

Landscape Pesticide Registry Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Landscape Registry?

Homeowners and renters can sign up to be on the registry if they want to know in advance when a landscape business is going to apply pesticides to neighboring properties. It does not require your neighbors to notify you if they are going to apply pesticides themselves. To participate, you must provide the addresses **every year** of properties you want listed in the landscape registry. These would be the addresses that you want to know about when a company is going to apply pesticides. Once you are registered, pesticide application businesses will provide advanced notice of upcoming applications to those properties. The registry is administered by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Search 'landscape registry' at <https://datcp.wi.gov>

Is the Landscape Pesticide Registry new?

No, the registry has been around since 1993.

What is a landscape pesticide application?

It is a pesticide application made to turf, ornamentals, trees, shrubs, lawns or mulched areas. The term pesticide includes herbicides, insecticides, fungicides and other types of products used to control pests such as weeds, insects and plant diseases. When you registered to be notified of landscape applications, you will only be notified when a commercial applicator is doing the work, not if your neighbors apply pesticides themselves. You cannot register to be notified of applications near your workplace, children's schools, day care centers or anywhere other than your home. The registry does not require notification of pesticide applications on utility or roadside right-of-way areas, including median strips; in or around buildings; or on agricultural land.

What about fertilizer applications.

Business are not required to provide advance notice or post signs for fertilizer-only applications. Notice and posting are required when a fertilizer-pesticide blend is used -- for example, a fertilizer with crabgrass control.

Do I need to know if a neighbor plans to hire a pesticide business before I list that address?

No. You can list the properties on your block of residence or immediately adjoining blocks for which you want advance notice. If your neighbor hires a professional service, the company must notify you before they use pesticides at any of the addresses you've listed.

When can I register?

The open enrollment period is Nov. 1 to Feb. 1 each year. State law sets the Feb. 1 deadline to avoid potential confusion of constant updates, which could result in participants not being notified. The registry takes effect on March 15 each year.

Why must I renew my account each year?

State law requires that you renew your listing each year. If you do not, you will not be on the registry the following year. This keeps the list from becoming outdated, if participants move to new neighborhoods, change their minds, or pass away. Look for an email in late fall reminding you to update your name, address, telephone number and registered properties. Verify your information, make corrections or add more properties by Feb. 1.

I missed the registry deadline. Can I get notification for this year?

Not via the registry. You can contact lawn care businesses and ask if they will voluntarily notify you; however the department cannot enforce voluntary notifications.

Is registry information confidential?

No. Participants' information must be publically available so commercial pesticide businesses can comply with the notification requirements. Participant data is posted on the registry website and subject to open records requests.

How and when will I be notified?

A commercial business must notify you at least 12 hours before applying a pesticide a registered properties. Notification can be by telephone, hand-delivery to your address, or mail. Mailed notices must be postmarked at least two business days prior to the pesticide application.

What information will the advance notice provide?

The notice must include the address to be treated, the scheduled application date, the name, address and telephone number of the business making the application, and pesticides that may be used.

When will I receive advance notification?

Starting March 15, and you will continue to receive notifications until March 14 of the following year.

How do commercial businesses use the registry?

After March 1 companies identify which of their customers' properties are listed on the new registry. If a customer's address is on the registry, the company notifies anyone listing that particular address of an upcoming landscape pesticide application.

What if my landlord or property manager applies pesticides to lawns, trees and shrubs?

Landlords and property management companies are not required to give advance notice. In these instances, we suggest speaking with your landlord or property manager to request notification voluntarily. Only professional businesses hired by the landlord are required to provide advanced notice.

How can I tell if a lawn was recently sprayed?

Businesses must post warning signs on lawns, trees or ornamental areas treated with pesticides. The sign is at least four inches by five inches with red lettering on a white background. It will have the name and telephone number of the business which made the application, and the date when the sign can be removed.

What if I do not receive advance notice?

Call the department at 608-224-4500 as soon as possible. We'll need to know:

- Your name and address.
- Address where the suspected application was made.
- Date of the suspected application.
- Name of the business (printed on the warning sign.)

We will contact the business to find out why you were not notified. Failure to notify people on the registry is a violation of our rules and the business can be penalized.

Can I stop my neighbors from using lawn pesticides?

You cannot stop a landscape pesticide application by listing your neighbor's address on the registry. If you have concerns about pesticide use, we suggest you share your concerns with your neighbor.

For more information

Landscape Registry Coordinator

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, PO Box 8911, Madison, WI 53708-8911
608-224-4500

https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/LandPestReq.aspx

