

Applying Pesticides

What Master Gardener Volunteers Need to Know

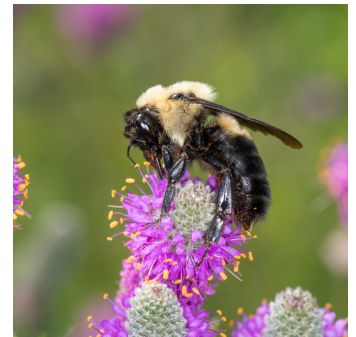
Please note the following restrictions on the use of pesticides by Master Gardener volunteers:

1. It is the Master Gardener programs' policy to implement Integrated Pest Management to prevent and control garden pests using cultural and mechanical controls such as resistant varieties, best horticultural practices, mulch, cultivation, screening, hand-picking, etc.
2. The application of pesticides is regulated by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. Master Gardeners must abide by applicable state laws and rules to use pesticides in display gardens, donation gardens, or other Master Gardener projects.
3. For Master Gardener projects located on personal property: A Master Gardener who donates space on land they own can apply general use pesticides according to label directions to the Master Gardener project.
4. For Master Gardener projects located on public lands such as school grounds, community colleges, community gardens, or fairgrounds: A Master Gardener may not apply pesticides unless they are certified as a Public Applicator for the property in question. Pesticides could be applied by a Commercial Pesticide Applicator certified in the appropriate certification categories.
5. For Master Gardeners projects located on non-public lands such as church property, a Master Gardener may apply pesticides according to label directions and without certification if they are a member of the organization (e.g. a church member).



What are Pesticides?

Insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides are all pesticides.



Master Gardener volunteers applying pesticides must follow all label directions, including:

- Personal Protective Equipment to be used
- Proper dilution rate
- Allowed frequency of use
- Maximum amount used per season
- REI – restricted entry interval
- PHI – pre-harvest interval
- Pollinator/bee toxicity statement