

MANDATORY MINIMUM DISTANCES FOR PESTICIDE STORAGE, PREPARATION AND APPLICATION IN FOREST AREAS AND ROAD, RAILWAY OR POWER CORRIDORS

This table is made available for the purposes of sections 15, 29, 35, 50, 59, 60, 76 and 80 of the [Pesticides Management Code](#).

January 2021

Protection targets	Storage ¹	Preparation ²	Application	
	Anyone storing pesticides of classes 1 to 3	Permit or certificate ³ holders	Permit or certificate ³ holders	
			Ground	Aerial ⁴
Watercourses and/or bodies of water	30 m (s. 15)	30 m (s. 35)	<p>For non-agricultural purposes: 3 m (s. 29)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railway line ballasts where there is a windbreak: 0 m • Dikes, dams or around power plants: 0 m • Wooden poles for distribution or transmission of electric power or telecommunications: 0 m • Wooded peat bog or a swamp not on a lakeshore, riverbank or littoral zone, located north of the St. Lawrence River, in bioclimatic domains of balsam fir white birch or spruce-moss forests, when applying phytocides for the maintenance of a power line corridor: 0 m <p>Road, railway and power corridors: 30 m (s. 59)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballast with windbreak; wooden poles: 0 m • Wooded peat bog or a swamp not on a lakeshore, riverbank or littoral zone, located north of the St. Lawrence River, in bioclimatic domains of balsam fir white birch or spruce-moss forests, when applying phytocides for the maintenance of a power line corridor: 0 m • Tree or shrub injection: 3 m • <i>Chondrostereum purpureum</i> stump treatment: 3 m • Foliar application of glyphosate using a knapsack or ramp-type sprayer: 10 m • Glyphosate or triclopyr stump treatment: 15 m • Basal triclopyr tree or shrub treatment: 15 m 	<p>Forest environment or non-agricultural purposes (s. 80)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Phytocide if the height of the application apparatus from the ground is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < 5 m: 30 m • ≥ 5 m: 60 m <p>Excludes dikes, dams or around power plants: 0 m</p>
Categories 1 or 2 or bottled water withdrawal sites	100 m (s. 15)	100 m (s. 35)	100 m (s. 50)	100 m (s. 76)

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Protection targets	Storage ¹	Preparation ²	Application	
	Anyone storing pesticides of classes 1 to 3	Permit or certificate ³ holders	Permit or certificate ³ holders	
			Ground	Aerial ⁴
Category 3 water withdrawal sites	30 m (s. 15)	30 m (s. 35)	30 m (s.50) ▪ Except for railway line ballast if it is carried out with a windbreak	30 m (s. 76) ▪ Except if the facility supplies a building located in a forest area that serves as a dwelling and is inhabited on an occasional basis (e.g. a summer cottage)
Other groundwater withdrawal sites	30 m (s. 15)	30 m (s. 35)	3 m (s. 50) ▪ Except for railway line ballast if it is carried out with a windbreak	3 m (s. 76) ▪ Except if the facility supplies a building located in a forest area that serves as a dwelling and is inhabited on an occasional basis (e.g. a summer cottage)
Protected immovables Note: Excludes protected immovables where work is being carried out by a resident owner or producer	_____	_____	Road, railway and power corridors: 30 m (s. 60) ▪ Exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballast with windbreak; wooden poles: 0 m • Tree or shrub injection: 0 m • <i>Chondrostereum purpureum</i> stump treatment: 0 m • Pesticides other than <i>Chondrostereum purpureum</i> stump treatment: 3 m • Basal tree or shrub treatment: 3 m • Foliar application using a knapsack or ramp-type sprayer: 10 m 	Forest environment or non-agricultural purpose (s. 80) ▪ Phytocide if the height of the application apparatus from the ground is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < 5 m: 30 m • ≥ 5 m: 60 m ▪ Excludes dikes and dams or around power plants: 0 m ▪ <i>Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki (Btk)</i> : width of one treatment flight lane of the aircraft

¹ Operators of a storage site holding an AWSA (CropLife Canada) certificate of compliance issued prior to April 3, 2003 are exempted from the certified storage site requirements set out in the table.

² When preparation is carried out on a storage site belonging to a holder of an AWSA (CropLife Canada) certificate of compliance issued prior to April 3, 2003, the certificate holder is not required to comply with the certified storage site application distances set out in the table.

³ Unless otherwise indicated, permit and/or certificate holders are required to comply with these obligations during pesticide usage that require a permit or certificate.

⁴ Intermittent flow watercourses are not protected by these mandatory application distances.

DEFINITIONS

Water courses and bodies of water (defined in the *Pesticides Management Code*)

The terms “watercourses” and “bodies of water” include streams, small and large rivers, lakes, intermittent flow watercourses, ponds, marshes, swamps and peat bogs but exclude ditches, municipal aerated ponds and artificial lakes with no outlets.

The distance from a watercourse is measured from the high water mark, as defined in the Politique de protection des rives, du littoral et des plaines inondables. An easy way to establish the high water mark is to determine the location where there is a change from a predominance of aquatic plants to a predominance of terrestrial plants. The high water mark thus corresponds to the natural point of balance between aquatic and terrestrial vegetation.

Water withdrawal sites (defined in the *Water Withdrawal and Protection Regulation*)

- **Category 1:** water withdrawals carried out for a municipal waterworks system supplying more than 500 persons and at least one residence
- **Category 2:** water withdrawals carried out to supply a municipal waterworks system supplying between 21 and 500 persons and at least one residence; any other waterworks system supplying 21 or more persons and at least one residence; a system, independent of a waterworks system, supplying at least 21 or more persons and at least one of the following institutions within the meaning of the Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water: health or social services, education or detention facilities
- **Category 3:** water withdrawals carried out to supply a system independent of a waterworks system, supplying only one or more food processing plants; a system independent of a waterworks system supplying only one or more enterprises, one or more tourist establishments or one or more seasonal tourist establishments within the meaning of the Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water; any other system supplying no more than 20 persons
- **Other groundwater withdrawal sites:** all other sites of water withdrawal not intended for human consumption, food processing or bottled water purposes

Protected immovable (defined in the *Pesticides Management Code*)

- In a built-up area: built-up lots.
- Outside a built-up area: residential dwellings (except for cottages and hunting camps), buildings used or intended to be used to shelter or receive persons or animals, administrative or commercial buildings, tourist accommodation establishments and a 30 m strip around such buildings that belongs to the owner of the building.
- Recreation, sports or cultural centres, outdoor recreation centres or nature interpretation centres, camping establishments, parks, public beaches, golf clubs and ecological reserves.