

Notice to Manufacturers/Wholesalers/Distributors and Retailers Regarding the Re-classification of Neonicotinoid Pesticides Used For Treating Plants

Pursuant to the requirements of Public Act 16-17 (An Act Concerning Pollinator Health) the Commissioner of Energy & Environmental Protection has re-classified all Connecticut registered neonicotinoid pesticides, as defined by the Act, that are labeled for treating plants, as “Restricted-Use,” effective **January 1, 2017**.

By law, a Restricted-Use pesticide can only be sold by a registered Restricted-Use Dealer to a certified Commercial Pesticide Supervisor or to a farmer with Private Applicator certification. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has prepared this Notice to explain how it intends to apply this reclassification to existing inventories of neonicotinoid pesticides covered by the reclassification.

*Manufacturers, Wholesalers and Distributors can continue receive orders for re-classified neonicotinoid products from Connecticut retailers that are not registered Restricted Use Dealers, until, but no later than, **December 31, 2016**. After this date, manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors can only sell to or receive orders from Restricted-use dealers.

*Manufacturers, Wholesalers and Distributors can distribute to Retailers that are not registered as a Restricted-use Dealer, and such Retailers may continue to receive delivery of Restricted-Use neonicotinoid pesticides until, but no later than, **July 1, 2017**, only if such pesticides were ordered on or before December 31, 2016 (Documentation of such orders should be maintained). Otherwise, effective January 1, 2017, distribution and delivery of Restricted-Use neonicotinoid pesticides is limited to Restricted–use Dealers.

*Retailers that are not registered as a Restricted-use Dealer will have until **December 31, 2017** to sell their inventory of the re-classified neonicotinoid products. All inventory shall be removed from the retail sales areas and designated as “NOT FOR SALE” no later than January 1, 2018 and until such time as the remaining inventory is returned to the distributor or disposed of. Retailers should check with their distributor or the pesticide registrant to find out if they will take back any remaining inventory after the December 31, 2017 date. Disposal of these pesticides with prior approval through a household hazardous waste collection point or directly to an approved waste facility will be the only other option available to retailers after January 1, 2018.

*Retail sales of the re-classified neonicotinoid products on or after **January 1, 2018** can only be made by registered Restricted-Use Dealers to licensed commercial pesticide supervisors or farmers with private applicator certification.

*Until **January 1, 2019**, consumers will be allowed to use the re-classified neonicotinoid pesticides purchased prior to January 1, 2018, as long as the products are used according to the label precautions and directions. If consumers choose to discontinue use of the neonicotinoid pesticides and request disposal assistance, they should be referred to their municipal government for information on household hazardous waste collection programs.

Additional information on proper disposal can be obtained on DEEP’s website at http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2718&q=325496&deepNav_GID=1646#Pesticides