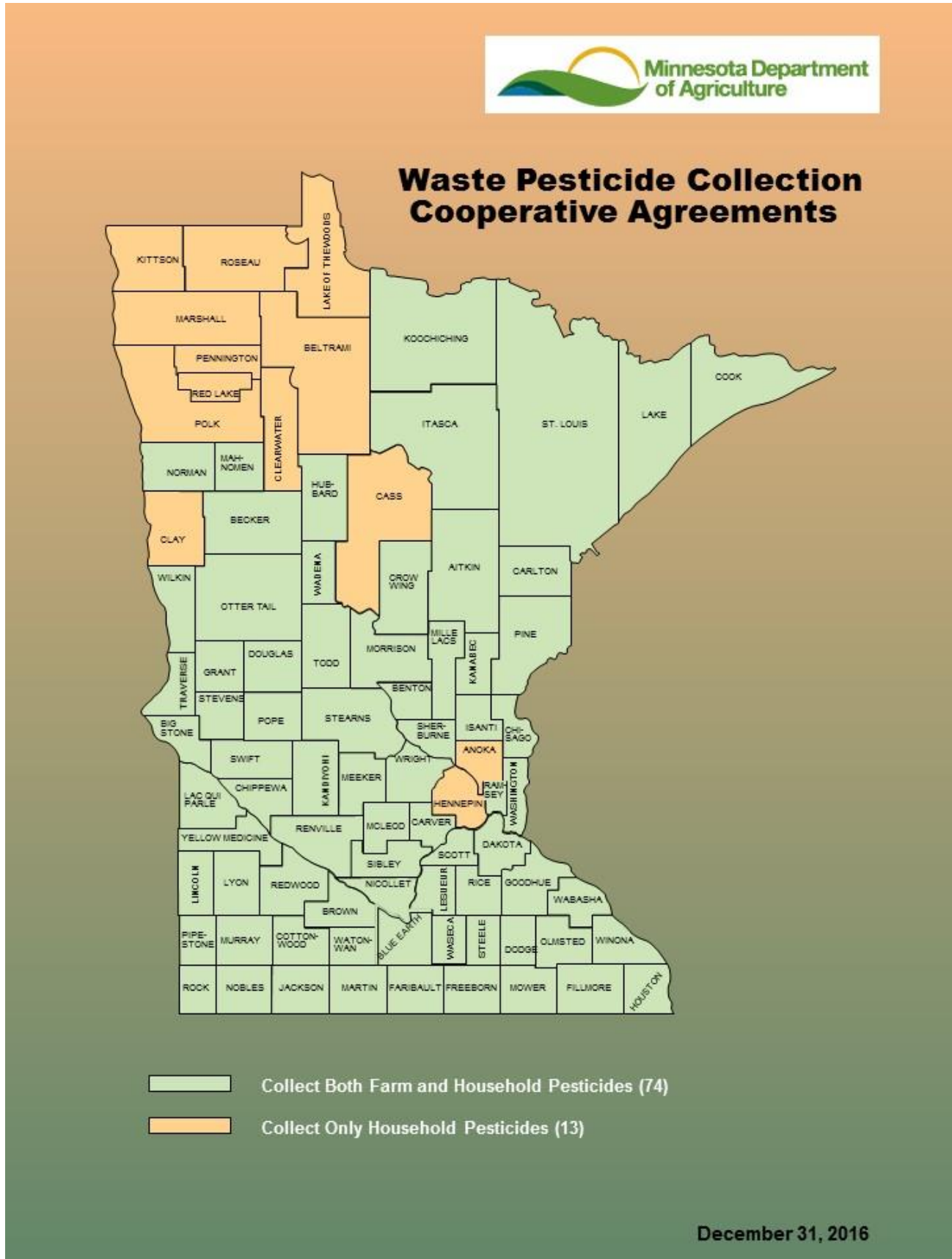
HHW cooperators are valued partners in this program. These organizations are recognized in their community for the environmental benefits they support and their efforts as cooperators have made the WPC better. Cooperative agreement collection totals have increased every year because HHW provide a local collection structure that is readily accessible.

In 2016 several counties signed new cooperative agreements, most adding collection of farm waste pesticides to an existing agreement. The MDA has cooperative agreements in all 87 Minnesota counties to collect household waste pesticides; agreements in 74 counties collect farm waste pesticides. Many counties in the northwest part of the state are not covered by cooperative agreements to collect farm waste pesticides.

HHW collection operations vary. Some counties only collect from residents of their county. Other counties form a cluster to facilitate multi-county collections. Collections serving cluster counties are structured variously; one county operates as a regional center and residents in the cluster drop-off waste pesticides; each county supports a holding site and periodically, the lead county mobilizes a pickup to collect the accumulated waste; or a lead county may periodically travel to conduct temporary mobile collections at sites throughout the cluster.

Figure 1 is a map depicting the availability of local waste pesticide collection opportunities for household and farm waste pesticides in the state. Some counties may impose specific participation requirements, such as collecting pesticides from farms, but not from businesses. Participants should always contact the county environmental office for participation details.

Figure 1. A state map showing cooperative agreements.



Environmental protection is an important program outcome as waste pesticides are removed from every county in the state. Our valued partners contribute substantially to the success of the program. Agreements with counties and counties clusters creates a widespread collection presence. Each row in Table 2 shows the totals of waste pesticides collected by cooperators and overhead paid by MDA to a county or county cluster.

Yearly totals of waste pesticide removed in each county or county cluster are found below under the heading of Pounds Collected, and the cumulative total is under the heading Total and Pounds. More than 1.4 million pounds of waste pesticide have been collected by cooperators for disposal in the past 3 years.

Cooperators are reimbursed for their efforts. Yearly amounts of overhead paid to each county or county cluster are found below under the heading of Overhead Paid, and the cumulative total is under the heading Total and Overhead. More than \$350,000 has been paid to cooperators to cover collection overhead in the past 3 years.

Table 2. Three Year Cooperative Collections Totals and Reimbursements by Calendar Year.

County or Cluster	Pounds Collected			Overhead Paid			Total	
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	Pounds	Overhead
Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis	20,168	22,804	24,740	\$5,042	\$5,701	\$6,185	67,712	\$16,928
Anoka	29,604	33,128	33,927	\$7,401	\$8,282	\$8,481	96,659	\$24,164
Becker, Hubbard, Mahnomen, Norman	5,459	7,604	6,492	\$1,365	\$1,901	\$1,623	19,555	\$4,889
Beltrami, Cass, Clearwater, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, Roseau	4,722	7,690	5,409	\$1,181	\$1,923	\$1,352	17,821	\$4,455
Benton, Mille Lacs, Sherburne, Stearns	15,995	30,748	29,251	\$3,999	\$7,687	\$7,813	75,994	\$19,499
Big Stone, Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Lac Qui Parle, Meeker, Renville, Swift	8,613	6,915	11,565	\$2,153	\$1,729	\$2,891	27,093	\$6,773
Blue Earth, Watonwan	7,667	7,919	3,992	\$1,838	\$1,980	\$998	19,578	\$4,816
Brown	3,127	3,500	4,485	\$782	\$875	\$1,121	11,112	\$2,778
Carver	19,506	19,678	23,020	\$4,877	\$4,920	\$5,755	62,204	\$15,551
Chisago, Isanti	5,398	6,068	6,350	\$1,350	\$1,517	\$1,588	17,816	\$4,455
Clay	1,499	2,215	1,720	\$375	\$554	\$430	5,434	\$1,359
Cottonwood, Jackson, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock, Yellow Medicine	16,701	7,100	15,613	\$4,018	\$1,775	\$3,903	39,414	\$9,696
Crow Wing	3,128	1,932	2,493	\$782	\$483	\$617	7,553	\$1,882
Dakota	40,185	37,497	32,885	\$10,046	\$9,374	\$8,221	110,567	\$27,642

County or Cluster	Pounds Collected			Overhead Paid			Total	
	2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	Pounds	Overhead
Dodge, Goodhue, Olmsted, Wabasha	7,103	10,208	6,998	\$1,776	\$2,552	\$1,750	24,309	\$6,078
Douglas, Pope	3,957	3,658	5,570	\$989	\$915	\$1,393	13,185	\$3,297
Faribault, Martin	4,542	3,890	4,648	\$1,136	\$973	\$1,162	13,080	\$3,270
Fillmore, Houston, Winona	5,527	6,991	6,984	\$1,382	\$1,748	\$1,746	20,247	\$5,176
Freeborn	2,722	4,401	3,263	\$681	\$1,100	\$816	10,386	\$2,597
Grant, Otter Tail, Stevens, Traverse, Wadena, Wilkin	2,200	3,120	4,855	\$550	\$780	\$1,214	10,175	\$2,544
Hennepin	104,894	111,310	105,058	\$26,224	\$27,828	\$26,265	321,262	\$80,316
Kanabec	271	229	170	\$68	\$57	\$43	670	\$168
Le Sueur, Nicollet, Sibley	8,323	3,212	8,265	\$2,081	\$803	\$2,066	19,800	\$4,950
McLeod	6,455	3,903	7,954	\$1,614	\$976	\$1,989	18,312	\$4,579
Morrison	1,194	1,582	845	\$299	\$396	\$211	3,621	\$905
Mower	1,166	2,177	627	\$290	\$544	\$157	3,970	\$992
Pine	236	633	2,373	\$59	\$158	\$593	3,242	\$810
Ramsey	48,449	48,016	52,055	\$12,112	\$12,004	\$13,014	148,520	\$37,130
Rice, Steele, Waseca	11,005	9,584	9,153	\$2,751	\$2,396	\$2,288	29,742	\$7,435
Scott	5,367	16,354	8,055	\$1,342	\$4,089	\$2,014	29,776	\$7,444
Todd	604	1,230	5,512	\$151	\$308	\$1,378	7,346	\$1,837
Washington	41,057	43,596	59,916	\$10,264	\$10,899	\$14,120	144,569	\$35,283
Wright	16,131	4,433	9,159	\$4,033	\$1,108	\$2,290	29,723	\$7,431
Total	452,975	473,325	499,334	\$113,007	\$118,332	\$125,487	1,430,447	\$357,125

Partnerships

The environmental stewardship the program provides aligns with MDA's mission *to enhance Minnesotans' quality of life by ensuring the integrity of our food supply, the health of our environment, and the strength of our agricultural economy*. Partnerships mean more local waste pesticide disposal opportunities than ever before while HHW programs receive compensation for the waste pesticides they collect.

Many of the recent cooperative agreement signings noted in Table 3, are primarily due to the changes that make record keeping a much more manageable task. Cooperators recognize the benefits of local collections, but some remain uneasy about uncertainty of collecting farm waste pesticides and not all have signed on.

The MDA conducted a mail survey in three representative counties to gauge farm waste pesticide holding. Most respondents stated that they had no waste pesticides in storage. It appears that farm waste pesticide totals in the state have substantially diminished but there are large caches that remain in storage in the area.

Each year, several deliveries of significant amounts of farm waste pesticides to HHWs occur. This might, for example, be one or more 30 or 55 gallon barrels of out of condition farm waste pesticides that were discovered during a transition in farm ownership. Such occurrences are challenging for HHW that operate in limited space. Understandably some potential cooperators, especially in heavy agricultural areas, do not want to be overwhelmed with a large deliveries from a farm as it may hinder other collection operations they perform. The MDA will continue to discuss partnership strategies in an effort to encourage more counties to sign farm waste collection agreements.

Table 3. Cooperative Agreement: Household/Farm; Household; or No Agreement.

Type of Waste Pesticide Collected	Counties in 2016	Counties in 2015
Household and farm waste pesticides	74	58
Only household waste pesticides	13	18
Neither household nor farm waste pesticides; declined MDA cooperative agreement offer	0	1

Collection Totals & Trends

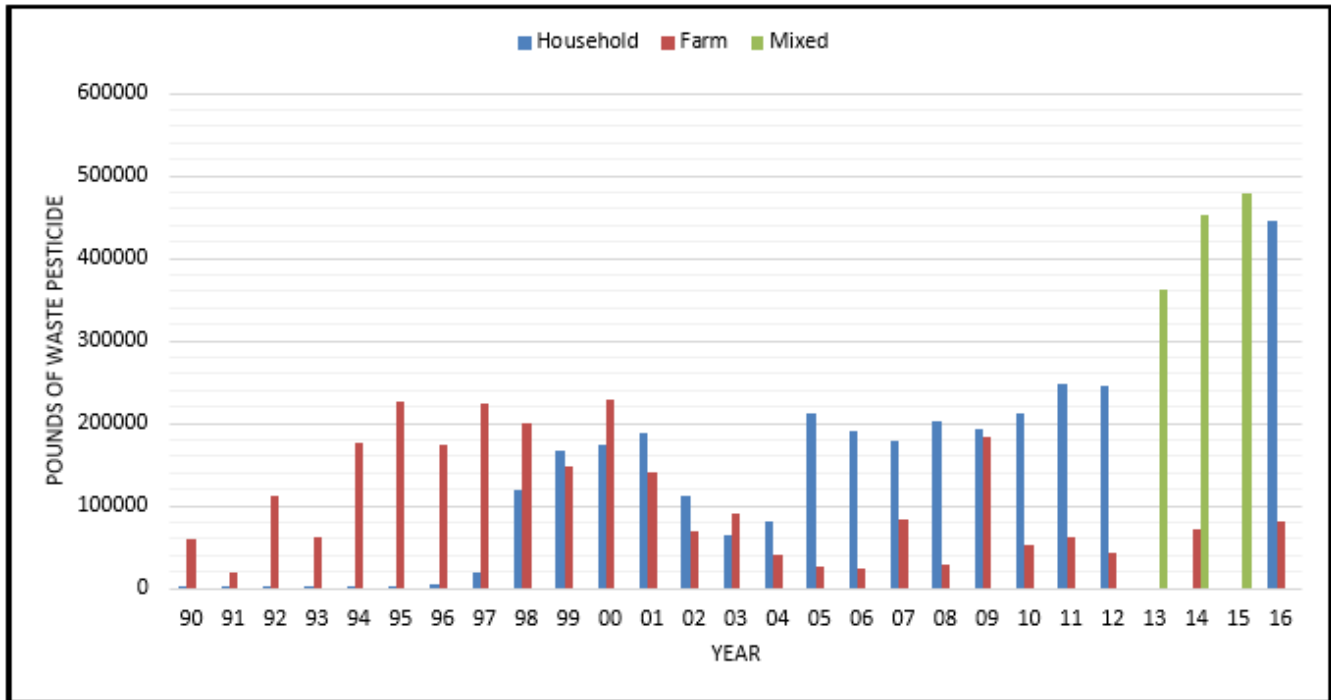
Cooperative agreement collections netted about 506,000 pounds of household and farm waste pesticides in calendar 2016. The MDA sponsored events in areas where cooperative agreements do not exist yielded an additional 20,000 pounds of farm waste pesticides. This combined total is the largest single year collection yield in the history of the program.

The total is directly related to the number of cooperative agreements currently in place and shows the continued need for these disposal opportunities. No waste pesticide was refused at MDA sponsored collection sites, and the MDA is not aware of any waste pesticide that was refused by a cooperating county in 2016.

More than \$15 million has been spent collecting and disposing of waste pesticides. The Pesticide Regulatory Account (PRA) has funded nearly 75 percent of all WPC operations through its history. These funds come from fees paid by companies and fees for licenses and permits issued by the MDA. Recently, cooperative agreement expenses have been funded by the Waste Pesticide Account.

Figure 2 charts annual collection totals through the history of the program. Household collection totals surpassed farm totals in mid-2000 and have risen steadily since. Collection record keeping was suspended from 2013 – 2015 so there is no clear delineation of the waste stream cooperators accepted during these years; these pesticides are labeled as mixed in the table. In 2014 and 2016, the MDA collected farm waste pesticides in several counties where no cooperative agreement existed.

Figure 2. Yearly Pounds of Waste Pesticides Collected from 1990 to 2016.



Cooperative agreements offer greater accessibility to collection and pesticide disposal. HHW sites are regularly staffed and operate at permanent or semi-permanent locations. Collection volumes and program expenses have grown as more collection partners come online. Sixteen new agreements to collect farm waste pesticides and one new agreement to collect household waste pesticides were signed in 2016. As more agreements are signed, the MDA anticipates collection yields will continue to rise along with program costs.

Expenses related to cooperative agreement collection activities are funded by the Waste Pesticide Account. The MDA pays the contractors to pick up pesticides at HHW facilities, and transport and dispose of the waste. The increase in cooperative agreement expenses is most apparent when looking at cooperative agreement disposal expenses in Table 4 across four years, but cooperative agreement administrative costs are also rising.

Table 4. Cooperative Agreement (CA) Costs by Fiscal Year (Dollars).

	2013	2014	2015	2016
CA Disposal	357,319	455,909	558,388	608,109
CA Admin	161,690	155,846	200,723	235,141
CA Total Costs	519,009	611,775	759,112	843,250

The MDA after discussions with counties set \$0.25 per collected pound as reasonable compensation for cooperator overhead expenses. Overhead is paid to cooperators to

compensate for the use of their staff, facilities and other for other expenses incurred hosting a pesticide collection. The MDA also provides counties an advertising stipend.

In 2009, a \$50 per product waste pesticide surcharge fee was added to product registration. The revenue generated is deposited into the Waste Pesticide Account to pay for collection related costs incurred under a cooperative agreement. Table 5 depicts program costs that MDA incurs to administer cooperative agreements and to collect waste pesticide in areas that are not covered by a cooperative agreement over a four year period.

The administrative costs that MDA incurs while managing cooperative agreements include writing or revising cooperative agreements, calculating overhead and reimbursing cooperators for administration costs, verifying contractor invoices, tracking the disposal waste stream, outreach and staff time and other program costs.

The MDA pays contractors to collect, transport and dispose of waste pesticides at MDA organized collection sites every other year. The biennial collection events sponsored by MDA can be seen in the fluctuation of MDA disposal expenditures.

Table 5. MDA Costs by Fiscal Year (Dollars).

	2013	2014	2015	2016
MDA Disposal	65,081	4,342	97,579	0
MDA Admin	195,326	191,552	137,536	157,489
MDA Total Costs	260,406	195,894	235,116	157,489

MDA-sponsored collections occur primarily in the northwest part of the state. This is a heavy agricultural area that is not served by cooperative agreements to collect farm pesticides (see Figure 1). HHW managers recognize that farm waste pesticide totals have diminished, but are aware that isolated large caches remain stored in the area. This is likely in the counties of northwest Minnesota which have historically produced large amounts of farm waste pesticides at collections.

The MDA will continue to discuss partnership strategies in an effort to encourage more counties to sign on as cooperators. Meanwhile, Table 7, on page 16, breaks down the results of the 2016 cooperative agreement collections by county and county cluster and provides important insights. The pesticide collection totals separated into farm and household. The data demonstrate that in areas of heavy agricultural activity, cooperators that have agreed to collect farm waste pesticides collect substantial amounts of farm pesticide products.

Table 6 lists combined cooperative agreement expenses and the MDA program expenses over a four year period. In FY16, cooperative agreement costs were more than \$843,000 and the MDA costs totaled more than \$157,000. Overall program costs for FY16 exceeded \$1,000,000. Also, listed are program revenue sources. The MDA spent over \$780,000 of account funds and more than \$220,000 from PRA to cover program costs for the year.

Table 6. Program Total Costs and Revenue Spent by Fiscal Year (Dollars).

	2013	2014	2015	2016
CA Total Costs	519,009	611,775	759,112	843,250
MDA Total Costs	260,406	195,894	235,116	157,489
Program Total Costs	779,415	807,650	994,227	1,000,739
Surcharge Expended	733,728	697,440	865,000	780,368
PRA Expended	45,687	110,210	129,227	220,371

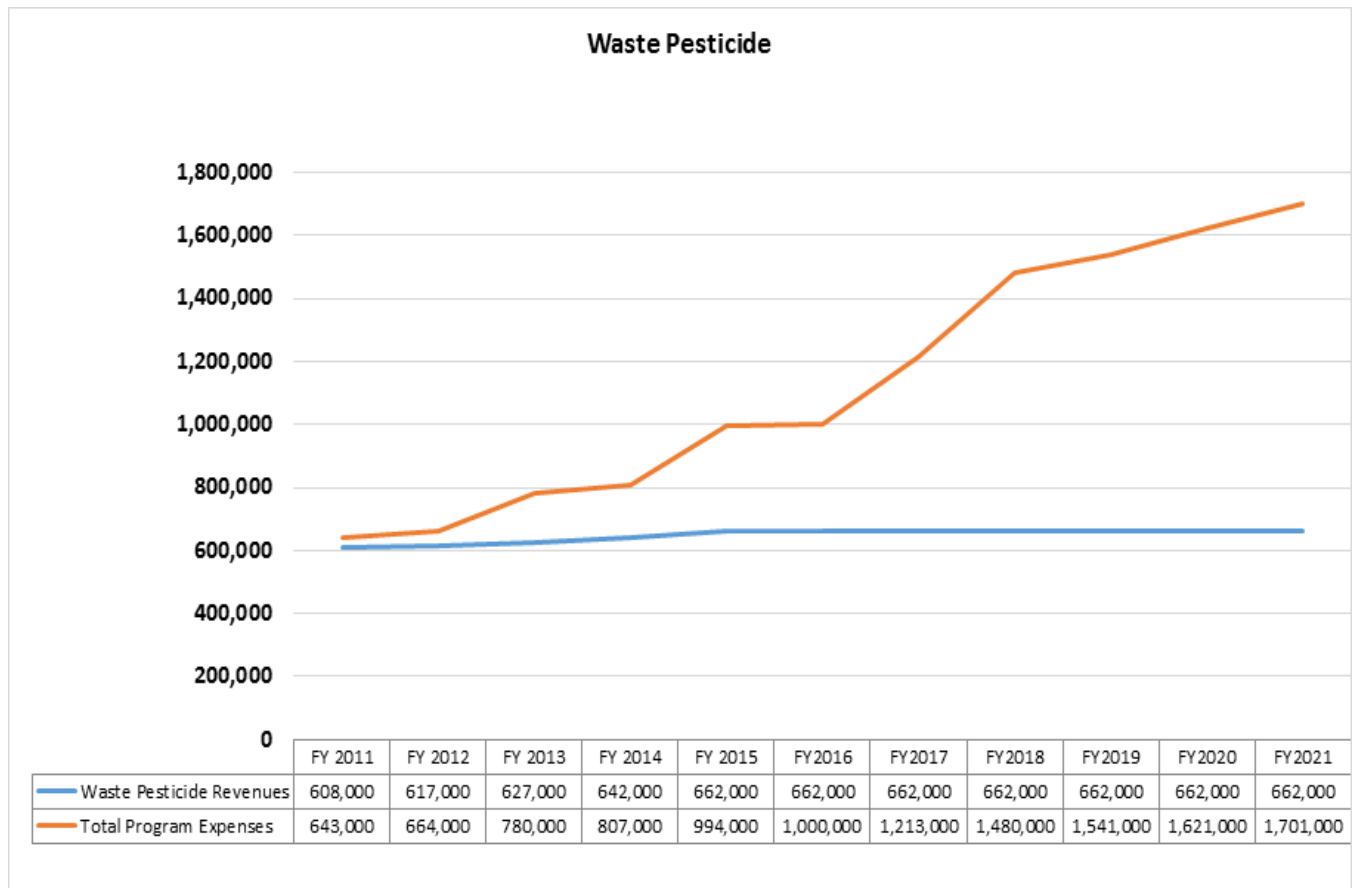
Fewer cooperative agreements were in place when the surcharge was established in 2009. Related expenses were low and the surcharge generated a surplus. The statute allows this surplus to buffer higher than expected cooperative agreement costs in subsequent years and to cover the MDA program costs.

Now that most counties have signed cooperative agreements, program expenses are up and revenues are not covering costs. Costs associated with cooperative agreements exceed funds in the Waste Pesticide Account and the MDA expended all account funds in 2016; this included both current year funds and carryover funds from previous years. As a result, the MDA will be forced to increasingly rely on PRA dollars to cover program costs. As we project this imbalance into the future, the PRA will be impacted even more in 2017 and in years beyond unless program financials are changed.

Figure 3 graphs program costs and Waste Pesticide Account funds and projects these values into the next biennium. The imbedded table at the bottom shows surcharge revenue of \$662,000 in FY2015 and FY2016. The MDA projects account fund will remain flat with no change to the fee. Program expenses in 2016 were \$1,000,739 and are expected to rise if program operations continue. We expect program costs in 2017 to exceed \$1.2 million and approach \$1.5 million in 2018.

The MDA is concerned about the imbalance between revenue and expenses. The current financial imbalance will impact future program decisions. The MDA-proposed legislation to increase surcharge would address this imbalance going forward.

Figure 3. Waste Pesticide Surcharge Revenue and Funding by Fiscal Year.



County Collections and Reimbursements

Cooperative agreements provide an efficient and effective way to collect and remove waste pesticides. Local collections offer the greatest convenience. Program participation is distributed across the state. Many counties collect waste pesticides only from residents of that county. Other counties form a regional cluster to facilitate multi-county collections.

Table 7 breaks down cooperative agreement collection results by county and county cluster for calendar 2016. Notice in the rows of the table, how counties operate independently or align into clusters.

Collected household waste and farm waste pesticides are gathered from reports provided by cooperators. Collection totals vary and are dependent on county or regional demographics, and the amount of agriculture in the area. Collected farm waste pesticide totals are highest in areas where agricultural production is heaviest. Overhead paid to the county or the county cluster by the MDA is listed. It is determined by multiplying the pounds collected by \$0.25.

Overall totals for collection and expenses are listed at the bottom of the table. It is worthwhile noting the totals of farm waste and household waste pesticides collected equal the largest waste pesticide yield ever reported by county cooperators.

Table 7. Annual Cooperative Agreements Totals and Account Expenditures by County in Calendar Year 2016.

Region/County Program	Members of Region	Net Ag Pounds Waste Pesticide Collected	Net Household Pounds Waste Pesticide Collected	Reasonable Overhead Costs Paid
Becker	Becker, Norman, Hubbard, Mahnomen	2,249	4,243	\$1,623.00
Blue Earth	Blue Earth, Watonwan	3,059	933	\$998.00
Brown	Brown	1,816	2,669	\$1,121.25
Chisago	Chisago, Isanti	1,512	4,838	\$1,587.50
Clay	Clay	0	1,720	\$430.00
Crow Wing	Crow Wing	0	2,493	\$617.25
Freeborn	Freeborn	2,060	1,203	\$815.75
Houston	Houston	0	455	\$113.75
Kanabec	Kanabec	0	170	\$42.50
Kandiyohi	Kandiyohi, Meeker, Renville, Chippewa, Swift, Big Stone, Lac Qui Parle	5,746	5,819	\$2,891.25
Lyon	Lyon, Lincoln, Redwood, Murray, Rock, Cottonwood, Nobles, Pipestone, Jackson, Yellow Medicine	8,098	7,515	\$3,903.25
McLeod	McLeod	201	7,753	\$1,988.50
Morrison	Morrison	0	845	\$211.25
Mower	Mower	41	586	\$156.75
NWMNHHW	Kittson, Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Cass, Beltrami, Marshall, Red Lake, Polk, Clearwater, Pennington	415	4,994	\$1,352.25
Olmsted	Olmsted, Goodhue, Wabasha, Dodge	1,568	5,430	\$1,749.50
Otter Tail	Otter Tail, Grant, Stevens, Traverse, Wilkin, Wadena	3,970	885	\$1,213.75

Region/County Program	Members of Region	Net Ag Pounds Waste Pesticide Collected	Net Household Pounds Waste Pesticide Collected	Reasonable Overhead Costs Paid
Pine	Pine	196	2,177	\$593.25
Pope/Douglas	Pope, Douglas	977	4,593	\$1,392.50
Prairieland	Martin Faribault	1,680	2,968	\$1,162.00
Rice	Rice, Steele, Waseca	3,277	5,876	\$2,288.25
Sherburne	Sherburne	5	3,608	\$903.25
Stearns	Stearns, Benton, Sherburne	2,085	23,553	\$6,909.75
Tri-County South	Sibley, Nicollet, Le Sueur	5,733	2,532	\$2,066.25
Winona	Winona, Fillmore, Houston	1,635	4,894	\$1,632.25
Todd	Todd	4,547	965	\$1,378.00
Western Lake Superior Sanitary District	St. Louis, Koochiching, Itasca, Aitkin, Carlton Lake, Cook	683	24,057	\$6,185.00
Wright	Wright	3,680	5,479	\$2289.75
Anoka	Anoka	0	33,927	\$8480.75
Carver	Carver	540	22,480	\$5,755.00
Dakota	Dakota	495	32,390	\$8,221.25
Hennepin	Hennepin	0	105,058	\$26,264.50
Ramsey	Ramsey	335	51,720	\$13,013.75
Scott	Scott	730	7,325	\$2,013.75
Washington	Washington	0	59,916	\$14,119.75
Total		59,276	446,618	\$126,473.50

Outreach

The MDA recently created guidance for cooperating counties to clarify collection recording and reporting in order to ensure that the waste stream will be properly characterized. A video was produced at a HHW facility, was made widely available, and can be viewed here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8RWshVQumx4>.

The MDA continues to encourage cooperators to be vigilant about monitoring materials delivered to collection sites to ensure only eligible waste pesticides are collected for disposal. Products such as fertilizers, crop oils, drift retardants, and rinsates are not waste pesticides and are not eligible for collection. The program was not intended to collect these materials and cooperators must turn such products away.

Figure 4 is guidance that MDA produced to explain materials that are not eligible for collection. It also provides management tips about load size and container types to promote safe handling and transport. This information was mailed to all 87 county environmental offices and HHW facility managers. This information is also available on the MDA website. www.mda.state.mn.us/chemicals/spills/wastepesticides.

Figure 4. A poster describing eligible material that was sent to counties.



Waste Pesticide Drop-off and Rinsate Management

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture's (MDA) Waste Pesticide Collection Program does NOT accept certain agricultural related products, therefore, watch for and REFUSE the following waste: pesticide rinsate, empty containers, fertilizers, crop oil, spreader/stickers, foam markers, seed dye and inoculants, or any other product not covered by MDA's disposal program. This card provides a checklist for use by HHW staff when accepting waste pesticides or responding to phone calls.

When a farmer/pesticide user contacts the HHW facility, ask:

- ✓ **Can all the containers be safely transported?**
 - Recommend fragile or leaking vessels be placed in plastic bags or buckets.
- ✓ **How many containers of pesticide will be delivered?**
 - Schedule larger deliveries on less busy days.
 - If storage limits are an issue, limit participants to 300 lbs.
- ✓ **Are there drums or containers over 5 gallons in size?**
 - Request that farmers with drums containing 10 or less gallons pour contents into empty 2.5 gallon containers to minimize disposal costs of empty or mostly empty containers.
- ✓ **Are there cylinders or totes (56 gallons or bigger)?**
CONTACT MDA FOR ASSISTANCE if the following are identified:
 - Two or more cylinders
 - A tote (minibulk)

If the pesticide user brings liquid pesticide or fertilizer rinsate to your facility, do not accept the waste. Refer the user to the Rinsate Management Fact Sheet located at: www.mda.state.mn.us/~media/Files/chemicals/pesticides/rinsatmgmt.pdf

Contact MDA:
 For questions about participation, acceptable materials or containers call the MDA at 651-201-6562.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this information is available in alternative forms of communication upon request by calling 855-201-6562. TTY users can call the Minnesota Relay Service at 711. The MDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.
 File Name: Waste Pesticide Dropoff and Rinsate Management.indd 1 10/24/16

The MDA issued a web alert for collection partners to watch for deliveries of rinsate for disposal. Rinsates are liquids leftover after cleaning a container or tank and should be used up by mixing in a compatible future application. Another web alert provides homeowners advice on the managing household pesticide to avoid generating waste.

The MDA completed a survey to characterize how much waste pesticide remained stored in the agricultural landscape. Three counties were surveyed that represent heavy, moderate and light farm production. The results showed the majority of responders did not hold any waste and those that did have waste only had small amounts. The survey helped convince additional counties to sign agreements to collect farm waste pesticide.

The MDA has sought to enlist more counties in cooperative agreements to collect farm waste pesticides. Some remain concerned that farm waste pesticides would overwhelm their collection program.

Program Recommendations

The MDA Waste Pesticide Collection program has removed over 7 million pounds of dangerous waste pesticides from Minnesota's landscape. This unique program is designed to protect and preserve Minnesota's environment. Strong partnerships with county household hazardous waste collection operations are key to program efficiency and effectiveness.

Collection waste totals continue to rise. The revenue stream established to pay for cooperative agreement disposal costs is no longer sufficient to cover all annual costs.

The MDA recommends the following to address rising collection totals and collection costs, and to ensure future program success:

1. Raise the waste pesticide surcharge proportionately to the make-up of the waste stream and to a level that covers costs.
2. Continue to seek cost saving measures through our county partners to improve efficiency in program operations.
3. Engage household waste partners to develop local waste reduction strategies.
4. Educate consumers about waste reduction.
5. Support our partners and help address operational issues.
6. Ensure the program targets eligible waste.