Fertilizer Bags

Fertilizer bags should not be burned in the field. Use fertilizer completely and discard empty bags with a solid waste hauler. Only fertilize according to a recent soil sample analysis. Investigate the purchasing of fertilizer in bulk or in large returnable bags. Avoid storage of fertilizer for extended periods. Contact your local Cornell Cooperative Extension Office for information on proper fertilizer management and soil testing.

On the Farm Recyclables

Newspaper, corrugated cardboard, glass, plastic and metal food containers have great potential for recycling. Mandatory recy-



cling of these materials is required in most counties in New York State. Many containers such as plastic five gallon pails can be reused on the farm of a variety of needs.

C & D Waste

Historically, farmers have dumped and burned construction and demolition debris in remote parts of the farm. These practices are no longer recommended disposal options. Construction and Demolition debris should be brought to a landfill for disposal. Old building lumber can be reused or given away. Shingles and roofing ma-

terials should also be properly disposed of.

Dumps & Burning

In the past decade many farmers have dumped and burned construction and demolition debris, solid waste and recyclables. This practice is now illegal in almost all counties in NYS. Large penalties and fines are provisions of illegal dumping and burning laws. Farm waste and household solid waste contain material that may pose a danger to your health if improperly burned or dumped. Old paint, used oil, light bulbs, batteries and other discarded products may contain mercury, lead and other heavy metals. Plastics burned in an open fire can give off toxic and cancer causing chemicals. These practices are MOT recommended as a way to dispose of solid waste and recyclables.



Phone: (585) 344-2580 ext. 5463 Hotline: (800) 836-1154 Fax: (585) 345-3061 Email: glow@co.genesee.ny.us Website: www.glowsolidwaste.org

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Reduce, Reuse Recycle on the Farm

GLOW Region Solid Waste Genesee County Building 2 3837 West Main Street Rd. Batavia, NY 14020-9404

Tel: 800-836-1154

One of the primary industries in the GLOW Region is farming. There are more than 1,400 farms in the region ranging from cash crop farms to orchards and dairy farms. In 1997, pesticide sales totaled over 970,000 pounds. Farm related activities result in significant quantities of unwanted, unusable or banned material. Improper use and disposal of these materials can result in harm to your health and the environment. Also, disposal can be extremely expensive.

Because farming is so integral to the economy and health of the region, the GLOW Committee conducted a Farm Pesticide Amnesty Collection in 1995. A second collection was held in 1999. Combined, more than 50,610 pounds of material was collected from 142 former and present farmers.

The information in this brochure is designed to address other waste materials that are generated in farm operations and provide options for their safe and legal disposal.

Tires

There are many uses for tires, such as using them on other farm implements or to

hold plastic sheeting in place on piles of silage. Land burial, stockpiling and burning are <u>NOT</u> recommended disposal options.

Batteries

If batteries are dumped on the ground there can be serious environmental problems. It is also illegal to dispose of lead acid batteries in a landfill. Retailers must accept used batteries when purchasing a replacement. Some scrap metal dealers will also accept lead batteries for recycling. Check the Yellow Pages for your nearest scrap metal dealer.

Paints & Solvents

Use paints by putting a second or third coat on what you are painting. Unused paints and solvents can be given to other people who will use them up. Allow the old empty paint cans to completely dry out and place cans in the trash for pick-up and disposal by a solid waste hauler.

Used Motor Oil & Antifreeze

Every two weeks across the United States, more motor oil is being dumped illegally than what was lost by the Exxon Valdez Oil Tanker in Alaska. Used motor oil can be brought back to service stations that annually sell 500 gallons of oil and retailers that annually sell 1,000 gallons of oil. Environmental Conservation Law requires

these stations and retailers to accept up to 5 gallons of used oil per person per day at no charge.

Medical Waste

Veterinary wastes generated from farm animals whether by a veterinarian or farmer must be disposed of as regulated medical waste. Sharps which consist of needles and syringes should be placed in a plastic bottle and marked "SHARPS". If a farmer has sharps, syringes or other regulated wastes from the treatment of farm animals, he/

she should either drop these items off to the veterinarian, or make arrangements for the veterinarian to pick up and



properly dispose of this waste during the next visit. All medicine bottles should be placed in the trash and not recycled.

Pesticides

There can be serious environmental problems if these materials are dumped on the ground or down the drain. Use pesticides up completely and discard empty containers according to the label on the product. Avoid storage for extended periods. Pesticide certification is required for application of certain chemicals that are used on the farm. Contact your local Cornell Cooperative Extension Office for information on application and disposal. In special situations where the product composition is unknown, contact the DEC Hotline at (800) 462-6553.