

Requesting Advanced Notice of Applications of Pesticides Labeled “Highly Toxic to Bees”

[Month/Day/Year]

Expires at the end of the calendar year

To: [Name of individual landowner or person who controls the application site]

From: [Name of Beekeeper, Contact Address, Phone Number, email]

I am requesting advanced notice of the application of any pesticide labeled “Highly Toxic to Bees” or containing the active ingredient methomyl. I operate a bee yard located within 1 ½ miles from your sites listed below, and I am requesting advanced notice as per Chapter ATCP 29.51(1) Wis Adm Code. The rule text is excerpted on reverse side.

Notify me at least 24 hours in advance of each relevant pesticide application throughout this calendar year. The term pesticide includes insecticides, herbicides, fungicides and other substances designed or intended for use in preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating any pest, or as a plant regulator, defoliant or desiccant (*as defined by Wis. Stats 94.67(25)*).

I want advanced notice of pesticide applications made to these sites:

[List each site individually. Be specific. e.g. street address, GPS coordinates, township/range/section, map with sites identified or another description that the property owner will understand.]

Notice may be written or oral; and shall include:

- The intended date and time of application
- Brand or common name of the pesticide to be applied
- The location of the application site

If the pesticide application date changes after you notify me, contact me with the new date of application.

My bee yard is located at *[insert specific location of each bee yard.]*

The best way to contact me is *[insert method e.g. phone, email.]*

Thank you for your cooperation,

[Name of beekeeper]

Suggestion - Keep a copy of this letter and it’s transmittal for your records.

For information about state pesticide and apiary regulations contact the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), Division of Agricultural Resource Management:

- Pesticide Program (608) 224-4500 or datcppesticideinfo@wisconsin.gov
- State Apiarist (608) 224-4572 or liz.meils@wisconsin.gov

Excerpted text from ch. ATCP 29 Wis Adm Code, Pesticide Use and Control

ATCP 29.51 Advance notice of pesticide applications.

(1) PESTICIDES HIGHLY TOXIC TO BEES.

(a) At least 24 hours before a pesticide labeled "Highly Toxic to Bees" or containing the active ingredient methomyl is applied to any site, the person who owns or controls that application site shall notify each beekeeper who has made a request under par. (b) during the same calendar year.

(b) A beekeeper who owns a honeybee colony located within 1 1/2 miles of a pesticide application site under par. (a) may request notice of pesticide applications under par. (a). The beekeeper shall make the request in writing to a person who owns or controls the application site. The request shall include the beekeeper's name, address, and telephone number, if any, and the specific location of each of the beekeeper's bee yards.

(c) A notice under par. (a) may be written or oral. The notice shall include the intended date and time of application, the brand or common name of the pesticide to be applied, and the location of the application site. If the application date changes after the notice is issued, the person who owns or controls the application site shall issue a corrected notice as soon as reasonably possible before the application occurs.

(d) Paragraph (a) does not apply to an emergency application needed to control a sudden pest outbreak if, because of the emergency circumstances, there is not enough time for notice under par. (a). The person who owns or controls the application site shall give notice under par. (a) as soon as reasonably possible before or after the emergency application. The notice shall include a brief explanation of the circumstances constituting the emergency.

(e) Any person may give a notice under par. (a) on behalf of the person who owns or controls the application site.

Tips for Reducing Pesticide Impacts on Pollinators and wildlife

- Follow all requirements on pesticide product labels, including precautions designed to protect pollinators.
- If not specified on the label,
 - Do not apply between the hours of 8:00 am – 6:00 pm when crops are in bloom.
 - Apply when wind speed is between 3 and 10 mph.
- Be aware of any honey bee hives in the area that could be affected by spraying.
- Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan which uses cultural, mechanical, and biological pest controls ([Read more about IPM](#)).
- Take care when planting treated seeds to prevent dust that could affect bees.
- Where possible, leave a border of untreated vegetation between treated areas and areas where wildlife may be present, including down-gradient aquatic habitats. Follow all label requirements related to buffer areas.
- Do not apply if heavy rain is expected within 24 to 48 hours as the pesticide may wash away from the treated area and into water bodies.
- Consider the characteristics of the application site (soil texture, slope, organic matter) before applying the pesticide. Be aware of the geology and the relative depth of the groundwater in your area.
- Keep pesticides out of storm drains and gutters.
- Use a low pressure, large droplet sprayer, and apply close to the crop canopy or the ground. For ground boom applications, apply using a nozzle height of no more than 2 feet above the ground or crop canopy, unless a greater height is required for efficacy or safety.
- Maintain application equipment in good working order. Check equipment for leaks and malfunctions before use. Calibrate equipment regularly.
- Rinse pesticide application equipment and pesticide containers on a solid surface that does not drain to waterways.
- If a spill occurs, contain and clean it up immediately.

For more resources on protecting pollinators visit: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/ecosystem/wildlife.html>