



AGRICULTURE, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

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2023 Registration Bulletin for Businesses Performing Pest Control

Thank you for registering your pest control business with the Marin County Department of Agriculture in 2022!

Marin County Department of Agriculture would like to remind you that all county registrations expire on December 31, 2022. Please remember to register your pest control business for the 2023 calendar year with the Marin County Department of Agriculture *before* conducting work in our county.

Below is the link to the Marin County Department of Agriculture website where registration forms can be found and our registration fees.

<https://www.marincounty.org/depts/ag/pesticide-enforcement>

LATEST NEWS & INFORMATION

New Regulation on use of Carbon Monoxide pest control devices!

On October 1, 2022, Department of Pesticide adopted new regulations to ensure that Carbon Monoxide (CO) pest control devices to control burrowing rodents are used safely. Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a poisonous, colorless, odorless, and tasteless gas that can be deadly, especially when confined in enclosed spaces.

In summary, the new regulations require that pest control operators:

1. Label every Carbon Monoxide pest control device with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency establishment number where manufactured;
2. Do not use the device inside any structure;
3. Use the device at specified distances away from structures;
4. Do not use the device on a burrow known or believed to contain non-target vertebrate animals;
5. Do not use the device for purposes other than to control for burrowing rodent pests;
6. Ensure protective eyewear is worn by employees using the device;
7. Keep records of use for 2 years;
8. Report any adverse effects that occurs from use of the devices.

You can read the full text of the new regulations here:

<https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/legbills/calcode/030206.htm#6695>

Pesticide Notification Requirements

The *most common* pesticide complaint our office receives is lack of proper notification to tenants prior to pesticide applications. All pest control businesses must provide notice of pesticide applications *prior to the pesticide application*.

Regular and effective communication with property operators and tenants is essential. Know who your contacts are and arrange in advance your notification process.

Structural Pest Control Businesses are required to give *both* the property operator and tenants written notice of pesticide applications prior to the application. The information and statements required to be in this written notice can be found in Business and Professions Code Section 8538.

Every year the Marin County Department of Agriculture investigates multiple complaints where tenants did not receive notice of pesticide applications from the structural pest control business performing the application. In these cases, the structural pest control business provided written notice of pesticides that were going to be applied to the property operator (property management firm) but did not provide that notice of pesticide application to the tenants whose apartments were being treated.

In addition to giving a notice before the application, structural pest control businesses (Branch 2 or 3) are also required to leave written notice after the application. The notice must be left in a conspicuous location and identify the name of each pesticide applied within, around or to any structure. More information on disclosure notice requirements can be found in California Code of Regulations Title 16 Section 1970.4.

Agricultural Pest Control Businesses and Maintenance Gardeners are required to give the operator of the property notice of the pesticide application (date of application, name of the pesticide, and any precautionary statements). Notice can be given orally or in writing, but we suggest you put the notice in writing, so you will have documentation that notice was given. The property operator is then responsible for making sure that notice is given to tenants or other people that may pass through the treated property. We suggest you remind your clients of their obligation to forward pesticide information to their tenants (see California Code of Regulations Title 3 Section 6618).

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Pesticide Use Reports

Monthly Summary Pesticide Use Reports are due by the 10th of the month following the month of application. All Pest Control Business are required to file a negative (or “no use”) report even in months when no pesticide applications occur.

We strongly encourage all pest control businesses to submit pesticide use reports electronically through CalAgPermits. Please e-mail us at marin.dept.ag@marincounty.org or contact our office at (415) 473-6700 for assistance in setting up your Marin County account.

Finally, please be sure when you submit a pesticide use report through CalAgPermits, you check that it is accepted and that the status of the PUR is “OK”. If your reports show any other status (INC, ERR, DFT), please give us a call so that we can correct the problem. Most of the time, it is a simple fix.

If you have questions on these subjects or anything else pesticide-related, please contact the Marin County Department of Agriculture at (415) 473-6700.