



Clean Annapolis River Project

Pesticide Inventory Miscellaneous Sector Fact Sheet

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Pesticide Uses Included in the Miscellaneous Sector

This sector gathered pesticide use information from sources not included in any other sector of the pesticide inventory. Information on the use of wood preservatives in the watershed was examined. Wood preservatives are pesticides added to wood to improve its resistance against decay and insect attacks. Pesticide use by lawn care companies and pest control companies was also examined.

Methodology

Both industrial and domestic uses of pressure treated wood were examined. For domestic uses, hardware and building supply stores were asked whether they could provide information on the sale of pressure treated wood. As for industrial wood preservatives, information on the quantity of utility poles installed in the watershed over a year was acquired in addition to an estimate of the quantity of guardrails and signposts installed on highways and other roads. The concentration at which the preservative was added to the wood was determined, and used to calculate the quantity of active ingredient introduced into the watershed through guardrails and utility poles.



Lawn care and pest control companies in the watershed were contacted and asked to specify the types and quantities of pesticides they had applied in the last year.



Results

Information obtained in this sector indicated that an estimated 3,175kg of active ingredients were introduced in the watershed via industrial wood preservatives and lawn care and pest control companies.

Wood Preservatives

No information was acquired on the sale of pressure treated wood for domestic use, as building supply and hardware stores could not provide the necessary sales information. The only information gathered on this topic was through the household pesticide use survey; 11.18% of respondents stated they had purchased pressure treated lumber in the last year.



Based on the number of utility poles and highway guardrails installed over the last year, it was estimated that 2,616kg of the active ingredient chromated copper arsenate (CCA) were introduced in the watershed.

Pest Control & Lawn Care Companies

Four of six lawn care and pest control companies contacted provided information on pesticide application in the watershed. Active ingredients applied by these companies totaled approximately 373kg. Extrapolation of this data to include all lawn care and pest control companies in the watershed increased this total to approximately 559kg.



Insecticides were determined to be the most commonly applied type of active ingredient, accounting for 78% of pesticide application by lawn care and pest control companies. Herbicides were next with 22% of applications. Rodenticides were also applied, however, only in minute amounts compared to herbicides and insecticides (<0.002% of applications) since they contain a very small percentage of active ingredients, often less than one hundredth of a percent. Carbaryl and diazinon were the most commonly applied insecticide active ingredients whereas the active ingredients 2,4-D and mecoprop accounted for the majority of herbicides.

