**Structure requirements for Pesticide Storage Facilities**

Both MOE and the Ontario Building Code have rules regarding pesticide storage. The building code is actually more specific than MOE, but both sets of rules have to be followed.  MOE has very general guidelines, including primarily:

1. Vent if you have certain chemical classes on site

2. Contain any potential spills (have a lip around room, no floor drain, have a spill kit handy)

3. Have emergency numbers posted nearby and near the closest phone

4. Post the pesticide sign G

5. Store chemicals in a clean and orderly fashion

6. Design the facility to prevent contamination of the environment, and to protect people's health and safety.

The two major sections of Regulation 63/09 that deal with the type of pesticide storage are copied below.  Keep in mind also, that specific labels may have more stringent requirements for storage.  So, as always, it is important for the grower to fully read and understand the label before purchasing.

The following is MOE’s contact for pesticide storage:

Suzanne Durst

Pesticide Specialist

Ministry of the Environment

West Central Region

119 King St. W, 12th Floor,

Hamilton ON

L8P 4Y7

(905) 521-7551

Fax: (905) 521-7820

**Regulation 63/09**

**Storage, general requirements**

**109.**(1)  A person who stores a Class 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 pesticide shall do so in accordance with the following rules:

1. The pesticide shall be stored in such a manner that the pesticide is not likely to impair the health or safety of any person.

2. The pesticide shall be stored in an area that is maintained in good repair and in a clean and orderly condition with sufficient precautions taken to prevent the pesticide from contaminating the natural environment or any other pesticide stored in the same area.

3. Sign G, referred to in the Table to subsection 1 (5), shall be prominently displayed near the area and at all entrances to the area where the pesticide is stored.

4. A list of emergency telephone numbers, including those of the fire department, hospital and poison control centre shall be prominently displayed near the area where the pesticide is stored.

(2)  Subsection (1) does not apply to,

(a) a person who is storing a Class 5, 6 or 7 pesticide on property occupied by the person for personal use of the pesticide in or around a home;

(b) a person who is storing a Class 8 pesticide on property occupied by the person until the pesticide can be properly disposed of; or

(c) a person who is storing only a Class 6 pesticide.

(3)  For the purposes of subsection (1), a person may substitute the words “chemical storage” for the words “pesticide storage” on Sign G.

**Storage of Class 1, 2 or 3 pesticides**

**110.**(1)  No person shall store a Class 1, 2 or 3 pesticide unless,

(a) if the pesticide is stored indoors, the compartment, room or structure in which the pesticide is stored is ventilated to the outdoor atmosphere;

(b) sufficient security measures are taken so that the express permission of the person responsible for the pesticideis required to enter or have access to the area where the pesticide is stored;

(c) there is no floor drain that leads into or drains directly or indirectly into a storm sewer, sanitary sewer or watercourse in the area where the pesticide is stored;

(d) there is adequate respiratory protection and adequate protective clothing readily available for emergency purposes; and

(e) if the pesticide is a Class 2 pesticide, the pesticide is stored in an area that is used primarily for the storage of pesticides.

(2)  For the purposes of clause (1) (d), “adequate protective clothing” means clothing including rubber or neoprene boots, rubber or neoprene gloves, hats, coats and other garments that effectively protect the user from adverse effects that might result from a pesticide coming in contact with the skin during or after the handling or use of the pesticide.

**To determine if your chemicals are class 1,2 or 3 – look up using the product name or PMRA registration number on the following website:**

[**https://www.lrcsde.lrc.gov.on.ca/PCDWeb/showSearch.action**](https://www.lrcsde.lrc.gov.on.ca/PCDWeb/showSearch.action)

**Farm Building Code**

See below for information from Lincoln's Chief Building Official, taken out of the Farm Building Code (page 17).  The other requirements from MOE (above) still apply.

***If you want to install a pesticide storage ‘bunker’ adjacent to your farm building…***

You CAN put it right against your farm building - but there are 2 special requirements:

1. You must have a door to the outside from the structure.

2. The door between the storage building and your farm building must have at least a 1-hour fire rating.

Brooklin concrete chemical bunkers only have 1 door, Hy-Grade will sell 2 door structures, or you can build the storage building yourself to be affordable. There is a company, Hy-Grade Precast Concrete, in St. Catherines, that WILL do a concrete room with a double door on the front wall and a single door on the back wall. It costs about $10K to have it done this way and delivered…but you will be able to butt it up against your building this way!

Another contact for concrete storage bunkers is: Jason at Brooklin Concrete…1-800-655-3430.

The following chart from OMAFRA is a good reference: (<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/resource/using-pesticides.htm>)

Ontario's Pesticides Act and Regulation 63/09 provide details on storage requirements for pesticide storage facilities. As shown in Table 1-1, the storage requirements that must be followed are dependent on which classes of pesticides you store.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Table 1-1. Requirements for Pesticide Storage Facilities | | | | |
| **Storage requirements** | **Pesticide Classes** | | | |
| **Class 2** | **Class 3** | **Class 4,5 & 7** | **Class 6** |
| No contact with food or drink | X | X | X | X |
| Not an impairment to health and safety | X | X | X |  |
| Clean and orderly | X | X | X |  |
| Warning sign G posted\* | X | X | X |  |
| Emergency telephone numbers posted\*\* | X | X | X |  |
| Vented to outside | X | X |  |  |
| Limited access (locked) | X | X |  |  |
| No floor drain | X | X |  |  |
| Respiratory protection and protective clothing kept readily available | X | X |  |  |
| Area used primarily for pesticides | X |  |  |  |
| **Note:** Sufficient precautions are needed in your storage area to prevent the pesticide from entering the natural environment. Ensure your floor drain does not enter the natural environment. | | | | |
| \* Refer to MOE's website [www.ontario.ca/pesticides](http://www.ontario.ca/pesticides) for requirements for warning sign G. These signs can be purchased from your pesticide dealer/vendor. \*\* Emergency contact numbers must include telephone numbers for the local fire department, hospital and poison control centre. The number for the MOE Spills Action Centre (1-800-268-6060) should also be readily available. | | | | |

Section 112 of Ontario Regulation 63/09 made under the Pesticides Act.  Once you determine storage requirements, please ensure that notification is made annually to the fire department accordingly.

**Fire department notification**

**112.**(1)  The following persons shall annually give a written notice in accordance with subsection (2) to the fire department responsible for the area in which the pesticide is stored:

1. A person who stores a Class 1 pesticide.

2. A person required to hold a vendor’s license who stores a Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 pesticide.

3. A person required to hold an operator’s license who stores a Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 pesticide.

4. A manufacturer who stores a Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 pesticide.

(2)  The notice required in subsection (1) shall be in the form approved by the Director and shall identify the pesticide, describe its location and conditions of storage and identify the person responsible for the pesticide.

(3)  Subsection (1) does not apply to a pesticide that is temporarily stored in a vehicle. 

