



TO: SAN MATEO COUNTY CITIES, GOLF COURSES AND CEMETERY PROPERTY OPERATORS
SUBJECT: 2025 RESTRICTED MATERIAL PERMIT/OPERATOR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

Our Department will begin issuing 2025 Restricted Material Permits and Operator Identification Numbers on December 1, 2024. **All entities must obtain an Operator ID or Restricted Materials Permit annually prior to applying pesticides in 2025.**

To obtain or renew your permit or operator identification number you will need to do the following.

1. Set up an appointment with your District Biologist at (650) 363-4700.
2. If you are renewing a Restricted Materials Permit, provide your Qualified Applicator Certificate or License card.
3. Restricted Material Permits: Be prepared to review your permit in detail, including the site maps. Permits will be reviewed and any necessary changes must be made in our database prior to the permit being printed. If your permit will be issued at your place of business, please discuss any changes with your district Biologist prior to your appointment so that the permit can be edited before it is issued.
4. Operator Identification Numbers: Property Operators whose employees use only non-restricted materials must renew their annual Operator Identification Number and review their site information with the assigned District Biologist.
5. Operator Identification Number Exemption: If you hire a licensed agricultural pest control business to do all pesticides applications on your non-production agriculture property and only non-restricted materials are used, you do not need an Operator Identification Number but the agricultural pest control business must have been licensed and registered with our office.
6. Pest control done on public roadways, street medians and bicycle paths require that any contracted company must be an agricultural pest control business with a category "C" license for Right of Ways. A maintenance gardener license is not adequate for applications on roadways.

You will be contacted by your District Biologist for your required annual headquarters/records inspection.

Monthly summary pesticide use reports must be submitted to the Agricultural Commissioner by the 10th of the following month after each month in which you apply pesticides. A negative use report is not required for those months during which no pest control work is performed. Pesticide use reports may now be submitted on-line via www.CalAgPermits.org. You may request username and password by sending an email to smateoag@smcgov.org or contact our office at (650) 363-4700.

We would love to hear from you. Please visit our department website to complete the online survey at www.smcgov.org/agwm

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation and best wishes for the New Year!



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

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DATE: November 7, 2024

SUBJECT: First Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides Restricted Use Material Status, Prohibited and Allowed Uses Effective January 1, 2025

First Generation Anti-Coagulant Rodenticides: Restricted Use Material Status

Assembly Bill No. 2552 was passed and signed by the Governor on September 25, 2024, and will go into effect on January 1, 2025. This bill adds first generation anticoagulant rodenticides as restricted materials, specifically products with the active ingredients: diphacinone, chlorophacinone and warfarin to California Food and Agriculture Code (FAC) 12978.7. This code section currently restricts the use of second generation anticoagulant rodenticides with the active ingredients of brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difencoum and difethialone. This update will prohibit most uses, require application by a certified applicator and restrict sales to the end user by a Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) licensed pest control dealer. The first generation anticoagulant rodenticides (diphacinone, chlorophacinone, and warfarin) have not been added in the code as California restricted materials and therefore do not require a restricted material permit.

Prohibited Uses

Effective January 1, 2025, it is unlawful to use first and second generation anticoagulant rodenticides in **residential settings**, and most **industrial** and **institutional** settings, such as restaurants, grocery stores, airports, offices, construction sites, ports and terminal buildings, shipyards, timber yards, schools, shopping malls, sewers, and sewage treatment plants. Many **non-production agricultural** uses, such as cemeteries, golf courses, parks, highways, and railroads, are also prohibited.

Additionally, the definition of “wildlife habitat area” has been expanded to include “any park or wildlife refuge managed by a state agency, regional government, quasi-government agency, or by a special district.” Use of first and second generation anticoagulant rodenticides in a wildlife habitat area is prohibited unless the use meets one of the exemptions as an allowed use.

Allowed Uses

Effective January 1, 2025, first and second generation anticoagulant rodenticides are restricted materials and **must be applied by or under the supervision of a certified applicator**. A certified applicator is someone who has a license with DPR, the Structural Pest Control Board or a Private Applicator Certificate (PAC).

Allowed uses (exceptions to the prohibited uses) include:

- Government agency employees protecting water supply infrastructure and facilities (e.g., wells, surface-water intakes, dams, reservoirs, storage tanks, drinking-water facilities, pipes, and aqueducts).

- Use by a mosquito or vector control district, including use under a contract with a pest control business licensed by the Department or registered with the Structural Pest Control Board.
- For eradication of nonnative invasive species on offshore islands.
- If the Department of Fish and Wildlife determines the use is required to control or eradicate an invasive rodent population for the protection of threatened or endangered species or their habitats.
- To control an actual or potential infestation associated with an urgent, non-routine public health need declared by the State Public Health Officer or a local public health officer.
- At FDA-registered and inspected facilities involved in commercial manufacture, preparation, compounding, etc., of drugs.
- At medical waste generators as defined in Health and Safety Code section 117705, such as the following examples:
 - Medical, dental, and veterinary offices, clinics, hospitals, surgery centers, etc.;
 - Pet shops;
 - Trauma scene waste management practitioners.
- For research funded by DPR to protect the food system and the environment or reevaluation.
- On agricultural sites producing any horticultural, viticultural, aquacultural, forestry, dairy, livestock, poultry, bee, or farm product.
- At a warehouse used to store foods for human or animal consumption.
- At a food manufacturing or processing plant, such as a slaughterhouse or cannery.
- At a factory, brewery, or winery; including restaurants with an attached winery or brewery.
- On-farm water storage and conveyance facilities to protect on-farm water supply systems, facilities, and related infrastructure and this includes on-farm areas such as waterways, irrigation canals, levies, dams, ponds, reservoirs, wells, water tanks, irrigation pumps and pump houses, and drip tape or other irrigation lines outside of farm fields.
- On-farm storage housing rights-of-way and other transportation infrastructure materials to protect on-farm transportation infrastructure. This includes on-farm areas such as driveways (including driveways to barns and houses), farm or ranch roads (such as along farm fields), and bridge or culvert embankments.

For an allowed use of first and second generation anticoagulant rodenticides, the product labeling and other applicable pesticide laws and regulations must be followed. In the event of a conflict between labeling requirements, other pesticide laws and regulations, and FAC section 12978.7, the strictest requirement must be followed.

A restricted material permit is **not** required for an allowed use of first generation anticoagulant rodenticides (diphacinone, chlorophacinone and warfarin) under FAC 12978.7 (f) and (g). A restricted material permit **is** required for second generation anticoagulant rodenticides (brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difencoum and difethialone). Please contact your district biologist if you need to amend your operator identification number or restricted material permit.

To dispose of existing first and second generation anticoagulant rodenticides products appropriately, please contact your local hazardous waste disposal program.

If you have questions on this amended regulation, please contact our office at (650) 363-4700.

AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS & MEASURES



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DATE: November 7, 2024

SUBJECT: Restrictions on Neonicotinoid Uses in Non-Agriculture Outdoor Settings
Effective January 1, 2025

This letter announces a revision to Food and Agricultural Code (FAC) section 12838 by Assembly Bill (AB) 363 (Chapter 836, Statutes of 2023). Effective January 1, 2025, **neonicotinoid pesticide products used for non-agricultural uses on outdoor ornamental plants, trees, or turf can only be sold by licensed dealers and applied by California certified commercial applicators.**

Neonicotinoid pesticides are defined as pesticides containing acetamiprid, clothianidin, dinotefuran, imidacloprid, thiamethoxam, or any other chemical designated by the department as belonging to the neonicotinoid class of chemicals.

A California certified commercial applicator is one who has a valid Qualified Applicator License (QAL), Qualified Applicator Certificate (QAC) except subcategory Q (Maintenance Gardener Pest Control), Structural Pest Control Operator or Field Representative license, or Vector Control Technician. **Neonicotinoids used in non-agricultural settings cannot be applied by employees unless properly certified**, even if under the supervision of a certified commercial applicator.

Non-agricultural use sites include home use, industrial or institutional use, structural use, and vector control use. Examples of outdoor, non-agricultural use sites that would fall under these restrictions include:

- Outdoor applications to ornamental nursery stock at a retail nursery.
- Outdoor applications to ornamental plants in a non-agricultural use setting, such as landscaping around homes and other residences, schools, libraries, airports, and businesses.
- Outdoor applications to all trees in non-agricultural use settings, including “nonproduction” fruit and nut trees around homes and residences.
- Outdoor applications to turf in non-agricultural use settings.

Pesticide use on parks or recreation areas, greenbelts, golf courses, cemeteries and along rights-of way are considered “Agricultural use” and are unaffected by this change.

To dispose of existing neonicotinoid products appropriately, please contact your local hazardous waste disposal program.

If you have questions on this amended regulation, please contact our office at (650) 363-4700.