



## **CHEMIGATION**

### **URBAN PESTICIDE MISTING, AGRICULTURAL AND NON-AGRICULTURAL**

Wis. Adm. Code § ATCP 29.54

A chemigation system is a device or system which mixes pesticides with irrigation water drawn from any source, and which applies the pesticides with the irrigation water. There are specific certification, design, and operation requirements for pesticide applications with a chemigation system. State code defines these systems as either:

- "Agricultural chemigation system" means a chemigation system that mixes pesticide with irrigated water and applies the pesticides with the irrigation water in an agricultural setting.
- "Non-agricultural chemigation system" means a chemigation system that is used to apply pesticides in a non-agricultural setting, including to urban lawns and gardens. For example a lawn irrigation system that applies pesticides, fertilizers and irrigation water.
- "Urban pesticide misting system" means a non-agricultural chemigation system that draws water from any source, mixes the water with a pesticide and applies the mixture outdoors and into the air to kill, repel, or otherwise control pests in an urban setting, including a residential or commercial area. These systems may be referred to as mosquito misters.

#### **Chemigation System Design** Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 29.54(3) – (13)

Chemigation systems must comply with manufacturer's specifications, prevent pesticides from contaminating waters of the state and prevent unreasonable hazards to persons, property and the environment. Systems must meet code requirements designed to address:

- Water supply protection
- Construction materials
- Pesticide injection into the system
- Pesticide supply tank
- Preventing backflow
- Flow interrupter; pesticide supply line
- Flow sensor; injection line
- Check valve, pesticide injection line
- Interlock between water pump and pesticide injection unit
- Water pressure failure, automatic shut-off
- Purging a chemigation system

#### **Applicator Certification** Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 29.29(2)

When pesticides are applied by a chemigation system targeting any pest, the applicator must obtain supplemental certification in Category 26.0 Chemigation. The applicator must also be certified a base certification category relevant to the target site or pest. For example, to make agricultural chemigation applications, certification is required in both an agricultural certification category and Category 26.0 Chemigation. Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 29.29(2).

**Observation** Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 29.54(16) An applicator certified in the Category 26.0 Chemigation is required to observe chemigation applications at all times when chemigation overspray or drift may affect sensitive nontarget areas. For other chemigation operations, the applicator must be present at least hourly, and comply with any additional observation requirements on the pesticide label.

#### **Chemigation Operating Plan** Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 29.54(14) – (17)

An operating plan must be developed and followed for the chemigation system. The plan must identify sensitive nontarget areas, methods for preventing overspray and drift, backflow prevention, calibration monitoring procedures, flush time for the system and safety procedures for individuals who operate, monitor and repair the system. The operation plan must be available at the chemigation site.

#### **Chemigation Warning Sign** Wis. Adm. Code § ATCP 29.52(4) and 29.54(17)

Posting warning signs according to the requirements of Wis. Admin. Code § ATCP 29.54(17) is mandatory for all chemigation systems. Additionally, it may be necessary to post warning signs as required under Wis. Admin. Code ATCP 29.52 for pesticides having a restricted entry interval, or ATCP 29.56(3) for landscape applications, including mosquito control in a landscape.



Posting chemigation warning signs is mandatory if any portion of the application site is located within:

1. 100 feet of a public road.
2. 300 feet of a residence, migrant labor camp, school, playground, day care facility, health care facility, commercial or industrial facility, public recreation area, or other area where individuals are likely to be present during the operation of the chemigation system.

Warning signs shall be posted before chemigation begins, and shall remain posted until chemigation is completed and treated surfaces have dried. Warning signs may remain posted indefinitely if they are intact and fully legible during all required posting periods. The form and content of each warning sign shall be identical to that shown. Supplementary information may be included if it is consistent with and does not detract from the requirement.

Warning signs shall be posted at regular intervals along the border between the application site and any road or area identified, and at normal points of access to the application site. At least one warning sign shall be posted for each 1/4 mile of border. At least one warning sign shall be posted at each application site.

