

# Collection of Unwanted Agricultural Pesticide in New York State

Profiling Achievements to Date  
and Looking Towards the Future



September 2003

Prepared by:

Sara Froikin, summer intern  
US EPA, Region 2  
Freshwater Protection Section  
Community and Ecosystem Branch  
Division of Environmental Planning and Protection

In Cooperation with:

NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC)  
NYS Dept of Agriculture and Markets (NYS A&M)  
NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee



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## **Foreword**

This report evaluates the effectiveness of past New York State agricultural pesticide collection efforts and the need for future collections. The project was initiated by the U.S. - Canada Lake Ontario Lakewide Management Plan to support its goal of reducing releases of bioaccumulative toxic chemicals in the Lake Ontario Basin. New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation worked together with U.S. EPA Region 2 to develop the scope of this project and to provide general oversight. It was decided that the project should be expanded to include all of New York State. All readily available information from county governments, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Farm Bureaus, Cornell Cooperative Extensions, as well as NYSDEC, NYSAM and EPA, as of August 1, 2003, was considered in developing this report.

Given that a variety of methods and units have been used across the state for reporting pesticide amounts collected, participation rates, etc., certain simplifying assumptions were used to convert the data to common units for comparison purposes. Therefore, statewide total pounds of agricultural pesticides collected, number of participants, and other information should be considered approximate values. Pesticides collected reported as numbers of drums or volume were converted into pounds based on certain assumptions to allow intercomparison between events. Complete information on total pounds of pesticide collected, total participants, or total costs were not available for some events held at permanent waste collection facilities or for some of the older collections. Some agricultural pesticide collections were held simultaneously with household hazardous waste collections and the reported pesticides collected reflects the combined total. Minimum and maximum values are reported to show the range in which the actual values may be found; however, even maximum values are likely to be below true totals. In general, total pound and total participant ranges reported here should be considered low-end estimates.

## **Executive Summary**

This report will both review the successes of New York's agricultural pesticide collection program and look ahead to recommend changes in the future. New York relies on its counties to plan and execute nearly all agricultural pesticide collection programs; funding for these programs has come from city, county, state, and federal governments. These programs provide farmers with an opportunity to safely dispose of their unused, banned, and unwanted pesticides inexpensively or for free. To date, as much as 592,341 pounds of pesticides have been collected from as many as 1065 participants. This estimate does not include more than 100,000 pounds of pesticides collected in 2002 by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Pesticide Program. Final tallies from this NYSDEC effort were not available before the completion of this report's assessment. The report lays out the steps involved in running a collection, and case studies of Cortland and Monroe counties are available in Appendix 1. There is no regular funding source at present; counties must actively search for grant opportunities, or must bear the collection costs themselves. A regular funding source would allow counties to focus on long-term program planning, and so run more efficient, less expensive collections. Permanent funding could be provided via a number of different routes with varying benefits and drawbacks.

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**Acronyms:**

A&M/ NYS A&M	New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets
CCCCE	Cortland County Cornell Cooperative Extension
CCE	Cornell Cooperative Extension
CESQG	Conditionally exempt small quantity generator
DEC/ NYS DEC	New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
DOT	New York State Department of Transportation
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA/ U.S. EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
GLOW	Genessee, Livingston, Orleans, and Wyoming counties
GLNPO	Great Lakes National Program Office
HHW	Household hazardous waste
MCCCE	Monroe County Cornell Cooperative Extension
SWCC	Soil and Water Conservation Committee
SWCD	Soil and Water Conservation District
TCPC	Temporary, Central-Point Collection

**Glossary:**

*Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE)*: An education organization focused on agricultural, health, environmental, community, family, and other issues. Intended as a partnership between individuals, communities, organizations, government agencies, and businesses.

*Farm Bureau*: A non-governmental organization advocating for farmers and the agriculture industry. A volunteer organization supported and run by member families.

*Milk-run collection*: A collection method in which a contractor visits farms in order to collect pesticides.

*“Mini-grant”*: Federal section 319 funding administered by the NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee. The focus of the program in 2000 and 2002 was agricultural pesticide collection. Grants were awarded to counties in New York to implement collections.

*Permanent facility*: In this report, a collection facility set up to accept household hazardous waste. In New York, 3 such facilities serving 4 counties accept waste pesticides from farmers as well. Having a permanent facility is one of three collection methods discussed in this report.

*Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)*: An organization set up by the county, intended to assist citizens and local government in implementing an effective soil and water conservation and agricultural nonpoint source water quality program.

*Temporary, central point collection (TCPC)*: A collection method in which a temporary collection location is chosen and participants transport their materials to the site on a specific day.

*Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC)*: Oversight committee intended to provide direction to county water quality protection programs.



## What are Agricultural Pesticide Clean Sweeps?

Agricultural Pesticide Clean Sweeps have been organized by county governments to collect banned and unwanted agricultural pesticides, to ensure their proper disposal. To date, Clean Sweeps have been conducted or are being planned in all but 8 counties in New York State and have collected nearly 600,000 lb of pesticides from over 1000 participants, including chemicals such as DDT, chlordane, methyl bromide, mercury and arsenic-based pesticides, and methoxychlor. Not only do these collections reduce the likelihood of future pesticide leaks and spills, but they also eliminate a potential health threat to farm workers and emergency response personnel responding to farm fires. Collected pesticides are either burned in high temperature incinerators or sent to permitted hazardous waste landfills; the collection contractor ensures the pesticides' proper disposal.

New York State programs have been supported by a variety of city, county, state, and federal funding sources. Unlike household hazardous waste collection efforts, pesticide Clean Sweeps in New York do not have a long term funding source to support regular collections.

## Why are Clean Sweeps Important?

The easiest and most cost-effective way to protect the quality of surface and ground water supplies is to prevent harmful chemicals from entering the system in the first place. Pollution prevention through proper disposal of hazardous and potentially contaminating substances is important for many businesses and activities. Clean Sweep collections provide farmers with a safe alternative to dispose of banned or unwanted agricultural pesticides.

While pesticides properly handled and applied can raise the productivity of many farms, improper pesticide storage, handling, and application can lead to soil and water contamination. Even responsibly stored pesticides, when stored for a long period of time, pose a threat from accidental spills and corroding containers. Farmers face a particularly difficult dilemma when a pesticide they already own becomes improper for further use. Pesticides may be banned or may lose their license, may expire or become contaminated, or may be missing a label. A farmer may switch crops, and no longer need remaining stores of a pesticide. Or, those who buy or inherit land that was previously part of a farm may find old containers of pesticides in farm buildings on their property. In any of these cases, farmers and ex-farmers may be left with stores of pesticides which are unuseable and must be treated as hazardous waste. Disposal of these pesticides can be prohibitively expensive, and dumping of these chemicals is both dangerous and illegal, so many farmers simply accumulate stores of unuseable pesticides, unable to dispose of them.



Monroe County Pesticide Collection 2002: overpacking rusty containers  
(Photo: Monroe County Pure Waters)

## Clean Sweep Program Enhancements Needed

New York has a clear need for future agricultural pesticide collections throughout the state, as shown by the successes of recent collections in a number of counties (see Appendices 6 & 7). The thoroughness of past collections vary widely from county to county. In general, Western New York counties have longest-standing collection programs, and many counties there consider their collection programs to be in the “maintenance” stage. Some of Southeastern New York is also at this stage, although other areas are just beginning to collect. Collections in Southeastern New York have been more likely to focus on all CESQGs, rather than only farmers. Other than Herkimer and Oneida counties, Central and Northern New York have conducted the fewest farmer-focused collections, in part due to lack of funding and in part due to lack of farming (dependant on the county).

The cost of holding a collection event is primarily related to disposal costs, which stem from the volume of materials collected. Among counties receiving federal section 319 funding (“mini-grants”), non-disposal costs generally remained below \$3,500, although some exceptions have climbed much higher, up to \$15,000 in the Seneca-Ontario-Yates joint 2002 collection. Mini-grant disposal costs averaged \$13,096, and ranged as low as \$4,800 and up to \$32,000. In general, the \$15,000, \$25,000, or \$30,000 mini-grant a county or group of counties received more than covered the disposal costs for their event; some even used the money to fund multiple events.

New York has collected and disposed of as much as 592,341 pounds of pesticides from up to 1065 participants.<sup>1</sup> However, it is expected that a large volume of unwanted pesticide remains in storage in buildings on active, inactive, and former farmland. Clean Sweeps play an important role in non-point source pollutant reduction programs. However, with an average event perhaps costing \$15,000, collections require a significant amount of funding. Counties with fewer resources depend nearly entirely on state and federal funds when holding events and must dedicate time to searching out and applying for these funds. This report suggests a number of permanent funding methods, which would allow county staff to develop long-term, more efficient collection plans. Without a permanent, long-term funding source, counties will continue to need to actively pursue grants in order to continue to hold collections.

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<sup>1</sup>These numbers represent the best possible estimate of New York’s collected pesticides to date. Difficulties in tabulating this number include the reporting of quantities in units of both mass and volume, and the subsequent need to convert reported numbers. In addition, volumes reported may measure the volume of the drums containing waste, or the actual volume of materials. The conversions used for this report were 200 lb per 55 gallons liquid pesticide, 240 lb per 55 gallons solid pesticide, and 850 lb per yardbox. Collections held jointly with HHW collections often did not distinguish between pesticides brought by farmers and pesticides brought by households; the number given includes these joint totals when farmers represented a large portion of the event’s participants. Since the quantities collected were not available for some collections, particularly older ones, the total given should be considered a low estimate. Information on the numbers of participants in a collection were also sometimes unavailable, so the total number of participants should also be considered a low estimate.

## Summary of Clean Sweep Results

As of August, 2003, New York State's Clean Sweep efforts have reported the safe and successful disposal of as much as 592,341 pounds of unwanted pesticides. At least one collection has occurred, or is presently being planned, in all except 8 counties - although some other counties have not held a collection in five or ten years. Over 85 collections have occurred, known to have served as many as 1065 participants - however the number of farm participants in many collections was not reported. These numbers are about double those reported in the national *Clean Sweep Report 2001* released by US EPA Office of Pesticide Programs, which reported results as of the year 2000.<sup>2</sup> Since the first collections in New York were held in the late 1980s and early 1990s, this shows that the rate of collection has accelerated in recent years; this has been primarily due to the availability of federal section 319 funding (the "mini-grant" program). To date, no spills or accidents have been reported resulting from Clean Sweep efforts.

<b>NYS Ag. Pesticide Collection At-A-Glance</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 592,341 pounds of pesticide collected</li><li>• 1065 participants</li><li>• Over 85 collections in all except 8 counties</li><li>• First collection in NYS: late 1980s</li><li>• Temporary, central-point collection type most common</li></ul>

Most all counties have used the temporary, central-point collection method. Four counties have also used some form of the milk-run method, and four counties have permanent facilities which report receiving materials from farmers. Collections have been very unevenly distributed across counties, with some counties collecting annually, and others having only collected once or twice, or never; larger farmland acreage does not necessarily coincide with a high rate of collection.

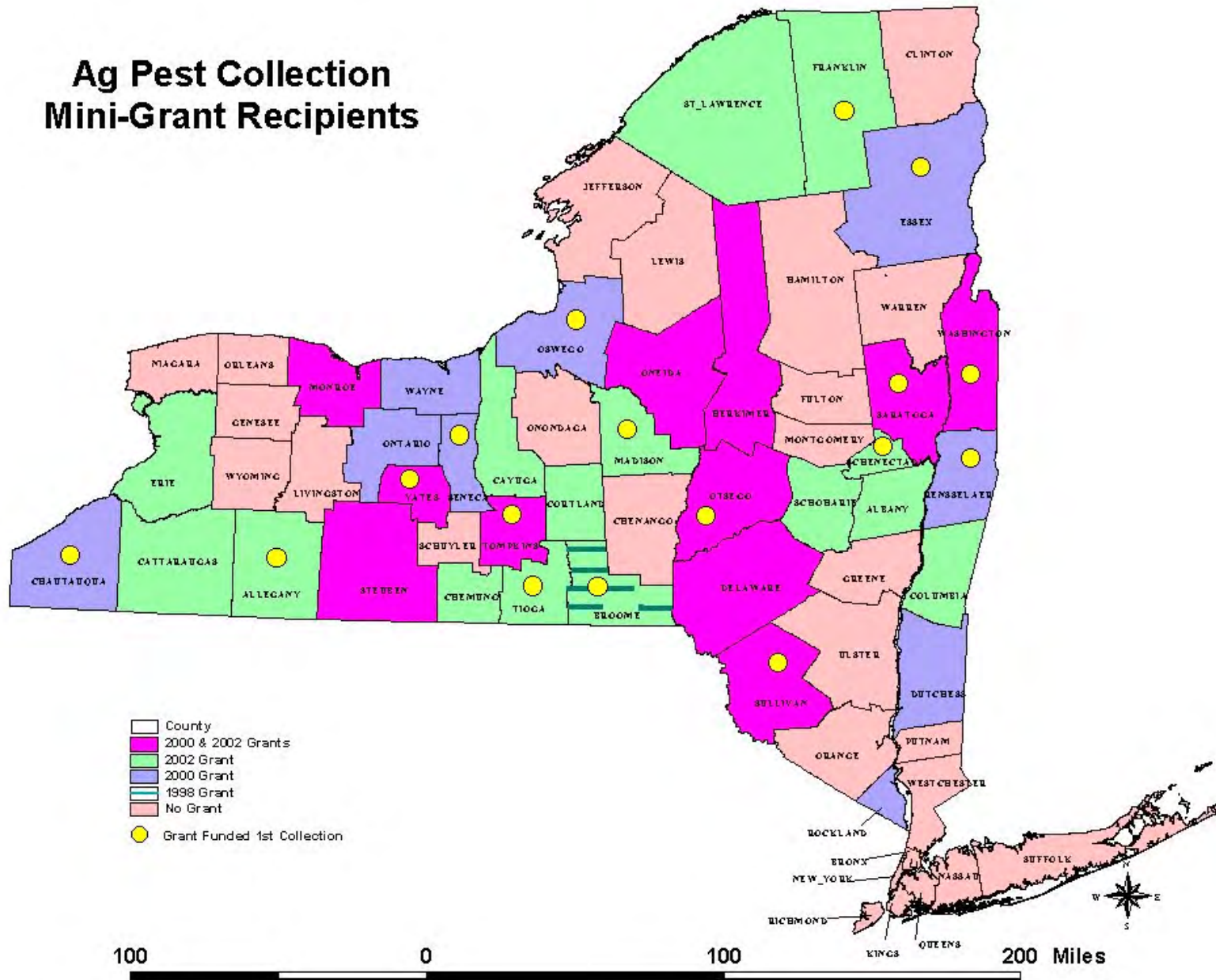
In examining the New York State program, it is useful to discuss the microcosm of the federal section 319, or "mini-grant," program, since information on mini-grant collections has been more readily available for analysis. 35 counties have been awarded 40 mini-grants between the 2000 and 2002 programs. 9 grantees in 11 counties were awarded a mini-grant in both 2000 and 2002; 22 grantees only received funding in one of the mini-grant years. The mini-grant program has funded between a third and half of the executed and planned collections in New York State, although many non-mini-grant collections have been on a larger scale.

Sixteen grantees have completed their collections and have data available on the quantities of pesticides they collected; these 16 have disposed of over 121,980 pounds of pesticides. Pesticides collected include chlordane, DDT, lindane, methoxychlor, dursban, diazinon, arsenites, malathion, and others. The 16 grantees have used a total of less than \$206,250.32 in grant money, although they have also supplemented collections with their own funds and in-kind services. For them, the mini-grants have contributed an average of \$1.67 per pound of disposed

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<sup>2</sup>The *Clean Sweep Report 2001* listed New York as having reported disposing of 219,454 pounds of pesticides, collected from 561 participants as of the year 2000. *Clean Sweep Report 2001*. "New York Table 1 - Quantity of Pesticides Collected."

# Ag Pest Collection Mini-Grant Recipients



pesticides.<sup>3</sup> They have also disposed of thousands of pounds of other materials, such as paint and sealer, used oil, batteries, and antifreeze. Participants per collection varied broadly between 2 and 61. Collections involved a total of 332 participants. 24 additional grantees are planning upcoming collections, or have not yet tabulated their collection results; as of August 2003, almost all upcoming New York State collection events are mini-grant-funded.

Collection events have been run in isolation, and in conjunction with existing household hazardous waste (HHW) collections. Four grants (two have been used at present) were awarded for multi-county events; all others were for a single county. Some additional counties anticipating leftover funding were allowed to include farmers from neighboring counties in their collection. (Alternatively, other counties with leftover funds included agricultural pesticide owners who were not farmers - such as greenhouses, schools, municipalities, and golf courses.) All counties have required participants to preregister and report the materials they plan on bringing to the collection. Many collections have required farmers to go through training on pesticide packaging and transportation before attending the event; some counties have given farmers pesticide applicator credits for continuing education after attending the training. Other counties have sent information packets rather than held training sessions.

## **Common Collection Partners**

In counties planning temporary, central point collections or milk-run collections, event planning often brings together the efforts of a number of different parties. The county Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) often leads collection planning efforts, although in some cases this role falls to county staff involved with waste disposal or environmental issues. Many collections have been held at county landfills, in which case the landfill staff also play key roles in the planning. It is common for multiple departments in the county government to contribute time and energy to the event.

Outside of county government, both the county Farm Bureau and the county branch of Cornell Cooperative Extension often play key roles in the planning and execution of the event. The Farm Bureau is a private farm advocacy organization. Each county has a Farm Bureau branch, although the level of its activity may vary widely. The Farm Bureau's most common role has been to act as a liaison with the farm community, contributing mailing lists, putting ads in their newsletter, and otherwise spreading the word that the collection is trustworthy and farmers will not be penalized for participating. In addition, some counties have had farmers send preregistrations to the Farm Bureau, who removes identifying information before passing the forms along to the contractor and the county; this prevents the farmers' names from ever entering any government records.

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) also acts as a liaison with the farming community. They commonly help prepare the training session or materials, and often lend advertising space for the event in their newsletter. If a training session is mandatory, CCE may help arrange for

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<sup>3</sup>For counties that have not yet reported the portion of the grant they used, the grant originally awarded was used instead; this makes the \$206,250.32 number a high-end estimate. The total of grants originally awarded to these grantees is \$244,075.

attending farmers to receive applicator continuing education credits needed to maintain a private applicator license. In a few counties CCE has been even more active, occasionally even leading collection efforts.

The development of partnerships between multiple branches of county government, and between government and non-governmental groups is one of the successes resulting from agricultural pesticide collection events. This cooperation provides the foundation for future joint efforts between the partners.

## **The Contractor's Role**

The county hires a contractor to handle and dispose of all materials. The contractor provides all necessary materials for packaging and disposing of the pesticides, bringing these materials to the collection site or taking materials with them when collecting directly from farms. During the collection, pesticides are only handled by the contractor's staff. The contractor tests unlabeled chemicals, and repackages pesticides in unstable containers into overpack containers. In addition to these essential roles, the contractor may also act as the preregistration recipient, and may be available to answer participants' questions. Some counties have asked contractors to attend participant training sessions to help explain proper pesticide packaging and disposal. Contractors are selected through a bid process; counties may consider both estimated cost and a company's work history when choosing a contractor. The contractor's proposed plan is often the basis of the county's work plan, and the contractor generally helps counties prepare the plans needed to obtain the necessary DEC approval and waivers for the collection.

## **Necessary Waivers**

Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), both solid and liquid pesticides are considered to be solid waste upon disposal. RCRA provides further guidelines for determining whether that solid waste is a hazardous waste. A pesticide becomes hazardous waste once its EPA registration is withdrawn. Once this occurs, farmers can no longer use the pesticide, and the pesticide's disposal becomes more difficult and expensive. Usable pesticides may instead be regulated under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) until their disposal.

As a result of the classification of the unwanted pesticides under these two laws, counties must acquire up to two waivers in order to hold a collection event. First, the county must acquire a waiver from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation exempting participants in the Clean Sweep program from needing an EPA generator number and a hazardous waste manifest in order to transport their pesticides to the collection site. This exemption is allowed under New York's Standards for Universal Waste, derived from the EPA's Universal Waste Rule and implemented as of March 2002.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup>New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation; Division of Solid and Hazardous Materials. 6 NYCRR Subpart 374-3: Standards for Universal Wastes. Albany, NY: Effective March 12, 2002.

The county must also obtain a waiver from the NYS Department of Transportation (DOT). The DOT has requirements for transporting, marking, and packaging hazardous materials. A waiver allows participating farmers to transport pesticides to the collection site on the collection day without posting the vehicle markings and fulfilling the other requirements normally necessary.

## **Outreach**

Counties have utilized a variety of outreach methods when planning collection events. The most common methods have included placing ads or articles in local newspapers and farm organization newsletters, mailing flyers to owners of active and defunct farmland, and posting in town halls, seed and pesticide distributor businesses, and other locations frequented by farmers. Some counties have announced collections during radio spots or made phone calls to farmers' homes. Outreach targeted directly at the farming community is thought to be most effective. The involvement of farm organizations such as the Farm Bureau, Cornell Cooperative Extension, and even local agribusinesses is necessary to reassure farmers that they will not incur penalties from participating; without this reassurance, farmers are unlikely to register for the event and little pesticide will be collected.

Outreach materials include a summary explaining the event and emphasize the event's confidentiality and amnesty components. A list of acceptable and unacceptable materials (such as radioactive waste and explosives) is included, as well as information on preregistering and any other mandatory pre-event farmer actions (such as attending a training session). In order to further ensure confidentiality and protect farmers from public criticism, some counties have left the collection site address off the publicity materials; this also prevents the attendance of unregistered participants.

## **Preregistration**

All collection events in New York have required farmers to preregister in order to dispose of materials. Preregistration forms include the farmer's name and address, as well as a list of all materials - including unknowns - to be collected (by pesticide name or active ingredient), and an indication of whether the materials are in stable or unstable containers. This allows counties to more easily plan their event. The contractor uses the preregistrations to determine the amount of waste expected and the estimated cost of disposal for that waste; counties can then determine whether their funding will cover all the materials, whether they will have leftover funds, or whether they need to seek additional funding for disposal or turn away some participants. Preregistration also allows counties to deal with unknowns and pesticides in unstable containers prior to the collection. Most counties planning temporary, central-point collection events asked contractors to identify unknowns before collection day. Some counties have asked contractors to repackaging unstable containers before the collection, or to pick them up from the farms directly; others may give farmers special packaging instructions, and may provide oversized drums and other repackaging materials. Some permanent facilities will refer farmers with unknowns or poorly packaged pesticides elsewhere for disposal.

It is important that counties handle preregistration forms very carefully, in order to ensure that farmer participation remains confidential. If confidentiality is violated, farmers are unlikely to

participate in future events and unwanted pesticide stores are unlikely to be cleaned out. Many counties have asked outside organizations - such as the Farm Bureau or CCE - or their contractor to receive the preregistration forms and strip them of identifying information before passing along the pesticide lists to the county; this way, no farmer names ever enter county records. Other counties carefully guard their registration files with the identifying information still attached.

## **Collection Types**

There are three main types of collection methods used for agricultural pesticides; temporary central point collection events, milk-run collections, and permanent collection sites. In all cases, farmers are required to preregister their materials in order to allow the contractor or facility to prepare to receive the materials. After pre-registration forms have been processed, a copy of the form is returned to the farmer along with a DOT waiver (if they will be transporting the materials) they must carry while transporting the pesticides on the day of the collection.

### *Temporary, Central Point Collection (TCPC)*

Temporary, central point collections (TCPCs) are by far the most common type used in New York State to date. In a TCPC, the county chooses a collection site and all farmers bring their materials to this one central location on the day of the collection. The collection site must have an impermeable ground surface (easing containment and remediation of any spills) and must allow a clear traffic flow pattern. The most successful sites are generally outside of heavily populated areas, since transporting chemicals through heavily trafficked areas may make farmers nervous. The most common site types have been highway facilities, landfills and waste facilities, and fairgrounds. These collections have been held for up to a week, and many have been combined with a county household hazardous waste collection, sharing a site and combining set-up fees. A small number of counties have held multiple events in one year, moving the location around the county to make drop-off more convenient for all citizens; one county set up multiple collection sites on the same day. Nearly all TCPCs in New York have been free for farmer participants.

These collections are generally framed as “amnesty” collections, accepting materials from farmers anonymously and without any questions as to why a farmer has the materials. The participating farmers not penalized for holding any materials. The confidentiality of the collections has been vital to their success; concerns that involvement will lead to closer government scrutiny, penalties, or increased inspections has prevented many farmers from participating. These concerns are particularly strong the first time a county runs a collection; after a penalty-free first collection, other farmers are more likely to participate in the second round.

This collection type can be operated on the smallest amount of funding, although it is not necessarily the least expensive per pound of waste. However, this method does involve farmers moving the pesticides over roads and highways, which may cause some safety concerns. Participating farmers receive papers prior to the collection waiving the NYS DOT requirement to mark their vehicles as containing hazardous chemicals.

Approximately half of the mini-grant funded collections offered or required training on hazardous materials transport to any participating farmer. Training lowers the threat of spills,



since farmers learn how to properly handle the chemicals. In the 1999 collection by the GLOW counties (not mini-grant funded), all those who attended the training found it to be very helpful and informative, and the contractor was “wowwed” that all the unwanted pesticides were properly packaged for safety - and some packaging was even more careful than necessary.<sup>5</sup> In counties which did not offer training (as well as some that did), participants received packing and transporting instructions in the mail, along with their transportation papers and a confirmation of their preregistration.

### *Milk-Run Collection*

In milk-run collections, the county contracts a waste hauler to make scheduled visits to preregistered farms to collect the pesticides. If any minor spills have occurred, the haulers clean up the site on the spot. A milk-run collection can be held over a few days, or for a more extended period of time. As of August 1, 2003, only four counties in New York had used milk-run collections. One of these collections, in Cayuga county, was entirely a milk-run collection. In the October 2002 Cayuga collection, only 1 or 2 responses were received for the collection, until it was converted to a milk-run collection. After the conversion to a milk-run collection, the county received 20 additional event registrations. The other three milk-runs in the state were done in conjunction with a stationary-site collection; in these cases, milk-runs were used for either participants unable to attend on the specified collection day, or for collecting materials in unstable containers (the most risky materials to transport).

Milk-run collections are the safest, as only professionals handle the chemicals and any spills at the storage site will receive immediate attention. In addition, this is the most convenient method for farmers, who have to neither attend a training session nor lose time packing their vehicles and traveling to a collection site. Milk-run collections can also provide more anonymity and confidentiality than TCPC events, since no other event attendee will see the farmer’s wastes (this is especially true when collections are combined with household hazardous waste collections). Since many farmers may be worried about reactions from the wider public if the public knows that they have stored pesticides, or about possible government penalties for having banned pesticides, this heightened confidentiality may increase farmer participation. However, this type of collection is more expensive than a TCPC, and is the most expensive per pound of the three collection types.

Like temporary, central-point collections, milk-runs are generally amnesty collections, and are often provided for free to the participants, conditional on the amount of funding available to the county for disposal.

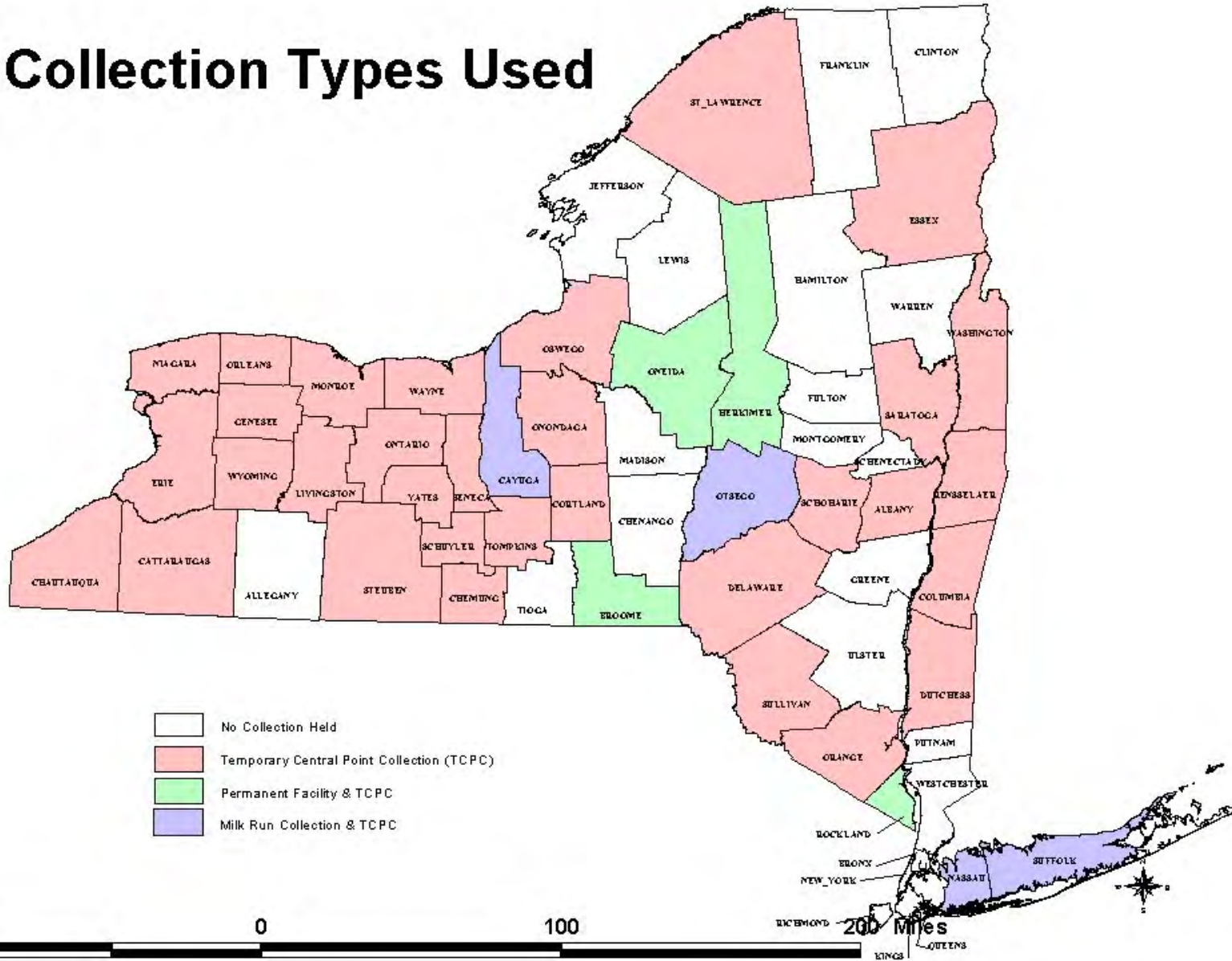
### *Permanent Site Collection*

Permanent facilities are only built once a county establishes that there is a sustained need for a disposal outlet. Four counties in New York provide their residents with access to permanent waste facilities that accept agricultural pesticides from farmers for disposal: Broome,

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<sup>5</sup>Peggy Grayson. GLOW coordinator. Phone interview. July 23, 2003.

# Collection Types Used



Herkimer, Oneida<sup>6</sup>, and Rockland. These facilities provide a single drop-off location that can be utilized for pesticide disposal throughout the year, or for a portion of the year. All serve primarily as household hazardous waste disposal facilities. Additional HHW disposal facilities exist in other New York counties such as Tompkins and Monroe, however these do not accept agricultural pesticide waste from their county's farmers.

This type of collection requires a steady, dependable stream of funding. All of the facilities in New York charge farmers the cost of disposal for their wastes - which comes to about a third of the disposal cost the farmers would pay if they hired their own contractor for disposal. These facilities run through a combination of county funding and disposal charges paid by their commercial users. The cost-per-lb for disposal is lower for a permanent facility, since it can make long-term disposal contracts, fill all labpacks fully before disposing of them (rather than disposing of partially empty containers), and benefit from other economy-of-scale efficiencies.

Permanent facilities eliminate the problems of finding convenient collection dates and selecting temporary collection sites, since farmers can bring in materials over an extended period of time, if not year-round. A permanent site can build the community's trust slowly, and knowledge of its existence and utility can spread through a community by word of mouth even more so than in other types of collections. Once again, however, farmers transporting their own chemicals over roads and highways do create a safety threat. None of the facilities operate milk-run collections for unstable materials; most will refer farmers elsewhere if their materials are in unstable containers. In addition, these facilities are not anonymous, and generally are not amnesty programs. Recently, some facilities have run TCPC events - mostly funded through the mini-grant program - which both provide free disposal and are amnesty programs. These counties also ran single-day collections - for either household hazardous wastes, pesticides, or both - prior to constructing a facility.

### *Combination Events*

When implementing a temporary, central-point collection, many counties combined the collection of unwanted agricultural pesticides with an existing HHW collection, or simply accepted agricultural pesticides at the HHW collection (in which case farmers paid the disposal costs). This helped counties save money, since only one set-up and mobilization fee must be paid to the contractor for collecting both sets of materials. Combination events may be particularly helpful in counties with smaller farming populations. However, farmer participation also dropped precipitously in these combination events. It is likely that farmers were hesitant to bring their materials to a public location where the non-farming community would see what materials they were bringing in. Many event coordinators spoken with felt that any event, joint or not, which advertised to the general public, rather than focusing their advertising at the farming community,

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<sup>6</sup>Herkimer and Oneida counties share a single collection facility, and handle all wastes jointly.

experienced lower participation levels.<sup>7</sup> Combination events also tended not to have training in hazardous waste packing and transportation available for the farmers and others transporting particularly problematic materials, although they did mail out instructions.

### *Multi-County Events*

Since 1993, a number of counties have run programs jointly. Multi-county collections can reduce an event's cost per unit of waste disposed; the most marked savings are in staff time and contractor set-up costs, and in the ability to consolidate wastes and thus pay for the disposal of fewer containers. The more experienced of the two or more counties can relate their organizing knowledge, speeding the learning curve for other counties and reducing duplicated mistakes. When Erie County coordinated collections in six counties in 1996, they provided templates for the work plan, flyers, preregistration forms, and other documents. The collection avoided the bumps most first-time county collections encounter, and afterwards the other participating counties had the experience and knowledge (or the resources to achieve that knowledge) to run their own collections, if they chose - which many have done in more recent years. The Seneca-Ontario-Yates collection in 2002 worked similarly, since Ontario had previously run two of their own events. Herkimer and Oneida county share a waste authority; the shared facility and staff reduces the cost to each county of maintaining their permanent facility. The "GLOW" counties - Genessee, Livingston, Orleans, and Wyoming - have run two joint collections, using one staff to plan for all four counties. In 2002, the DEC organized a joint collection in Nassau and Suffolk counties - and in 2003 the DEC will be organizing two more regional collections, one in New York City and one covering six counties in the Hudson Valley (Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, and Ulster).

Multi-county collection may provide less benefit to very large counties, since multiple collection sites will be necessary to provide access to all of a county's citizens; collection sites one county away may simply force farmers to travel too far a distance to dispose of their pesticides. However, even in these circumstances, shared knowledge, or even shared contracts, can increase the success and efficiency of an initial collection.

One particularly useful form of multi-county collections applies when a county receives an underwhelming level of preregistration for their event. Counties anticipating leftover funding due to a low expected volume of pesticides may be allowed to use that funding to dispose of wastes from a broader geographic area. For example, in 1999 the GLOW counties held a collection, but anticipated leftover funds based on their expected participation levels. After opening the collection to a number of surrounding counties, they were able to include 15 additional participants from four counties. Thus, they helped alleviate some of the disposal demand in nearby counties and eliminate the need to either roll over funds for use in a later collection (along with repeated set-up costs), or to forfeit the extra funding altogether.

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<sup>7</sup>An average of 6 ag-only collections and 5 combination collections found that the average number of participants in ag-only collections was 21.5, whereas the average number of participants in combination collections was 16.8. However, this does not take into account the difference in the relative sizes of the farming populations in these counties.

### *NYS DEC led Collections*

Since 2002, the DEC has also begun to organize regional collections (using funding resulting from settlement of a consent order). The regional format has allowed the DEC to oversee much of the organizing, and eliminate the need for each individual county to expend its own energy on the collections. This state-level organization can effectively ensure that counties in a region underserved by collections in the past can be targeted for collections all at once. Once again, this also allows the DEC - which is now experienced in executing these collections - to use their knowledge and experience in diverse areas of the state. State implementation of regional collections may be the most effective way to ensure that pesticide waste stores across the entire state of New York are eliminated.

Although a permanently funded statewide program does not yet exist in New York, 21 states do have such programs, and an additional 12 states have continuously funded programs - programs which do not have permanent dedicated funding, but have consistently received funding for at least three years. Only two other states in the country - New Jersey and Florida - have relied on county funding to provide agricultural pesticide collections.<sup>8</sup> However, many states with permanent funding run their programs through the counties, similarly to the way in which New York operates, except with dedicated funding sources. One particular advantage to statewide programs has been the ability to make statewide disposal contracts. This eliminates the duplication of a bidding process in each county, reducing time costs and in-kind services. Plus, contracting for much larger quantities of pesticides will result in lower disposal rates.

### **Important Collection Concerns**

The greatest barrier to collection success is farmer leeryness to participate. Every collection coordinator has cited anonymity as farmers' primary concern. Since Clean Sweep events are amnesty collections, many pesticides turned in at Clean Sweep collections have lost their pesticide registration; use of these materials is illegal. Clean Sweep collections are government funded, and are usually executed by the county government, so farmers are understandably wary of admitting to owning some unused pesticides. Many are concerned that amnesty collections are actually a trick to catch and punish farmers not following regulation. They fear they will be targeted for more inspections once they participate in a Clean Sweep event. Clearly these fears are unnecessary. In fact, if inspectors find illegally held unused pesticides on a farm in later inspections, they are likely to be easier on a farmer who has participated in a recent Clean Sweep event. However, collection planners must still address farmers' fear of participating. Planners have carefully guarded the list of farmer names and preregistrations. Some, like Monroe County, have even asked the Farm Bureau or contractor to strip the identifying information from preregistration forms before passing them on to the planner. Others have not even listed the collection location on posters advertising the event, both to prevent unexpected participants from showing up and to prevent curious community members from arriving at the collection site and taking down the names of farmers who show up. Anonymity and confidentiality have been addressed through outreach methods used and developing partnerships with farmer-supported

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<sup>8</sup>United States. Environmental Protection Agency. Pesticide Programs. Clean Sweep Report 2001. Washington, D.C., Nov. 2001. 12-13. (EPA 735-R-01-003)

organizations such as the Farm Bureau and local pesticide distributors.

The importance of a collection's anonymity was upheld by the court during the Erie County-led Clean Sweep 1996 collection, which covered six counties. The plaintiff in a case involving allegedly pesticide-contaminated property at a local New York State Supreme Court made a motion to request the discovery of the collection's preregistration documents. However, the request was denied, "based on the opinion that in the interest of public benefit and preserving the environment, farmers should be encouraged to participate and come forward with unwanted chemicals without fear of reprisals."<sup>9</sup>

Collections must also deal with liabilities. Some planners have had difficulty finding collection sites because site owners were afraid to take on the liability of holding a collection and having collectors and participants be on the property. Some involved in planning, like the Farm Bureau in Cortland County, worried about their personal liability for materials they acknowledged when sorting preregistration forms. Counties have also had to be very careful about clarifying who is responsible for the pesticides before the collection, in transit, at the collection site, and after the event has concluded. In general, the county has avoided liability for the materials at any point along the way; liability is transferred directly from the farmer to the contractor.

Safety concerns are always a factor as well. While nobody wants the monetary responsibility of a spill, the contamination and environmental consequences of a spill are even more undesirable. In addition, improper handling of pesticides can harm the health of the handler and others. Counties have addressed this through providing training sessions or print materials on pesticide packaging and transport for farmers. Some counties have chosen milk-run collections to minimize safety risks; other have used milk-runs only for pesticides in unstable containers. The DEC requires that planners submit a work plan for approval that includes an outline of event-day safety precautions, such as using a covered unloading site (in case of inclement weather), having a clear traffic flow, and notifying local emergency responders of the time and location of the collection event.

Other obstacles encountered by planners include difficulty identifying pesticides by their proper number at the collection site, due to the wide variety of commercial names for a given pesticide and the difficulty of separating necessary actions from "extras" when a county plans its first collection. Counties suggested having a single Clean Sweep point person at the DEC who they could call for answers to both of these types of questions.

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<sup>9</sup>United States. Environmental Protection Agency. Pesticide Programs. Clean Sweep Report 2001. "Summary of New York Waste Pesticide Disposal Program." Washington, D.C., Nov. 2001. (EPA 735-R-01-003)

## **New York Collection Regularity in a National Context**

New York has primarily relied on the counties to organize and run all collection events. Nationally as of 2000, only one other state - New Jersey - regularly ask counties to contribute funding towards operating Clean Sweep collections, and generally have counties oversee all events. In 1998, counties in Florida also contributed funding. States most commonly depended on pesticide registration fees and national and federal funding to hold collections. Some also used other fee-based funds and other grants.<sup>10</sup>

In 2000, New York was classified as one of nine states with only intermittent collection programs, meaning Clean Sweep funding was not continuous, but more than one collection event had been held.<sup>11</sup> At that time, 21 states had permanent funding for Clean Sweep programs, 12 states had continuous funding (a program “implemented for at least three consecutive years that does not have permanent funding”). 4 states had held only one collection, and 4 states had never held any collections (3 of which - Alaska, Arizona, and New Mexico - have very little farmland). Today, New York would fall in the “continuous programs” category, greatly due to the two rounds of federal section 319 funding administered by the NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee (the “mini-grant” program) which have funded numerous collections since 2000. However, the generally sporadic nature of funding availability and the dependence on counties to run almost all programs has meant that New York’s efforts still lag behind those in most other states.

## **Past Funding Sources**

Presently, agricultural pesticide collection program monies in New York State come from a number of funding sources at the city, county, state, and federal levels of government. None of this funding, other than some county-level commitments, is permanent; rather, funding availability is unreliable from year to year. Many federal and state funding programs are one-time only. Counties with long-term regular collection programs have funded them nearly entirely on their own. When counties do not have the money to fund their own programs, then no regular collection schedule exists, event years are unpredictable, and staff must spend their time searching for funding possibilities instead of planning programs.

On the other hand, funding exists for household hazardous waste (HHW) disposal. The state funds 50% of any HHW collection’s disposal costs. Nearly all New York counties have held HHW collection events, and some have permanent HHW collection facilities. Often, agricultural pesticide collections have been appended onto existing HHW collection event plans. A statewide funding plan for unwanted agricultural pesticides would reduce barriers to running collection

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<sup>10</sup>United States. Environmental Protection Agency. Pesticide Programs. Clean Sweep Report 2001. “Table 2 Clean Sweep Funding Sources by State.” Washington, D.C., Nov. 2001. 12-13. (EPA 735-R-01-003)

<sup>11</sup>United States. Environmental Protection Agency. Pesticide Programs. Clean Sweep Report 2001. Washington, D.C., Nov. 2001. 31. (EPA 735-R-01-003)

events and promote the proper disposal of an increased volume of pesticides, protecting New Yorkers and their water supply.





### *NYS Mini-Grants (Section 310 Funding)*

New York State's "mini-grant" program in 2000 and 2002 focused on promoting agricultural pesticide collections. Money for the "mini-grant" program has come from EPA Federal 319 funding, provided by NYS DEC and administered by the NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee. Mini-grants have provided up to \$15,000 for a one-county collection and up to \$25,000 or \$30,000 for a multi-county collection, providing 40 grants to 35 counties, totaling \$607,397 (\$269,075 for 17 grants in 2000; \$338,322 for 23 grants in 2002). In addition, Broome county also funded an agricultural pesticide collection through a \$3500 grant from the 1998 mini-grant program focusing on administering County Water Quality Strategies.<sup>12</sup>

Of the 35 counties that received grants, 13 counties (37%) utilized or will be utilizing the grant to help finance their county's very first agricultural pesticide collection. This is a particularly important accomplishment, targeting pesticides for removal which would otherwise remain stored indefinitely, and indicating to counties the extent of needs for future collections.

While the mini-grant program has contributed significantly to New York's agricultural pesticide clean-up efforts, the topic for the next round of mini-grants will not include agricultural pesticide collections.

### *One-Time State and Federal Monies*

A number of programs have received state or federal funding available only once. Some grants result from line items in federal Congressional budgets. This type of funding may be allowed under the Clean Water Act's Section 106 (money for water pollution control programs), Section 306 (Coastal Zone Management Act), through the EPA's Great Lakes National Program Office (GLNPO) as part of the implementation of the Binational Toxics Strategy, or via another regulatory route. Past collections in Erie County and the GLOW counties (Genessee, Livingston, Orleans, and Wyoming), among other, have resulted from this type of funding.

Other one-time monies come from pesticide enforcement and resulting environmental benefit funds that are subsequently dedicated to watershed protection, or perhaps even specifically pesticide collection programs. This was the case for the 2002 Nassau-Suffolk collection, and for the upcoming Hudson Valley 2003 and NYC 2003 collections. While the money will fund five years worth of programming, it resulted from a negotiated settlement and is essentially an unplanned windfall for New York Clean Sweep efforts.

### *County Funding*

Some counties fund their own pesticide collection programs. For example, Broome County has run its own permanent waste collection facility for about 6 years, collecting both agricultural and other types of waste.<sup>13</sup> The Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority also accepts

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<sup>12</sup>Broome County Soil and Water Conservation District. Farm Pesticide Collection Program: 1998 Mini-Grant Proposal. Submitted on behalf of Broome County WQCCC. Binghamton, NY. 10 July 1998.

<sup>13</sup>Chip McElwee. Broome County WQCC Contact. Phone interview. 14 July 2003.

agricultural pesticides at its facility, although it charges farmers a disposal fee for accepting them.<sup>14</sup> Both of these programs are run by the counties, although both have applied for and received mini-grants, which it uses to increase facility publicity or to run special amnesty days, helping allay pesticide disposal costs. Other counties, such as Columbia (which in recent years also received one mini-grant), have regularly funded their own single-day stationary site collections for years. In addition, many counties receiving outside grants supplement those grants with either county money or in-kind services.

### *City Funding*

While highly uncommon, there has been one city-sponsored collection of agricultural pesticides in New York State. In Onondaga County, the city of Syracuse sponsored a collection for its watershed, serving about 10% of the county. Due to the high cost of disposal for agricultural pesticide wastes, most towns and cities do not have the funding to hold these collection events.

## **Study Recommendations**

### **Evaluation of Collection Approaches**

No single disposal method will be optimal in every New York county; the types of disposal and frequency of disposal opportunities will depend on the size of the pesticide-using farm population, the extent to which farmers use licensed applicators rather than apply their own pesticides, and the general extent to which pesticide stores remain and are built back up after a disposal.

Given this recognition that counties need flexibility in planning their own collection's format, however, the optimal collection method in counties without permanent collection facilities seems to be a combination of a TCPC event and a milk-run collection. This approach was used in the 2002 Nassau-Suffolk collection, and will be implemented again in the upcoming Hudson Valley 2003 and NYC 2003 collections. Operating a single collection site is cheaper than operating milk-run collections, but asking farmers to transport their own materials increases the risk of spills and increases the risk to farmers owning unstably packaged materials. Also, any contaminated storage sites will remain contaminated. These dangers can be greatly reduced by targeting the most risky materials for milk-run collections. If pesticides in unstable containers are collected via milk-runs, then the contractor can address any spillage immediately. The contractor will have extensive experience handling similar materials, and will be able to best repackage and transport the chemicals.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>14</sup>Bill Rabbia. Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority. Phone interview. 16 July 2003.

<sup>15</sup>For more information on the Nassau-Suffolk collection, see <http://www.cleansweepny.org>

However, as stated above, the most appropriate approach may vary from county to county. For example, Cayuga county received nearly no response to a call for preregistrations until the event was switched from a temporary, central point to a milk-run collection. Other counties received overwhelming response to a stationary site collection, and doing a partial milk-run collection would have cut into funding perhaps better used for disposing of a greater volume of materials (although in this case, safety may be of great enough concern to warrant the partial milk-run anyway).

In counties which combine household hazardous waste collection with agricultural pesticide collection, special attention should be paid when large quantities of pesticides are being brought in, especially since these combined events generally have not offered a training session for farmers transporting pesticides. Combined events must be careful not to ignore the increased risk, if only from larger volumes, of commercially used pesticides from farmers and other CESQGs (conditionally exempt small quantity generators). Thus, a combined temporary, central-point and milk-run event is suggested for these collection types as well.

Counties with permanent facilities have, generally, already cleaned out most of the stored waste pesticides. However, since farmers must pay a fee to use these facilities, it is possible that new stores of waste may accumulate. Occasional temporary, central point/milk run collections may be necessary to ensure that all materials continue to be disposed of correctly. When the funding has been made available, most facilities have also run single-day collections, or satellite collections (allowing more distant areas of the county an opportunity to dispose of materials at a more local site).

### **Collection Frequency**

The frequency with which collections have occurred in each of New York's counties varies widely. Some counties have never held collections. Others have held only one or two. Most collections depended on state or federal financial support. Among counties that had held a greater number of collections, three patterns emerged. Counties with permanent facilities accepting waste from farmers collected for all or half of the year, whenever farmers expressed the need to dispose of their materials. Other counties collected farmers' unwanted pesticides once a year, or once every other year. These collections were often done simultaneously with HHW collections. Finally, some counties had collected annually or biannually in the past, but now considered their county to have disposed of most unwanted pesticides; these counties had either stopped having regular collections, or had spaced them out every few years. Some counties which had stopped for the past five or ten years expressed their interest in having a "maintenance" collection in the near future. This seems to reflect the optimal pattern of collection for most counties in which farmers have significant amounts of unwanted pesticides, regular collection until farmers' unwanted pesticide stores are mostly eliminated (determined when event participation begins to drop), followed by collections every few years to dispose of newly unwanted pesticides. For counties with few pesticide-using farmers, or who are unable to attract a large participation level to collection events, collections may be spaced farther from the start, or farmer-specific collections may not be necessary at all.

It must be noted that a low level of participation in an event's first year, may not indicate a low level of waste pesticides present in a county. A stronger alliance with local farming associations, such as the Farm Bureau, or simple word-of-mouth that the first collection did not result in penalties of any sort against participants, may increase the amounts of pesticides collected in future efforts. Or, perhaps farmers were nervous about attending an event held jointly with a household hazardous waste collection out of fear of community members seeing which pesticides they turned in. Any first-time program with underwhelming participation levels should be reevaluated to try to determine the reasons for the low levels.

### **Foci for Future Monies**

After speaking with county officials across New York State, six counties seemed to have a particularly strong need and desire to run agricultural pesticide collections. These counties are all located in Northern and Central New York, and none of them are presently planning a collection event. If provided with funding, all six expressed eagerness to run a collection. Many other counties in New York also expressed the need to provide collections for their residents, as well as difficulty in finding funding. However, residents of five of these six counties have never had access to any collection events or facilities.

Neither Clinton, Chenango, nor Montgomery county has ever held an agricultural pesticide collection, but all expressed a strong desire to run a program in the future. Clinton has included agricultural pesticide collection in its Water Quality Strategy, but has yet to be able to implement a collection. Chenango had wanted to attach an agricultural collection to a HHW collection in order to save costs. However, when the HHW collection went unplanned, they were unable to apply for the pesticide collection funding. Between stores built up by farmers and farms going out of business, Chenango county likely holds a large amount of unwanted pesticides. Montgomery county has talked with other counties about their pesticide collection programs, but has been unable to find funds for one of their own.

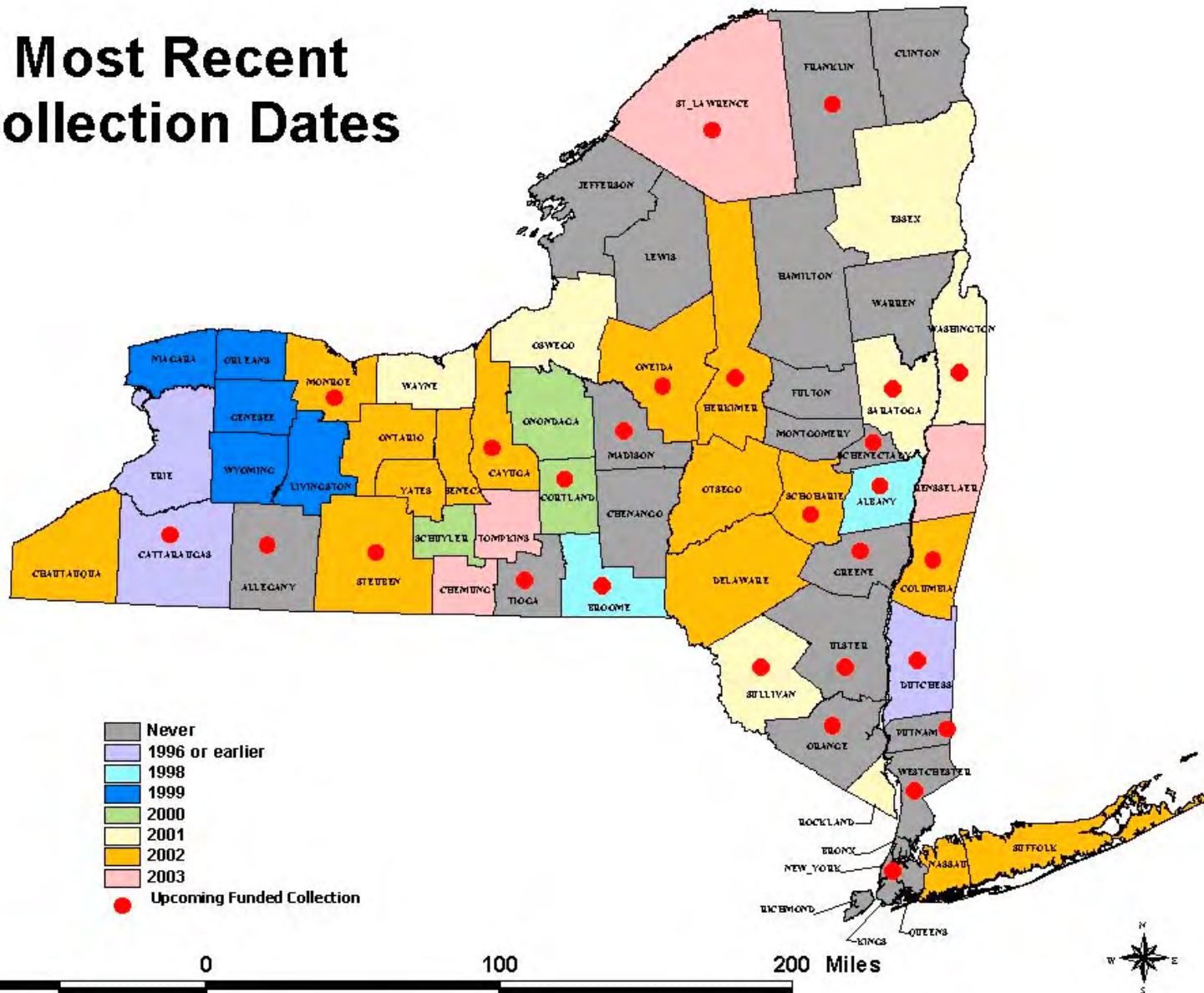
Niagara county has never held its own collection, although Niagara residents have been included as part of three regional collections held by other counties.<sup>16</sup> Thus, it is likely that Niagara still has a large accumulation of materials. A collection may attract a high participation rate. In any case, a collection may also provide a clearer view of the state of Niagara's waste pesticide stores.

Finally, neither Lewis nor Jefferson county has ever held its own agricultural pesticide collection. Although Lewis's population is small (only about 27,000), well over half of that population

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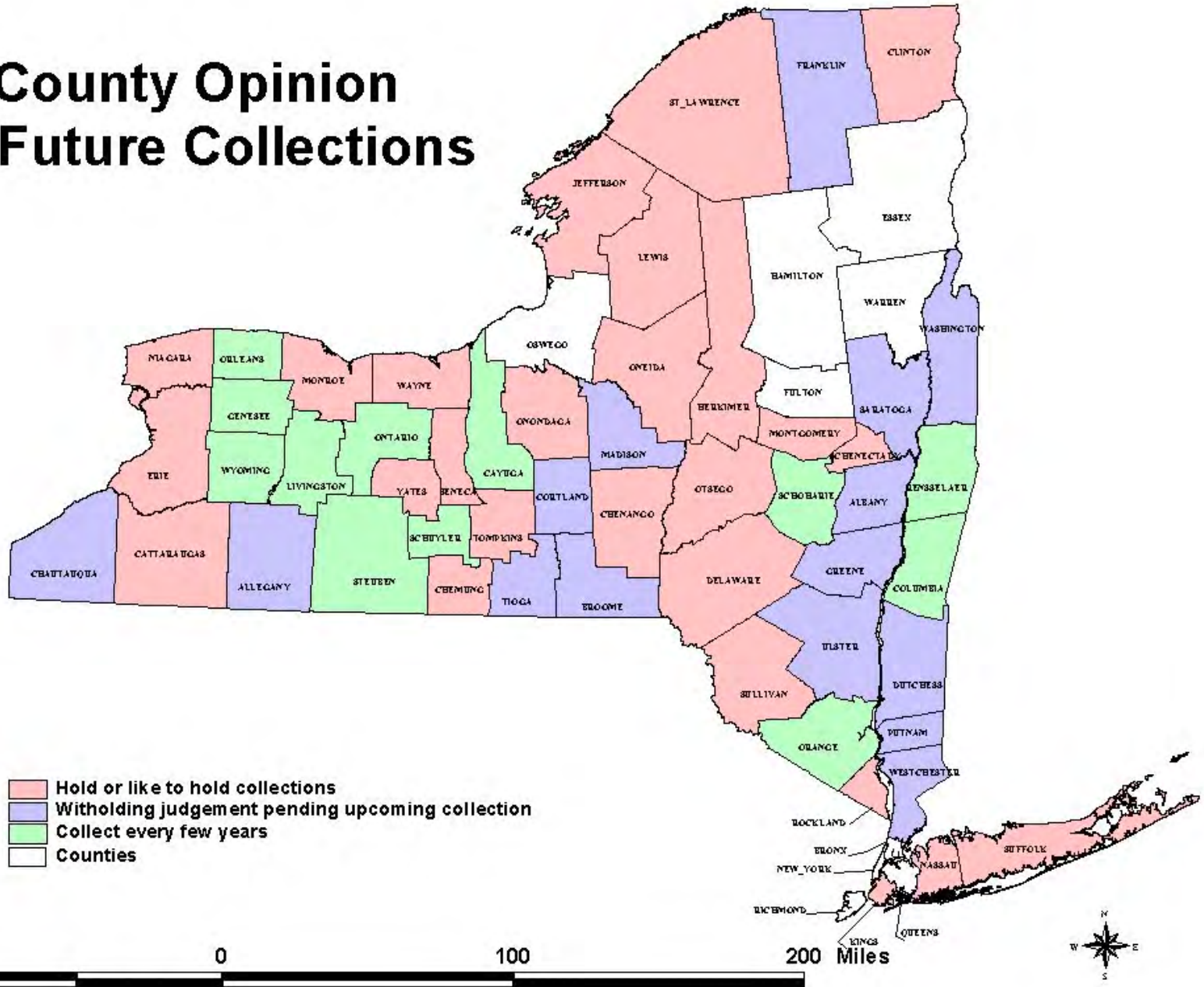
<sup>16</sup>Niagara county residents have been able to participate in the 1995 Western NY Regional Collection, the 1996 CESQG Erie and Niagara collection, and the 1999 GLOW collection (which also accepted wastes from Niagara county generators).

# Most Recent Collection Dates





# County Opinion of Future Collections



is composed of farmers.<sup>17</sup> A lot of pesticide applications here are done by custom operators (certified NY applicators), however farmers may still have quantities of older pesticides. In addition, as a small county, there are few local sources of funding to run an agricultural pesticide collection. The Jefferson CCE cited funding as the main stumbling block to a Jefferson County collection. A number of herbicides commonly used in Jefferson recently lost their registration, raising the level of unwanted pesticides farmers are likely to be storing.

Fulton, Hamilton, and Warren counties have never held an agricultural pesticide collection, and do not have any funding for a future collections. Because significant amounts of agricultural pesticides have not been used in these counties, due to a small farming population, these counties do not plan on running any Clean Sweep events.

### **Future Funding**

Historically, New York Clean Sweep programs have utilized a variety of funding sources, including state and EPA funds, county funds and in-kind services. In order to guarantee a sustained program, however, a more stable and consistent funding source is necessary.

Among those states with permanently funded agricultural pesticide collection programs, the majority (13 out of 21) use dedicated funds from increased pesticide registration fees. An additional 5 states use a fund derived from a different type of fee, such as a fee on hazardous waste generators, dealers and applicator, or landfill tonnage fees.<sup>18</sup> There are a number of advantages to this particular funding system. In this system, those who benefit most from the sales of pesticides pay for disposal of the waste when too much is purchased. The fee puts the pesticide manufacturer companies in the position of environmental stewardship, taking care of the harmful side-effects of their product responsibly. In addition, developing a new source of funding ensures that the monies for this program won't be taken from a different, and possibly equally important, program.

Alternatively, the definition of household hazardous waste could be amended to include waste from farmers. Presently, counties receive 50% reimbursement of disposal costs from HHW collections; the above alteration would allow 50% reimbursement for disposal of farmer wastes as well. This method would allow counties to plan within a law with which they are experienced, and spread their efforts across HHW and farmer-focused collections in a way which more accurately represents their county's demographics. It also encourages the cost-savings of combined HHW and Clean Sweep events. However, combined events tend to have lower farmer participation levels; counties must place extra emphasis on farmer outreach to ensure farmers participate. In addition, counties with very limited funding may not be able to pay for the event and wait for the reimbursement, or may not be able to afford half the disposal costs.

While not truly permanent, another method of developing a continued, sustained collection program is to obtain yearly funding in the New York State general budget, or from the New York State Environmental Protection Fund. However, this may prove difficult and undependable, since

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<sup>17</sup>Rob Douglas. Lewis County SWCD. Phone interview. 15 July 2003.

<sup>18</sup>United States. Environmental Protection Agency. Pesticide Programs. Clean Sweep Report 2001. Washington, D.C., Nov. 2001. 12. (EPA 735-R-01-003)



the NY Assembly and Senate would have to agree to support the program each year. The counties' ability to plan ahead and plan most efficiently - permanent funding's main advantage - will be lost if program coordinators must wait each year to learn if they have received state funding. In addition, this method puts the Clean Sweep program in competition with other programs for money - and thus Clean Sweep may only succeed at another program's expense.

A few states use participation fees to fund their collection programs partially or entirely. These programs provide disposal at costs below what farmers would pay independently, but the fees may discourage many farmers from participating. A report by the Rural Waters Association stated that any fee, however minimal, would drastically reduce participation levels.<sup>19</sup> Thus, while disposal fees would save the counties money per pound of pesticide, fewer pounds of pesticide will be collected - decreasing the event's benefits, and increasing the per-pound non-disposal costs.

In addition, any New York program should continue to pursue EPA grants for collection programs to supplement allotted funds. EPA funding is particularly useful for seed projects in areas without previous collection experience. Counties can also continue to provide in-kind services and sometimes part of the funding, and work in conjunction with the NYS DEC and the NYS A&M to create programs for their community's needs.

### **Related Programs for Consideration**

Four supplementary programs have been previously executed or suggested for the future:

- Collection expansion to include all CESQGs
- Triple-wash container recycling
- Tire collection
- Pesticide swaps

Presently, many CESQGs - which may include schools, municipalities, greenhouses, golf courses and others - lack an affordable method of disposing of unwanted agricultural pesticides. While they are responsible for disposing of their wastes, especially since they derived commercial benefit from the generation of the wastes, hiring a contractor independently is expensive. Thus, like farmers, many CESQGs continue to store waste for long period of time. Non-farmer CESQGs also tend to be less concerned about interacting with the government. The inclusion of CESQGs in pesticide collections, even if the businesses had to pay their own disposal fees, would benefit both the CESQGs (lower cost disposal of unwanted pesticide) and the broader community living within the watershed. The first one-hundred pounds were accepted free of charge with required contractor fees for additional poundage. This model was successfully utilized during the 2002 Nassau-Suffolk collection, in which non-farmers with pesticides were allowed to participate but had to pay for their disposal costs.

Triple-washed container recycling serves the same population as Clean Sweep programs, making these two collection types a natural pair. The plastic containers can be baled or granulated and used to make plastic pallets, field drain pipe, marine pilings, fence posts, speed bumps, construction site mats, and

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<sup>19</sup>The New York Rural Waters Association, RHI/The Northeast Rural Community Assistance Program, The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health. Agrichemical Disposal Initiative: A Report to New York State on Farm Pesticide Collection. "User Fee." New York, 2002. 21.

other items. Nationally, over 35 million plastic pesticide containers are used each year<sup>20</sup>; reducing the number of these recyclable containers that reach landfills would eliminate millions of pounds of landfilled waste.

Discarded tires were considered a problem by numerous county officials spoken with. Many counties will dispose of used tires for a fee. However, the fee deters farmers and others from properly disposing of the tires. Instead, numerous tires end up on roadsides rather than at waste collection sites.

Finally, pesticide swap programs performed in conjunction with Clean Sweep events can be used to “recycle” usable pesticide in good condition, reducing the amount of unwanted pesticide collected - and the cost of disposing of the pesticide. Farmers with reusable unwanted pesticides are matched with farmers able to utilize the pesticide, and the pesticide is transferred to its new owner (preferably before the Clean Sweep collection day). These types of programs have met varying success, as they may take significant staff time to coordinate. Monroe County has had a very successful swapping program in both 1997 and 2002.

**Acknowledgments:** Thank you to Gerard Chartier, NYS DEC; Michael Latham, NYS Dept of Agriculture and Markets; and Fred Luckey, EPA Region 2 for their involvement and oversight throughout the development of this report. NYS DEC’s Louise King, Maureen Serafini, and Bob Townsend also contributed their input. A special thanks to all the members of the county governments, SWCDs, Farm Bureau, and Cornell Cooperative Extensions for voluntarily providing the information in this report.

## **Additional Information Sources**

### ***Web Sites:***

Clean Sweep New York. <http://www.cleansweepny.org/>

*Information on the recent DE-led regional collections. Presently includes the 2002 Long Island collection and the upcoming 2003 collections in the Hudson Valley and New York City.*

Clean Sweep Program Summary. [http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/clean\\_summ.htm](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/clean_summ.htm)  
*EPA summary from 2001 of agricultural pesticide collection programs in all 50 states.*

NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee. <http://www.nys-soilandwater.org/>

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/>

NYS Agriculture and Markets. <http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/>

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<sup>20</sup>Ag Container Recycling Council. *Recycling Ag Containers: Do Your Part.* Washington, D.C.

NYS Pesticide Product, Ingredient, and Manufacture System (PIMS).

<http://pmep.cce.cornell.edu/pims/>

*Database of pesticide product information for NY as supplied to the Pesticide Management Education Program (PMEP) by the New York State Pesticide Registration Section within the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC).*

Final 2000 NYS Pesticide Sales and Use Reports.

<http://pmep.cce.cornell.edu/psur/00report.html#statistics>

New York Agricultural Statistics, Fact Finders for Agriculture; County Estimates.

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/ny/countyestimates.htm>

***Other References:***

The New York Rural Waters Association, RHI/The Northeast Rural Community Assistance Program, and The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health. [Agrichemical Disposal Initiative; A Report to New York State on Farm Pesticide Collection.](#)

Slingerland, D. Tucker et al. "Reclamation of Pesticides in New York State." [American Journal of Industrial Medicine Supplement.](#) Accepted 6 Sept 2002:Cooperstown, NY. 2:43- 48.

## Appendix 1: Monroe and Cortland County Case Studies

To demonstrate the steps involved in planning a Clean Sweep single-day stationary site collection, it is useful to examine two case studies to learn the experiences of two counties who have both held past events, and who are presently in the midst of planning a future event. The two counties examined here had different past experiences in planning and funding collection events before holding their first Clean Sweep collection. Monroe County has had a permanent collection facility since 1991, although most Monroe County farmers do not qualify to bring materials to the facility. Monroe is very experienced in handling hazardous waste disposal and has dedicated funding and staff for HHW collection. Cortland County, on the other hand, had held neither an agricultural pesticide collection, nor a HHW collection, prior to the collection planned in May, 2000. The EPA grant they received for that collection was the first funding for hazardous waste disposal given to or provided by county. Both counties planned successful collections, disposing of unused pesticides safely and anonymously.

### Monroe County Case Study

Monroe County has run two agricultural pesticide collections in the past, and will be running a third one in the spring of 2004. Both the 1997 and the 2002 programs were single-day stationary site collections, and the upcoming collection will follow this format as well. All three collections have received outside funding from the New York State SWCC which covered disposal expenses. Monroe has run a successful series of collections, helping to dispose of unwanted pesticides in the farming community and protecting the Lake Ontario basin from contamination by these substances.

Some Pesticides Commonly Used in Monroe County
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### Characterizing Monroe County Agriculture

Monroe County has 570 farms, which cover a total of 93,700 acres, making the average farm about 164 acres in size.<sup>21</sup> The Monroe farm community is generally stable in size, with acreage remaining consistent in the last decade.

Monroe's farms produce a variety of goods, including fruits, vegetables, field crops, and dairy products. The farms tend to be slightly larger than farms in other areas of New York State. Farms also tend to be more intensively operated, often raising more than one commodity at a time. For example, a farm may produce both vegetables and dairy products.<sup>22</sup> The dollar volume that crops alone bring to the county is rising, raising approximately \$60 million in revenue annually. In 2002, livestock - mostly

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<sup>21</sup>Statistics as of 2002. In 2001, there were ten additional farms in Monroe county, however farm acres has remained steady despite the ten-farm drop. New York Agricultural Statistical Service. "Table 87. FARMLAND: Farms, Land in Farms and Land Use, by County, New York, 2001-2002." <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ny/Bulletin/Coest/2003/03-p076.pdf>. Accessed August, 2003.

<sup>22</sup>Bob King, Monroe County Cornell Cooperative Extension. Phone interview. 5 Aug 2003.

dairy - contributed an additional \$9 million to Monroe’s revenues.<sup>23</sup>

Monroe’s farms use a wide variety of herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides on a regular basis - a partial list of the most common chemicals used is provided at right. Farmers are slowly transitioning to newer chemicals as DEC approves the new chemicals’ registrations. Some older chemicals are being phased out due to the increasing use of genetically engineering crops. Monroe county farms do not depend significantly on commercial applicators to apply pesticides for them, and unlike a number of other New York counties, Monroe has seen no trend of increasing commercial applicator reliance.<sup>24</sup>

Monroe, like other New York counties, has seen a trend toward less waste production over time. Farmers try to avoid having left-over pesticides; not only do they not want to have older and/or unuseable pesticides stored on their property, but pesticides are expensive and farmers don’t want to pay for more than the amount they need. In addition, some pesticide production companies will now accept back leftover product. Thus, most wastes are now created or discovered when a pesticide loses its registration and farmers are left with unuseable extra pesticides, or when a farmer dies or sells property, leaving old chemicals from defunct farms and agribusinesses for the new owners to handle.

### Monroe County Waste Disposal History

Monroe County opened its first hazardous waste collection facility in 1991; its present facility replaced the original in 1998. The first full year of collection was held in 1992. The facility began by holding 18 collections per year. However, as awareness of the facility spread through the county, demand for its use greatly increased. Eventually, the facility’s’s popularity grew enough that today the facility is open twice every week. The weekly hours vary, to ensure that a trip to the facility can fit into nearly any resident’s schedule. Citizens must schedule appointments; this allows for staff planning and gives the county times to mail or e-mail transportation and safety handling instructions. The mailing also includes the list of the material types the facility accepts. Overall, the facility now serves 5-7,000 homes

annually, out of 330,000 homes in the county. The facility accepts all household hazardous wastes for free, and will accept wastes from any CESQG (conditionally-exempt small quantity generator) for the price of waste disposal (far less than what a CESQG would pay for disposal on their own). However, most farmers in

<i>Collection Year</i>	<i>Number of Participants</i>	<i>Amt Collected</i>	<i>Disposal Cost</i>
1997	36	8.3 tons	\$41,644
1999 - GLOW collection	3 Monroe, 43 total	12.3 tons total; unkn own for Monroe farmers	\$39,990 total; unkn own for Monroe farmers

Monroe County do not qualify as CESQGs, producing too much waste in too short a time span (all waste is produced in one month each year). Thus, Monroe County is unable to collect pesticide wastes from most farmers on a regular basis.

<sup>23</sup>Statistics as of 2002. “Table 98. CASH RECEIPTS: Cash Receipts from Farm Marketing, by County, New York, 2001-2002.” <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ny/Bulletin/Coest/2003/03-p086.pdf>. Accessed August, 2003.

<sup>24</sup>Bob King, Monroe County Cornell Cooperative Extension. Phone interview. 5 Aug 2003.

Recognizing a need for a safe, cost-effective, and convenient disposal option for farmers, Monroe County planned its first agricultural pesticide collection in 1997. Monroe County Department of Environmental Services (DES) heard about an available DEC grant through the Monroe County Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC), and Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) applied for and received the grant. Having never run an agricultural pesticide collection for farmers before, Monroe DES contacted Erie County for advice and guidance. The collection was a tremendous success, resulting in the proper disposal of 16,600 lb of waste agricultural pesticides from 36 farms; in fact, disposal costs went over the grant amount, and the county had to fill in the monetary gap. In 1999, Monroe County farmers were presented with another collection opportunity. The GLOW counties (Genesee, Livingston, Orleans, and Wyoming) invited farmers from Monroe and elsewhere to participate in their collection event; 3 Monroe County farmers took advantage of this opportunity.

After their successful 1997 collection, Monroe County had to wait for another funding opportunity to surface. When the DEC offered money for agricultural pesticide collection through their mini-grant program in 2000, Monroe County applied for and received a grant for \$15,000. They used the money to run their second collection in 2002, which resulted in the disposal of 6,600 lb of waste agricultural pesticides from 14 farms.

The New York State DEC once again offered mini-grant funding for collections in 2002, with Monroe County again receiving funding. Monroe is presently in the process of planning a 2004 collection to utilize the \$15,000 mini-grant from 2002.

After running the first collection successfully, Monroe has reused their 1997 materials and followed a format similar to the 1997 event in order to save both time and money in planning future events. Little honing of the process has been necessary, since Monroe was already experienced in collecting and handling household hazardous materials at the time of the first agricultural pesticide collection.

### **The Collection Organization Process**

The grant for running the 1997 agricultural pesticide collection was given to the Monroe County's Dept of Environmental Services, Division of Pure Waters. Logically, this is the same division which operates the permanent household hazardous waste collection facility. While planning the event, the Division of Pure Waters enlisted the help of both the Monroe County Farm Bureau and the Monroe County Cornell Cooperative Extension (MCCCE). Monroe also consulted Erie County's Tom Hersey for advice, as Erie had held a number of collections in the past; this advice shortened the amount of planning time needed. The entire event was overseen by Harry M. Reiter of the Division of Pure Waters.

### ***Outreach***

In order to inform the Monroe community about the upcoming event, Pure Waters sent out a mailer containing a flyer and a registration form to every Monroe property owner listed as agricultural. The list of owners was compiled from three separate list sources, which each contributed preprinted labels to be used for the mailings. (In 2002, this mailer went out to 1300 properties.) While the bulk mailing was time consuming for event staff, it was the least expensive advertising method, costing approximately \$400. In addition to the mailing, Cornell Cooperative Extension put up posters, along with registration forms in town halls, at agribusiness, and at other

key locations.

### ***Preregistration***

Farmers interested in participating in the collection had to mail in a registration form, due 6 weeks before the date of collection. The registration included the farmer's name, address, and phone number and a list of materials to be brought in, including quantities of unknowns. Farmers also had to indicate the size of a material's container, the remaining quantity in the container, and whether or not the container was in good enough condition to be transported without leaking. Finally, farmers had to indicate whether they were an active or former farm, landowners that inherited unwanted pesticides, or an associated agricultural business.

Farmer anonymity during the collection process has been a very important issue, and was especially important during the first collection. Farmers feared fines or other future repercussions for holding the waste materials - especially materials, such as DDT, that had long been banned and unusable. Thus, to protect farmer anonymity, all registration forms were sent to the Farm Bureau, where any identifying information (name, etc) was removed and replaced with a confirmation number before the form was turned over to the contractor. All contact with the farmers was done through either Cornell Cooperative Extension or the Farm Bureau, since the Farm Bureau and CCE are an agricultural organizations trusted among the farming community.

During the collections, Monroe has accepted wastes from citizens who aren't farmers or living on old farm land. Agribusinesses, landscapers, and golf courses are welcome to participate as well. Due to the limited nature of the funding Monroe has received for past collections, they have accepted all farmers and farm land owners first, followed by agribusiness, landscapers, and golf courses in that order. This allows Monroe to utilize left-over funding, rather than forfeit it.

### ***Reusable Materials***

When any reusable materials (e.g. pesticides found on inherited land that were still registered and efficacious) were listed on the registration forms, Monroe County Cornell Cooperative Extension arranged for the chemicals to be transferred to another farm that could use them. The switch was planned to occur prior to the collection day. Thus, no reusable materials were brought in on the day of collection. Not only does this recycling benefit the environment by reducing waste, but that waste reduction lowers the disposal costs that must be paid by the collection.

### ***The Contractor***

Most counties conducting pesticide collections must hold a bid process to choose a contractor. However, Monroe County was able to avoid this process by using the permanent facility's contractor (chosen through a professional service contracting process at an earlier time).<sup>25</sup> The contractor acted as a consultant during the planning of the event, ran the event itself, and packaged and disposed of all collected materials.

Any materials reported on registration forms as being in unstable container were reported to the contractor, who then went to the farm to package and label the unstable materials.

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<sup>25</sup>Monroe County used Safety-Kleen for their 1997 collection and Clean Harbors for their 2002 collection. As a new professional services contract will be chosen in 2004, it is unclear which contractor will be used for the 2004 collection.

However, farmers were still responsible for transporting all materials to the collection site on the day of the collection event. Luckily, none of the unstable containers were found to actually be leaking material. The contractor also visited farms with unknown materials to identify the unknowns prior to collection day.

### ***Permits and Plans***

In order to hold the collection, Monroe had to obtain waivers from both the DEC (Dept of Environmental Conservation) and the DOT (Dept of Transportation). The county submitted a work plan to the DEC outlining the event, as well as an EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) short form. Finally, the county was required to obtain a DOT waiver which exempted participating farmers from the vehicle labeling and other requirements that normally apply to pesticide transporters. The county distributed a copy of this waiver to each farmer, who carried the waiver with him/her while transporting their pesticides on collection day.

Prior to the collection, NYSDEC Part 360 regulations required Monroe County to develop a health & safety, as well as a site security plan. As part of the emergency plan, Monroe notified the police, fire department, and hospital of the upcoming events so that they would be aware of the possibly heightened risk of responding to any emergencies on collection day.

### ***Liability***

Monroe used the same liability agreements as for its permanent facility. According to the facility contract, the contractor assumed generator status when the waste left the collection facility; this eliminated any farmer or county liability for the materials after the collection event was completed. Any spills that might have occurred en route to the collection would have been cleaned up by the contractor. This clean up would have involved collecting the spilled material but not remediating any resulting environmental or other damage. The resulting damage would have been the responsibility of the farmer. The facility was responsible for any accidents occurring on facility grounds.

### ***Training***

Three or four days prior to the collection event, participants were required to attend a mandatory training session. The session included information on personal safety, and properly packaging and transporting pesticide waste. The training also discussed methods of reducing pesticide waste in the future. Participants were then given gloves and other materials to use while packing and transporting their pesticides. Thanks to the efforts of Cornell Cooperative Extension and NYSDEC, the farmers received applicator credits for attending the training session.



*(Photo: Monroe County Pure Waters)*

The training seems to have been effective; on collection day, all materials were brought in properly packaged. However, it also seemed that the farmers knew much of the material before the training took place. While the training session for the 1997 collection was two or three hours



long, the 2002 collection training was reduced to 30 - 45 minutes.

### ***Collection Day***

When the day of collection arrived, participants brought their materials to the Monroe County waste facility where HHW collections are normally held; this site was set up for easy unloading of materials, shelter for unloading in case of inclement weather, and a clear traffic flow. The contractor brought and set up all necessary materials. Prior to the collection day, participants were assigned time slots for disposal. This kept traffic flow even and prevented long waiting times for participants.



*(Photo: Monroe County Pure Waters)*

Participants had to bring their DOT travel waiver with them while transporting their materials to the collection site. As participants entered the collection area, they turned in a copy of their registration form in to MCCCE personnel in order for the contractor to verify the materials brought by the participant. The participant then parked the vehicle under the covered area of the facility and remained in their vehicle as designated personnel unloaded the pesticides.

Due to the nature of the grants, the collection was free for all participants, a fact that likely helped Monroe County obtain their high level of participation.

### ***Disposal***

After the event, the contractor was responsible for disposing of all materials. Monroe County's contractor has destroyed all the materials at their facilities, rather than passing them on to another party for disposal. The agricultural pesticides collected have generally been disposed of via incineration. The contractor then notified Monroe of the destruction of all materials.

Monroe has collected and disposed of a wide range of old, unregistered pesticides which have only recently been suspended from registration. Chemicals collected have included DDT, mercury-based pesticides, chlordane, parathion, lead arsenate, malathion, captan dust, and methoxychlor.



*(Photo: Monroe County Pure Waters)*

### **Changes Made for the 2002 Collection**

Few changes from the 1997 collection were made while planning the 2002 collection. The first collection ran smoothly, so Monroe County simply duplicated the event. The same flyers and other materials were used, with the dates replaced. The mandatory training was held again, although it was shortened to less than half the 1997 length. The 2002 collection ran so smoothly, in fact, that the total collection was only 45 minutes! The main obstacle to running events is locating the necessary funding.

## **Anonymity**

The greatest concern throughout the planning and implementation was maintaining participant anonymity. Some participants expressed concern about admitting to owning outdated materials and the potential for penalties or more frequent inspections. Possession of unregistered pesticides alone is not a violation of state law although the use of unregistered pesticides is. Farmers unfamiliar with state regulations may believe that mere possession of unregistered pesticides is unlawful and as a result they may be hesitant to participate fearing penalties or fines. In 2002, one participant was so worried about anonymity that he handed in a blank registration sheet, containing his name and address but no list of materials (he instead whispered the list into the contractor's ear at the training session). Great care was taken throughout the planning process to ensure that no farmer's name was associated with the pesticide that he/she was bringing to the collection. On the day of collection, some participants expressed concern that the county sheriff parked in a lot near the collection facility. In response, the collectors asked the officers to leave the area for a few hours.

This fear also made it vital to involve local agricultural organizations, such as Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Farm Bureau. The support of these groups legitimized the collection, thus providing reassurance for farmers that the collections were not being held to trick them into admitting they owned waste materials.

## **Other Thoughts**

Monroe was disappointed to find that some funding mechanisms provide disincentives for counties to work together on collection efforts. For example, the DEC mini-grant provides up to \$15,000 for one county, but only up to \$25,000 for two counties. Thus, when Ontario County wanted to work together with Monroe to receive a 2000 mini-grant, Monroe instead suggested they each apply for separate grants, since this would provide \$5,000 extra dollars for collection. In addition, because the grant preferred counties to provide matches, Monroe found it difficult to ensure that each county would provide a fair portion of the match, both in-kind and other. If state or federal funds covered all event expenses, rather than just a portion, it would be easier to run multi-county events. The benefit of multi-county events would be reduced cost and planning time overall. Counties could take advantage of each other's experience, and in this case other counties could take advantage of the presence of a permanent collection facility in Monroe County. In the 2002 round of mini-grants, the DEC corrected this problem by allowing multi-county collections to receive \$30,000; however, the format still discourages collections serving three or more counties.

While farmers would likely prefer an amnesty grant program - which allows them free disposal - or the creation of a 50-50 state reimbursement plan (such as the existing one for HHW), any funding method or exemption that would allow Monroe's permanent facility to accept farmer wastes would be beneficial to all Monroe's citizens, taking the protection of their watersheds, and the wider Lake Ontario basin, even further.

## Cortland County Case Study

### 2000 Clean Sweep Collection Successes

- Collected and properly disposed of 1800 lb of solid pesticides and 475 gallons of liquid pesticides (between 3527 and 6075 lb of pesticides total). 20 farmers participated.
- Collection executed safely and conveniently for farmers, reducing the threat to Cortland County's water quality and emergency responders.
- Allowed Cortland SWCD and Farm Bureau to work together, developing a relationship on which to base future efforts.
- Collection's success calmed the fears of farmers, the Farm Bureau, and the county government reducing resistance to and increasing the success of future collections.

Many counties throughout New York do not have funding available to run their own Clean Sweep programs. However, when provided with funds, these counties have run very successful collections. While planning their first collection in 2000, Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) overcame a number of obstacles. They planned a smooth collection day, free of any spills, accidents, or other safety concerns. On May 18, 2000, 20 participants properly disposed of 1800 pounds of solid pesticides and 475 gallons of liquid

pesticides at the Cortland County landfill facility. They utilized a single-day stationary site format in which farmers transported their own materials to the central collection site. A second collection is now being planned for the fall of 2003. Funding for these two collections has come from both the EPA and the New York DEC.

### Characterizing Cortland County Agriculture

Cortland County is home to 540 farms, which cover a total of 125,200 acres, making the average farm about 232 acres.<sup>26</sup> Most of these are dairy farms.<sup>27</sup> Both the number of farms, and the acres of farmland, have declined in recent years; in the past decade, farm acreage has decreased 10% and the number of farms has decreased 20%. Many farms were sold to neighbors in pieces, essentially consolidating the land in the hands of fewer owners. Other farms were sold in pieces for residential use or "hobby farms." Hobby farms are used for small dairy or livestock operations, and do not serve as the family's main source of income. A small number of farms were converted to more urban uses. Cortland County farms earn about \$36 million annually for livestock and \$3 million for crops.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>26</sup>Statistics as of 2002. In 2001, there were five additional farms in Cortland county, however farm acres have remained steady despite the five-farm drop. New York Agricultural Statistical Service. "Table 87. FARMLAND: Farms, Land in Farms and Land Use, by County, New York, 2001-2002." <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ny/Bulletin/Coest/2003/03-p076.pdf>. Accessed August, 2003.

<sup>27</sup>Statistics as of 2002. "Table 98. CASH RECEIPTS: Cash Receipts from Farm Marketing, by County, New York, 2001-2002." <http://www.nass.usda.gov/ny/Bulletin/Coest/2003/03-p086.pdf>. Accessed August, 2003.

<sup>28</sup>Ibid.

Since 1998, Cortland County has seen a large trend towards farmers hiring custom applicators to apply their pesticides. Using a commercial applicator reduces a farmer's liability, and eliminates both the need for farmers to store pesticides and the need to renew their private applicator license. Today, fewer farmers are generating pesticide waste, however it is likely that they still have unused pesticides from before they hired applicators. Thus, it is likely that Cortland County farmers presently hold a large amount of unwanted pesticides, but are unlikely to rapidly accumulate more once present stores are eliminated.

**Cortland County Farms At-A-Glance\***

- 540 farms
- 125,200 acres of farmland
- annual revenue: \$36 million for livestock  
\$3 million for crops
- predominantly dairy farms

\*information as of 2002

**Cortland County Collection History**

Cortland County ran one agricultural pesticide collection in 2000, and will be running a second collection in the fall. The collection was coordinated and run by the Cortland County Soil and Water conservation District (SWCD), with the additional help of the Cortland County Farm Bureau. The 2000 event was a single-day stationary site collection, modeled after collections other nearby counties had held in the past. No other types of hazardous waste collections - HHW or otherwise - have been held in Cortland County.

Twenty farmers participated in Cortland's first collection, on May 18, 2000 - half the number hoped for, but still a large turnout. Cortland collected 1800 lb of solid pesticides and 475 gallons of liquid pesticides, for a total of 28 drums of material. Overall, Cortland spent approximately \$8,800 on disposal and \$600 on publicity and education (including a training workshop), and invested \$5000 of staff time; overall, the event used \$14,468.97 of a \$15,000 grant. The funding for the 2000 collection, provided by the EPA through their groundwater resources protection program, allowed the county to make the amnesty event free for all participants - which likely raised participation rate tremendously. Funding for the upcoming 2003 collection is coming from the DEC mini-grant program, and will once again allow participants to dispose of their unused pesticides for free.

**Obstacles Encountered**

The Cortland SWCD overcame three primary obstacles while planning the 2000 collection. First, they had to counter the county government's concerns that citizens would come to expect the county to hold regular collections, creating a permanent need for funding. With help from the Farm Bureau, the SWCD was able to convince the county government that a single collection event could be held without creating a permanent program, when they received an EPA grant. The county agreed to let the SWCD use the county landfill facility as the collection site.

Once planning for the event was underway, worries arose over liability for materials collected. In order to protect farmer anonymity, plans called for completed registration forms, listing the types and quantities of unused pesticides the farmer held, to be sent directly to the Farm Bureau. The Farm Bureau removed the participant's name and address, instead assigning each preregistration a number, before passing along the information to the SWCD and the contractor. Thus, neither the SWCD nor any governmental group ever received the names of participants.

The number was later used to ensure that farmers brought only what was listed on their preregistration, and to ensure that farmers arriving on collection were preregistered. Some employees at the Farm Bureau worried about their personal liability in the event of a spill or lawsuit or other difficulty down the road, since they were the ones actually registering the farmers. In the end, only those employees who did not mind taking on the possible liability risk registered farmers for the event; those who were uncomfortable did not get involved.

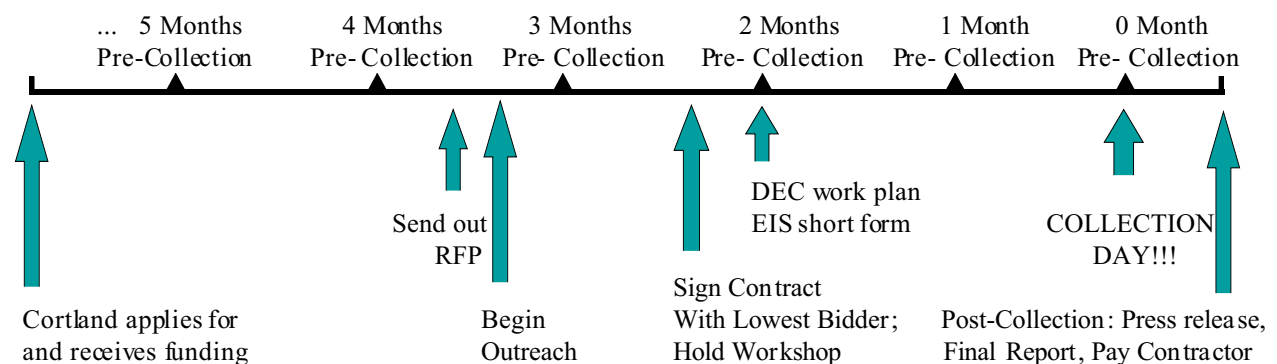
Cortland SWCD also had a difficult time determining whether or not enough unused agricultural pesticides existed in the farming community to make a collection worthwhile. In surveys taken to determine need, the SWCD felt that farmers were afraid to tell them that they held these materials, since the materials accepted in this amnesty program include many being held illegally. But when only a small amount of material is reported, it may be hard to justify holding a collection. In the end, Cortland decided to hold the collection and hope for a large turnout.

Finally, Cortland had to counter farmer fear of anonymity in general. Farmers were concerned about advertising in public that they had the waste materials, making many reluctant to participate; Cortland feels this is one reason participation was lower than expected. Most counties across New York and elsewhere have encountered this fear as well. Often, after farmers see that there are no penalties for participants in the first collection, they are more willing to participate in collections held later on.

### Collection Planning Steps

A year before the collection, the Cortland SWCD began speaking with nearby counties that had run their own collections in the past. Based on discussions with these counties, Cortland put together a plan and general timeline to follow as they planned the collection (see Figure 1). The input from experienced counties was vital for Cortland to gain a clear idea of the steps needed to plan a successful collection event.

**Figure 1: A Brief Time Line of Cortland's 2002 Collection:**  
*Contractor*



The first step in the planning process was to write the Request for Proposals (RFP) for contractors. Cortland County's grant required them to accept bids from contractors. The SWCD evaluated the contractors both by breaking down their charges, and by looking at the companies' histories. They chose Care Environmental Corporation, a contractor with the lowest bid and a history of good work. The SWCD began working on the RFP almost a year before the actual

collection event; their internal deadline for choosing the contractor was March 7, 2000 - a little less than a month and a half before collection day.

### ***Outreach***

Cortland advertised their 2000 collection in a variety of forums in order to give people numerous opportunities to hear about their collection event. They placed two ads in the local newspaper, the *Cortland Standard*, as well as putting a legal notice in the paper and an article in the SWCD newsletter. Cortland also sent a flyer out to the Farm Services agricultural producer list in order to target farmers more directly. Cortland also put an announcement in the Cortland County Cornell Cooperative Extension radio spot. The county found publicity and outreach to be more time consuming and expensive than expected.

### ***Permits and Plans***

In order to run the collection, Cortland was required to file a work plan with the DEC. The contractor's proposal was used as the basis for the work plan. The work plan included, among other information:

- Waste Management Plan
- Traffic Control Patterns
- Health and Safety Plan
- Emergency Management Plan
- Spill and Leak Contingency Plan
- Site Security Plan

Cortland SWCD also obtained a waiver from the Dept. of Transportation (DOT) to allow the farmers - who were not necessarily licensed to transport pesticides - to take their wastes to the collection site. The waiver exempted the farmers from certain requirements such as labeling their vehicles and obtaining waste manifests for transport. A copy of this waiver was distributed to each of the farmers, who had to carry the document with them while driving to the collection location on collection day.

### ***Liability***

The contractor was responsible for all materials after the collection was over, becoming the waste generator once the materials entered their hands. This is a key point because it ensures that the county will not be held liable should these pesticides be disposed of improperly. The contractor was also in charge of cleaning up any spills that might occur at the collection site, or en route to the collection site (although it is unclear who was actually liable for materials en route.)

### ***Training and Registration***

On April 28, about half a month prior to collection, Cortland held a single session for both training and registration. This was intended to both educate farmers and calm their fears of participating through allowing them to ask questions and learn about the details for the event. Farmers called ahead to let Cortland know they would be attending the session. Upon arrival, each farmer was given a preregistration form to fill out - including their name, address, and a list of the materials they would be bringing. These forms were sent directly to the Farm Bureau to separate the names and addresses from the chemical lists (each form was assigned a number

instead) before this information was provided to the SWCD. While the collection was aimed primarily at farmers, some other users of agricultural pesticides registered as well; in 2000, participants included a nursery, a seed dealer, and others. In total, 75% of participants were farmers, while 25% were involved in agribusiness.

After filling out the form, farmers attended the training workshop. In the workshop, a DEC representative answered questions, a CCCCE employee discussed the proper packaging and transport of the waste materials, and a SWCD employee went over the schedule and events of collection day.

The training session was mandatory for all collection participants. On collection day, all the pesticides were delivered properly packaged, indicating that farmers learned all of the material presented. It is unclear how much of the material farmers knew before the training session, although Stacey Russell (SWCD) pointed out that mandatory attendance at the training emphasized the importance the collection placed on proper materials handling and safety. In addition, the one drawback of filling out the registration form at the event was that many farmers found additional materials later and had to call in to the Farm Bureau to add them to their list - which then had to be redistributed to the SWCD and the contractor. For the upcoming 2003 collection, Cortland is looking into the possibility of both taking registrations by mail (rather than in person) and mailing out a packet of the information on proper material handling.

### ***Collection Day***

The collection was held on May 18, 2000 at the Cortland County landfill garage. Prior to collection day, the SWCD and the landfill staff cleaned out the landfill garage. On the day itself, the SWCD put up the traffic signs, and the contractor set up the tables and all the collection equipment in the garage. This included preparations to test unknown materials; few enough unknowns were being brought that fingerprinting the chemicals at the collection itself was possible.

As mentioned earlier, 20 participants brought between 3527 and 6075 lbs of pesticide waste to the collection,<sup>29</sup> including such chemicals as chlordane and methoxychlor. Participants were pre-assigned time slots spaced at 15 minutes intervals, in order to reduce waiting time and better space out the collection; the actual collection did run a little behind schedule.

### ***Disposal***

After the collection, the contractor removed and disposed of all materials. Materials were taken to one of three facilities that include two incinerators and one treatment and fuels blending facility. After wastes were properly disposed of, the contractor sent notification of the waste's destruction to the Cortland County SWCD.

### ***Collection Successes***

The 2000 collection did more than safely collect thousands of pounds of waste pesticides, reducing the threat of water contamination to the county and the threat to emergency responders

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<sup>29</sup>Variation is dependent on whether gallons of liquid pesticides measured the labpack volume or actual pesticide volume, since this determines whether the proper pound/gallon conversion is 200 lb/55 gallons or 9 lb/gallons.

of chemicals in burning buildings. In addition to properly disposing of the materials collected, the event paved the way for further future collections - such as the upcoming one in 2003 - by both building trust within the farming community and altering county legislature attitudes towards collections. The event also provided the SWCD and the Farm Bureau with an opportunity to cooperate and work together for one of the first times, building a relationship useful in future interactions.

### **Changes Made for the 2003 Collection**

Most of the plans for the 2003 collection parallel those of the 2000 collection. In 2000, the event demanded a total of 360 hours of staff time to plan - a tremendous time input, and even more than had been budgeted for. Now that the county has experience in planning a collection event, this time will be greatly reduced for the 2003 collection (although planning remains time-intensive). Experience has also removed the county legislature's resistance to future events; when the SWCD asked for permission to use the county landfill as the collection site in 2003, the county legislature easily agreed. As of yet, it is unclear to what extent the Farm Bureau will be involved. The SWCD is still short on advertising money, although decreased farmer anxiety after witnessing a successful, penalty-free collection in 2000 are expected to raise participation levels. The same advertising materials (flyer, etc.) will be used this year, with updated information.

As mentioned earlier, Cortland is considering elimination of the training and registration workshop. Other counties have successfully accepted registration through the mail, making this a known successful alternative. In addition, filling out the registration form away from the farm led to the exclusion of materials from farmers' collection lists - which later had to be amended by Farm Bureau staff. Many farmers also seemed to know proper chemical handling prior to the training, even though they were not specifically licensed to transport the materials. An information packet on proper use, with a contact number for farmers with further packing and transport questions, may be equally effective. In addition, conducting registration and training via mail saves farmers the time it would take to attend the training session, and saves Cortland the time and money of planning and executing the workshop.

### **View on Future Collections**

While Cortland is unsure as to whether demand for an annual collection exists, a collection at least every 3 or 4 years would be beneficial in ensuring that the county becomes and remains clean of agricultural pesticide waste stores. Cortland is waiting until after the 2003 collection to determine the long-term demand that might exist in their county. They have only received six calls inquiring about farm pesticide disposal since the 2000 collection, however they are hoping that farmers will be more willing to bring waste to the collection than they are willing to admit they have waste to begin with. The primary obstacle to holding collection has been funding. The county does not want to commit to long-term funding for this project, and no steady funding source exists on the state or federal level. Ideally, the Cortland SWCD would like to hold a collection for all agricultural pesticides (including pesticides held by households), not just those held by farmers, since all of the materials pose the same risk, regardless of their owner.



**Appendix 2: 2000 Mini-Grant Recipients, active parties**

<b>County</b>	<b># of Events</b>	<b>Date(s) of Collection</b>	<b>County Contact</b>	<b>Project Sponsors/Coordinators</b>	<b>Location of Collection</b>	<b>Contractor</b>
Chautauqua	2	9/22/01 5/18/02	Keith Stock County Landfill (716) 985-4785 x216		(2001) Chautauqua County Highway Maintenance Shop; (2002) County Landfill, Jamestown, NY	
Delaware	1	09/22/01	Karen Clifford WQCC Contact, SWCD (607) 865-7161	DC Dept of Public Works, SWCD, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Watershed Agricultural Council, Farm Bureau	Delaware County ARCC Building, Hamden, NY	Care Environmental Corp.
Dutchess	-	-	Ed Hoxsie WQCC contact, SWCD (845) 677-8011 x4			
Essex	1	09/19/01	Cynthia Brannock, WQCC contact, SWCD (518) 962-8225	SWCD, Farm Bureau, Cornell Coop Extention	Essex County Fairgrounds	Clean Harbors
Monroe	1	03/09/02	Harry M. Reiter, Pretreatment Coord., MC Dept of Enviro. Services, Div. Of Pure Waters, (585) 760-7523	MC Dept. of Environmental Services, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Farm Bureau	Monroe County SWA, 444 East Henrietta Rd, Rochester, NY, 14620	Safety-Kleen (NE), Inc.
Oneida, Herkimer	N/A	2002 season	Bill Rabbia Oneida-Herkimer Solid Waste Authority (315) 733-1224	Solid Waste Authority, Cornell Cooperative Extension	permanent facility	Clean Harbors
Ontario, Seneca, Yates	1	03/22/02	Maria Rudzinski Senior Planner, Ontario County (585) 396-4455	Ontario Cty Water Resources Council, NYS SWCC, Ontario Cty Dept of Solid Waste, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Ontario Cty Dept of Planning, Farm Bureau, Seneca Lake Area Partners, Canandaigua Lake Watershed Council, Ontario Cty SWCD	Ontario County Sanitary Landfill, Hamlet of Flint, Seneca, NY	Safety-Kleen, (NE) Inc.
Oswego	3	06/16/01 08/18/01 09/15/01	John DeHollander OC District Manager, WQCC contact (315) 592-9663	Dept. of Solid Waste	Oswego County Div. of Solid Waste, Fulton, NY	Safety-Kleen, Inc.
Otsego	1	09/04/01	Jim Palano National Resources	Otsego County WQCC, Otsego County Solid Waste Dept	Otsego County Fairgrounds, Morris, NY	Care Environmental

<b>County</b>	<b># of Events</b>	<b>Date(s) of Collection</b>	<b>County Contact</b>	<b>Project Sponsors/Coordinators</b>	<b>Location of Collection</b>	<b>Contractor</b>
			Conservation Service, (607) 547-8337			Corp.
Rensselaer	1	01/31/03	Eric Swanson WQCC contact, SWCD (518) 271-1740	SWCD	Rensselaer County Highway Department	
Rockland	year-long	2001	Kathleen Smith Rockland County (845) 364-2086	SWCD, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Farm Bureau	permanent facility	
Saratoga	1	09/29/01	John Hamilton WQCC contact, SWCD (518) 885-6900	SWCD, Town of Clifton Park, WQCC, Farm Bureau		Clean Harbors Environmental Services Inc.
Steuben	1	10/20/01	Bonnie Kastner County Public Works (607) 776-9631	SC Dept of Public Works	Steuben County landfill, 5632 Turnpike Rd, Bath, NY	Clean Venture, Inc.
	1	09/14/01	Brian Brustman Exec. Dir., SWCD (845) 292-6552 x101	SWCD, Cornell Cooperative Extension, SC Division of Solid Waste, Farm Bureau, Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, Cochecton Mills, Agway, SC Chamber of Commerce, SC Board of Legislators	4 pick-up points in the area. Used four local farms that had good sized parking areas and could do easy for traffic flow. This way, kept farmers within a few miles of their farms.	Care Environmental Corp.
Tompkins	2	spring, fall 2002	Craig Schutt Tompkins County SWCD (607) 257-2340	SWCD, TC Solid Waste Disposal Facility	Tompkins County Dept of Solid Waste permanent facility	
Washington	1	09/29/01	Joseph Driscoll WQCC contact, SWCD (518) 692-9940	Washington County SWCD, WQCC	Washington County Highway Dept. parking lot Fort Edward, NY	Clean Harbors Environmental Services Inc.
Wayne	1	10/06/01	Robert Williams WQCC contact, SWCD (315) 946-4136	SWCD, WC Board of Supervisors, WC Planning Dept, Western Finger Lakes Solid Waste Management Authority, WC Local Emergency Planning Committee		MSE Environmental

**Appendix 3: 2002 Mini-Grant Recipients, active parties**

County	# of Events	Date(s) of Collection	County Contact	Project Sponsors, Coordinators	Location of Collection	Contractor
Albany						
Broome						
Cattaraugus, Allegany						
Cayuga						
Chemung		May 2003				
Columbia	1	10/12/02	Vicki McDarby, Columbia County Solid Waste (518) 828-2737	CC Solid Waste Dept., CC SWCD	County Public Works garage	Clean Harbors Environmental Services Inc.
Cortland						
Delaware	1	09/13/02	Karen Clifford, Delaware County SWCD; Susan McIntyre, Delaware County DPW	DC SWCD, DC Dept of Public Works, Watershed Agriculture Council, Cornell Cooperative Extension, DC Farm Bureau		
Erie						
Franklin						
Madison						
Monroe						
Oneida, Herkimer						
Otsego	1	09/07/02				
Saratoga						

<b>County</b>	<b># of Events</b>	<b>Date(s) of Collection</b>	<b>County Contact</b>	<b>Project Sponsors, Coordinators</b>	<b>Location of Collection</b>	<b>Contractor</b>
Schoharie						
St. Lawrence			Dawn Howard St. Lawrence County SWCD (315) 386-3582			
Steuben						
Sullivan						
Tioga			Wendy Walsh (607) 687-3553			
Tompkins						
Schenectady						
Washington						

**Appendix 4: 2000 Mini-Grant Recipients, Program Costs, Grant Received (In \$)**

<b>County</b>	<b>Grant Awarded</b>	<b>Grant Used</b>	<b>In-Kind Costs</b>	<b>Outreach Costs</b>	<b>Personnel Costs</b>	<b>Disposal/ Contractor Costs</b>	<b>Total Costs</b>
Chautauqua	15,000						14,110.24
Delaware	15,000	15,000					
Dutchess	15,000						
Essex	15,000	8,678.53	8,413		2,278.01	5,940.52	17,091.53
Monroe	15,000	10,724.44	10,000			10,724.44	20,724.44
Oneida, Herkimer	25,000					16,000	
Ontario, Seneca, Yates	25,000	25,000	15,000			26,844.75	41,844.75
Oswego	15,000	15,000		1,409.21		20,155.16	21,767.45
Otsego	9,075	9,075	1,200	5,400		5,527.96	12,127
Rensselaer	15,000						
Rockland	15,000						
Saratoga	15,000	10,109.65	2,570	187.86	520	9,056.25	12,679.65
Steuben	15,000	10,002.84		2,000.4		8,360.25	10,983.49
Sullivan	15,000	8,586.75	2,867			8,430	11,453.75
Tompkins	15,000						
Washington	15,000	10,529.31	2,302			8,137.31	
Wayne	15,000	15,000				32,000	

**Appendix 5: 2002 Mini-Grant Recipients: Program Costs, Grant Received (In \$)**

County	Grant Awarded	Grant Used	In-Kind Costs	Outreach Costs	Personnel Costs	Disposal/ Contractor Costs	Total Costs
Albany	14,500						
Broome	4,200						
Cattaraugus, Allegany	30,000						
Cayuga	15,000						
Chemung	15,000					4,800	
Columbia	15,000	8,543.8					7,400
Cortland	14,000						
Delaware	15,000	15,000	4,930.89	710		14,264.95	19,930.89
Erie	13,622						
Franklin	13,000						
Madison	15,000						
Monroe	15,000						
Oneida, Herkimer	30,000						
Otsego	9,500						
Saratoga	15,000						
Schoharie	15,000						
St. Lawrence	15,000						
Steuben	15,000						
Sullivan	15,000						
Tioga	11,500						
Tompkins	6,500						
Schenectady	11,500						
Washington	15,000						

### Appendix 6: 2000 Mini-Grant Amounts Collected

For some collections, total pesticide collected includes pesticides from both farmers and other CESQS. Pesticide totals were tabulated using the following conversions:

- a 55-gallon drum of liquid pesticide weighs approx. 200 lb

- a 55-gallon drum of solid pesticide weighs approx. 240 lb

- a yardbox weighs approx. 850 lb

- liquid pesticide, not including packaging, weighs 9 lb per gallon

County	Total Agricultural Pesticide from Farmers (Solid + Liquid) (lb)	Solid Pesticide (lb)	Liquid Pesticide (lb)	Other	Total (lb)	Event \$/Lb	# Farm Participants Under Grant
Chautauqua	7,700	3,750	3,950		7,700		
Delaware	29,600						
Dutchess							
Essex	2,630				2,630	6.50	12
Monroe	6,660				6,660	3.11	14
Oneida, Herkimer							32
Ontario, Seneca, Yates	19,650				19,650	2.13	45
Oswego	4,222	2,800	3,519	280 gal antifreeze, 1635 gal used oil, 22940 lb auto batteries, 1920 lb household batteries, 12660 gal latex paint, 12660 gal oil base paint, 21976 ft fluor. bulbs, 27881 lb other solid HHW, 3869 gal other liquid HHW, 39570 lb misc solid waste			5
Otsego	1,642			4,869	6,511		10
Rensselaer	6,500				6,500		12
Rockland							11
Saratoga	16,909						16
Steuben	2705	882	1823	1210	3915	2.81	15
Sullivan	3345			909 lb + 1 empty 55 gal drum	4254 lb		14
Tompkins							
Washington	5040				5040		30

Wayne	4989	4000	989	9800	14789	61
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**Appendix 7: 2002 Mini-Grant Amounts Collected**

<b>County</b>	<b>Total Agricultural Pesticide from Farmers (Solid + Liquid) (lb)</b>	<b>Solid Pesticides (lb)</b>	<b>Liquid Pesticides (lb)</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Event \$/Lb</b>	<b>Total # Farm Participants Under Grant</b>
Albany							
Broome							
Cattaraugus, Allegany							
Cayuga							
Chemung	2240	1440	800		2240		2
Columbia	4550			220 gallons antifreeze			6
Cortland							
Delaware	3598				3598		47
Erie							
Franklin							
Madison							
Monroe							
Oneida, Herkimer							
Otsego							
Saratoga							
Schoharie							
St. Lawrence							
Steuben							
Sullivan							
Tioga							
Tompkins							
Schenectady							
Washington							

For some collections, total pesticide collected includes pesticides from both farmers and other CESQGs. Pesticide totals tabulated using the following conversions:

- a 55-gallon drum of liquid pesticide weighs approx. 200 lb
- a 55-gallon drum of solid pesticide weighs approx. 240 lb
- a yardbox weighs approx. 850 lb
- liquid pesticide, not including packaging, weighs 9 lb per gallon



## **Appendix 8: Reported Pesticide Types Collected**

### 2000 Mini-Grant:

- Essex: chlordane, lindane, 2,4-D, methoxychlor, lead arsenate, propionic acid, chlorine algicides
- Monroe: DDT, mercury based pesticides, chlordane parathion, lead arsenate, malathion, captan dust, and methoxychlor
- Oswego: DDT, dursban, 2,4-D, sevin, chlordane, methoxychlor, diazinon
- Saratoga: 2,4,5-T (weedone BK64), benlate wettable, bladex 80W, blue ribbon seed protectant II, bonide, butyiac 200, carbolic merc, carbamate (w/ ferban), chlordane, crow chex, crow fex, cygon 2E, cygon 400, DDT, diazinon 50W, dichlone, enide 50W, eptan, esterrow 99, general weed killer, gramoxone, hydrochloric acid, IBA C-29, imidane 50, lass/atrazine, louse powder, magnet 95, malathion E, marlate, MCP herbicide, metasystex-R2, methoxychlor 50W, paraquat, parithone 8E, phosphamidon, premerge, sencor, sulphuric acid, sutan, teet dip, thiodene 2E, thylate, tolban, triox 55%, tripfan, unlabeled powder, unlabelled herbicide, unlabelled liquid, weedar

### 2002 Mini-Grant:

- Delaware: carbaryl, isopropylamine, arsenites, pyrethrins, chlordane, malathion, simazine, lindane, dinoseb, methoxychlor, diazinon, captan, DDT, zineb

**Appendix 9: All Collections Conducted in New York State, Broken Down by County. (As of Aug. 1, 2003)**

NOTE: "TCPC" - farmers bring pesticides to a temporary central point collection. "Milk run" - contractors travels to farms of collect pesticides.

County	Event Type	Event Name	Date(s)	Multi-County? (y/n)	Other Notes
Albany	TCPC		1998	n	
	TCPC		upcoming 2003	n	
Allegany	TCPC	GLOW	1999	y	Invited to participate in GLOW 1999 collection, but 0 farmers participated. See Genessee county.
	TCPC		upcoming	y - Cattar.	Received 2002 minigrant, but awaiting 1 <sup>st</sup> portion of funds.
Broome	perm. facility		1997 - present	n	Facility operates year-round.
	TCPC		1998	n	Used mini-grant funding for extra advertising for facility, provided free disposal and amnesty to farmers.
	TCPC		upcoming 2003	n	Will use 2002 mini-grant funding for extra advertising for facility, provide free disposal and amnesty to farmers.
Cattaraugus	TCPC	Western Regional		y	see Erie county.
	TCPC		upcoming	y	see Allegany county.
Cayuga	TCPC		1996	n	
	TCPC		1997	n	Appended onto HHW collection.
	TCPC		1999	n	Appended onto HHW collection.
	TCPC		2001	n	Appended onto HHW collection.
	milk-run		Oct. 2002 upcoming fall 2003	n n	
Chautauqua	TCPC	Western Regional		y	see Erie county.
	TCPC		9/22/01 5/18/02	n	2 collections done under 1 grant as a series.
Chemung	TCPC		May 1993	n	Accept pesticides at HHW collection.
	TCPC		May 1994	n	Accept pesticides at HHW collection.
	TCPC		May 1995	n	Accept pesticides at HHW collection.
	TCPC		May 1996	n	Accept pesticides at HHW collection.
	TCPC		May 1997	n	Accept pesticides at HHW collection.
	TCPC		May 1998	n	Accept pesticides at HHW collection.
	TCPC		May 1999	n	Accept pesticides at HHW collection.
	TCPC		May 2000	n	Accept pesticides at HHW collection.
	TCPC		May 2001	n	Accept pesticides at HHW collection.
	TCPC		May 2002	n	Accept pesticides at HHW collection.
	TCPC		May 2003	n	Accept pesticides at HHW collection. Also included golf courses,

municipalities, farmers, and schools.

County	Event Type	Event Name	Date(s)	Multi-County? (y/n)	Other Notes
(Chenango)	no collections held or planned				
(Clinton)	no collections held or planned				
Columbia	TCPC		March 1984	n	
	TCPC		1996	n	
	TCPC		1998	n	
	TCPC		2000	n	
	TCPC		10/12/02	n	
	TCPC, milk-run	Hudson Valley 2003	upcoming fall 2003	y - Dutch., Greene, Orange, Putnam, Ulster, West.	DEC running collection for entire region.
Cortland	TCPC		05/18/00	n	
	TCPC		upcoming 2003	n	
Delaware	TCPC		Sept 1997	n	
	TCPC		Sept 1998	n	
	TCPC		Sept 1999	n	
	TCPC		Sept 2000	n	
	TCPC		09/22/01	n	
	TCPC		09/13/02	n	
Dutchess			early 1990s		officials recalled there being a collection, however little more is known.
	TCPC, milk-run	Hudson Valley 2003	upcoming fall 2003	y	DEC running collection. see Columbia county.
Erie	TCPC		1993	n	
	TCPC	Western NY Regional	1995	y - Niag., Chaut., Cattar.	
	TCPC		1996	y - Niag.	Accepted all CESQGs.
	--> assisted other counties	CS96	1996	y - Ont., Sen., Cay., Wayne, Schuy., and Yates	Erie helped and led the organization of 3 collections serving 7 counties. Erie also provided technical assistance to two counties, Columbia and Monroe.
	TCPC	GLOW	1999	y - GLOW (Gen., Liv., Orl., Wyom.), Niag., Monroe, Wayne	Only tangentially involved; only 1 Erie farmer registered. See Genessee county.
			upcoming		Received 2002 migrant, but awaiting 1 <sup>st</sup> portion of funds.
Essex	TCPC		09/19/01	n	
Franklin			upcoming fall	n	

2003

(Fulton) no collections held or planned

County	Event Type	Event Name	Date(s)	Multi-County? (y/n)	Other Notes
Genessee	TCPC	GLOW	1995	y - Liv., Orl., Wyom.	
Genessee	TCPC	GLOW	04/17/99	y - Liv., Orl., Wyom. Niag., Monroe, Wayne, and Erie also invited.*	GLOW had left-over funding and invited additional counties to participate. Outside GLOW, participants included 10 from Niagara, 3 from Monroe, 1 from Wayne, 1 from Erie. Used \$50,000 of \$70,000 EPA grant. <i>*Note: Allegany was also invited, but no Allegany farmers showed up.</i>
Greene	TCPC, milk-run	Hudson Valley 2003	upcoming fall 2003	y	DEC running collection. see Columbia county.
(Hamilton)	no collections held or planned				
Herkimer	TCPC		late 1980s	n	Ran a number of TCPC collections in the late 1980's. Little additional information available.
	perm. facility TCPC		1993 - present 2002	y - Oneida y - Oneida	Accepts CESQG's, including most farmers. Open 6 months per year. Also run occasional satellite collections. Farmers pay disposal fees. Covered farmer disposal fees, some advertising. Most farmers came 1 day; remaining grant covered farmer disposals for the rest of the season. In 2001, had proposed a cost-sharing with the actual generators; facility covered 50% of cost, farmers paid the rest. Participation was 0. In 2002, advertised as 1st come, 1st serve, free disposal - that's when they got participants.
	TCPC		upcoming	y - Oneida	
(Jefferson)	no collections held or planned				
(Lewis)	no collections held or planned				
Livingston	TCPC	GLOW	1995	y	see Genessee county
	TCPC	GLOW	04/17/99	y	see Genessee county
Madison			upcoming 2003	n	
Monroe	TCPC		1997	n	Erie provided technical assistance
	TCPC		03/09/02	n	
	TCPC		upcoming 2003	n	
(Montgomery)	no collections held or planned				
Nassau	TCPC, milk-run	LI '02 Clean Sweep	summer 2002	y - Suffolk	Lasted for a week. Also collected triple-washed containers.
New York City	TCPC,		upcoming 2003	y	Will focus on commercial applicators; do not generally expect farmers. Will

Niagara	milk-run TCPC	Western NY Regional	1995	y	accept from all 5 boroughs, and some from Long Island (left-over from last yr). see Erie county.
	TCPC		1996	y	see Erie county.
	TCPC	GLOW	04/17/99	y	see Genessee county.
<b>County</b>	<b>Event Type</b>	<b>Event Name</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Multi-County? (y/n)</b>	<b>Other Notes</b>
Oneida	TCPC		late 1980s	n	Ran a number of TCPC collections in the late 1980's. Little additional information available.
	pem. facility TCPC		1993 - present	y	see Herkimer county.
	TCPC		2002	y	see Herkimer county.
	TCPC		upcoming	y	see Herkimer county.
Onondaga	TCPC		Sept. 2000	n	Funded by Syracuse. Only encompassed the Skaneateles Lake watershed, about 10% of the county.
Ontario	TCPC		1996	n	
	TCPC		1999	n	
	TCPC		03/22/02	y - Seneca, Yates	
Orange	TCPC		1992, 1994 - present	n	HHW collection twice per year. Farmers and other CESQGs may bring materials, but must pay disposal costs. Have had very few farmer participants over the years - maybe 1 or 2 total.
Orange	TCPC, milk-run	Hudson Valley 2003	upcoming fall 2003	y	DEC running collection. see Columbia county.
Orleans	TCPC	GLOW	1995	y	see Genessee county.
	TCPC	GLOW	04/17/99	y	see Genessee county.
Oswego	TCPC		06/16/01 08/18/01 09/15/01	n	
Otsego	TCPC, milk-run		09/04/01	n	Did 4-5 milk-runs for farmers unable to attend the TCPC.
	TCPC, milk-run		09/07/02	n	Did 4-5 milk-runs for farmers unable to attend the TCPC.
Putnam	TCPC, milk-run	Hudson Valley 2003	upcoming fall 2003	y	DEC running collection. see Columbia county.
Rensselaer	TCPC		01/31/03	n	
Rockland	pem. facility		1994	n	HHW facility, but also accepts agricultural wastes. Facility funded by Solid Waste Management Authority, a quasi-county agency. Farmers pay disposal

	TCPC		2001	n	fees, which are about 1/3 the cost of disposing independently.
Saint Lawrence			1994	n	7 TCPC participants. Had leftover funds, used them to cover materials brought to the facility later (4 more participants). Included farmers and CESQGs.
	TCPC		05/15/03	n	Little information available.
					\$10,000 EPA grant (discretionary funds). Collection preregistration included 9 households, 24 farms, 8 CESQGs; unsure which of preregistrations attended.
County	Event Type	Event Name	Date(s)	Multi-County? (y/n)	Other Notes
Saint Lawrence cont.	TCPC		upcoming 10/2/03	n	
Saratoga	TCPC		09/29/01	n	
	TCPC		upcoming 09/04/03	n	
Schenectady	TCPC		upcoming 9/19/03	n	Expecting only 2 participants.
Schoharie	TCPC		1999	n	Includes all CESQGs. Collected same day as HHW.
	TCPC		2000	n	Includes all CESQGs. Collected same day as HHW.
	TCPC		2001	n	Includes all CESQGs. Collected same day as HHW.
	TCPC		2002	n	Includes all CESQGs. Collected same day as HHW.
	TCPC		upcoming 9/13/03	n	Includes all CESQGs. Collected same day as HHW.
			upcoming		Received 2002 minigrant, but awaiting 1 <sup>st</sup> portion of funds. Unclear whether grant will help fund 2003 event, or a future event.
Schuyler	TCPC		1996	n	
	TCPC		1997	n	
	TCPC		May 2000	n	
Seneca	TCPC		03/22/02	y	see Ontario county
Steuben	TCPC		2000	n	
Steuben	TCPC		10/20/01	n	
	TCPC		2002	n	
	TCPC		upcoming fall 2003	n	
			upcoming		Received 2002 minigrant, but awaiting 1 <sup>st</sup> portion of funds. Unclear whether grant will help fund 2003 event, or a future event.
Suffolk	TCPC, milk-run	LI '02 Clean Sweep	summer 2002	y	see Nassau county.
Sullivan	TCPC		09/14/01	n	Utilized 4 pick-up locations on a single day.
	TCPC		upcoming 2003	n	

Tioga			upcoming		
Tompkins	TCPC		09/14/01	n	Both collections conducted under 1 grant.
	TCPC		09/26/02	n	
			04/30/02		
	TCPC		04/18/03	n	

County	Event Type	Event Name	Date(s)	Multi-County? (y/n)	Other Notes
Ulster	TCPC, milk-run	Hudson Valley 2003	upcoming fall 2003	y	see Columbia county.
(Warren)	no collections held or planned				
Washington	TCPC		09/29/01	n	
	TCPC		upcoming fall 2003	n	
Wayne	TCPC		10/06/01	n	
Westchester	TCPC, milk-run	Hudson Valley 2003	upcoming fall 2003	y	see Columbia county.
Wyoming	TCPC	GLOW	1995	y	see Genessee county.
	TCPC	GLOW	04/17/99	y	see Genessee county.
Yates	TCPC		03/22/02	y	see Ontario county.

## Appendix 10: Event Cost, Total Collected, and Participant Levels for Collections in NY State

Information is provided for all counties in which data was available. For a full list of collections that have occurred, see the previous table.

County	Event Type	Date(s)	Total Event Cost (\$)	Total Pesticide Collected (lb)	Total Participants (Farmer or CESQG)
Broome	TCPC	1998		1300	13
Cayuga	TCPC	1996		12400	36
Cayuga	TCPC	1997			1
Cayuga	TCPC	1999			3
Cayuga	TCPC	2001			7
Cayuga	milk-run	Oct. 2002	20000	8600	23
Chautauqua	TCPC	9/22/01; 5/18/02	14,110.24	7700	24
Chemung	TCPC	May 2003		2160	
Columbia	TCPC	March 1984	about 24,000	12000	
Columbia	TCPC	1996	46791	30800	24
Columbia	TCPC	1998	14463	10160	14
Columbia	TCPC	2000	1750	1735	4
Columbia	TCPC	10/12/02	7400	4550	6
Cortland	TCPC	5/18/00		3527	
Delaware	TCPC	9/22/01		32560	
Delaware	TCPC	9/13/02	19930.89	3598	47
Erie	TCPC	1993		13860	
Erie, Niagara, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus (Western NY Regional)	TCPC	1995		32300	203
Erie, Niagara	TCPC	1996		11043	19
Erie, Ontario, Seneca, Cayuga, Wayne, Schuyler, and Yates (CS96)		1996	98700	65800	168
Essex	TCPC	9/19/01	17091.53	2630	12
Genessee, Livingston, Orleans, Wyoming (GLOW)	TCPC	1995		27000	
GLOW, Niagara, Monroe, Wayne, Erie	TCPC	4/17/99	50708.11	24610	43
Herkimer, Oneida	perm. facility	1993 - present		161526	
Herkimer, Oneida	TCPC	2002	16,000	20460	32
Monroe	TCPC	1997		16600	36
Monroe	TCPC	3/09/02	20724.44	6660	14
Nassau / Suffolk	TPCP, mik run	11/02	140,000	120,000	140
Onondaga	TCPC	Sept. 2000	8000		10
Ontario, Seneca, Yates	TCPC	3/22/02	41844.75	19650	45
Oswego	TCPC	6/16/01; 8/18/01	21767.45	4222	5
Otsego	TCPC, milk-run	9/04/01	12127	1642	10
Rensselaer	TCPC	1/31/03		6500	12
Rockland	TCPC	2001			11
Saint Lawrence	TCPC	5/15/03	10,559.85	2665	37
Saratoga	TCPC	9/29/01	12679.65	16909	16
Schoharie	TCPC	1999			12



Schoharie	TCPC	2000			4
Schoharie	TCPC	2001			8
Schoharie	TCPC	2002			8
Schuyler		1996		1,260	11
Schuyler		1997		500	7
Schuyler		May 2000		625	14
Steuben	TCPC	10/20/01	10983.49	2705	15
Steuben	TCPC	2002			6
Sullivan	TCPC	9/14/01	11453.75	4680	14
Tompkins	TCPC	9/14/01		1755	
Tompkins	TCPC	9/26/02		2340	
Tompkins	TCPC	4/30/02		1520	
Tompkins	TCPC	4/18/03		1760	
Washington	TCPC	9/29/01		5040	30
Washington	TCPC	upcoming fall 2003			
Wayne	TCPC	10/06/01		4989	61
TOTALS:			\$457,085.15	592,341 lb	1,065 participants

For some collections, total pesticide collected includes pesticides from both farmers and other CESQGs. Pesticide totals were tabulated using the following conversions:

- a 55-gallon drum of liquid pesticide weighs approx. 200 lb
- a 55-gallon drum of solid pesticide weighs approx. 240 lb
- a yardbox weighs approx. 850 lb
- liquid pesticide, not including packaging, weighs 9 lb per gallon

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## **Appendix 11**

### **Example of a Clean Sweep Work Plan and related materials**

- A. Work Plan
- B. Request for Bids
- C. Contract for Pesticide Collection
- D. Public Notice Flyer
- E. Pre-registration Form
- F. Pre-collection mailer to participants

## **Appendix 11-A. Work Plan**

August 1, 2003

Mr. Brian Rogers, Env. Engineer 1  
Division of Solid and Hazardous Materials  
NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
615 Erie Boulevard West  
Syracuse, NY 13204-2400

Re: Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Agricultural Pesticide Amnesty Day

Dear Mr. Rogers:

As required, Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District is submitting the enclosed work plan for an Agricultural Pesticide Amnesty Day in Cortland County. The event will be held on October 2, 2003 at the Cortland County Landfill. Please review this plan for content, information, and for your approval.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, regarding this submittal, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Manager

# Cortland County Agricultural Pesticide Amnesty Day Work Plan

Sponsored By:  
Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District

Contact Person:  
Amanda Barber, District Manager  
Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District  
100 Grange Place, Rm 202  
Cortland, NY 13045

Phone:  
(607) 753-0851, Ext. #3

Fax:  
(607) 756-0029

# AGRICULTURAL PESTICIDE AMNESTY DAY FOR CORTLAND COUNTY

## KEY PERSONNEL & EMERGENCY CONTACTS

DATE: October 2, 2003

COLLECTION LOCATION: Cortland County Landfill  
Town Line Road, Town of Solon

TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### APPLICATION

To be utilized in the unlikely event of any sudden release or spill of waste, fire or explosion during the course of work on-site.

In the unlikely event of an emergency, listed below are individuals and/or departmental phone numbers to be contacted:

Project Sponsor: Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Amanda Barber or Stacy Russell  
(607) 753-0851, ext. #3

Landfill Contact: Donald R. Chambers  
(607) 756-8077

CARE Environmental Corp.  
Project Contact: Francis J. McKenna, Jr.  
(973) 398-5100

NYS DEC  
Div. of Haz. Mat. (315) 426-7419  
Spill Hotline (800) 457-7362

Poison Control Center (800) 252-5655

Cortland Co. Sheriff 911

Cortland Co. Fire Dept. 911

Local Hospital: Cortland Memorial Hospital - Emergency Department  
(607) 756-3740

TLC Ambulance Service: (607) 756-7564

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## VI. PROGRAM SPECIFICS

### A. Project Description

An Agricultural Pesticide Amnesty Collection Day will be held on October 2, 2003 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Cortland County Landfill. The landfill is located on Town Line Road, in the Town of Solon. The mailing address for the facility is Town Line Road, McGraw, NY 13101.

CARE Environmental Corporation will be providing services for the collection, transport, and disposal of agricultural pesticide waste. The event is targeted primarily at farmers, but waste will also be accepted from agri-businesses and others who have obtained pesticides through retirement, inheritance, property transfer, etc. The event will be limited to 40 participants. All participants will be required to attend a training session prior to collection day. The event will be limited to Cortland County residents.

### B. Site Sketch

Enclosed with this packet as Schedule A is a site sketch of the Landfill, including the unloading area and entry and exit traffic patterns.

### C. Traffic Control Pattern

All vehicles will be directed to the blue trailer/scales area (see site sketch, Schedule A) to check in and receive further instructions. From there, vehicles will be directed to the three bay garage. County staff/volunteers will direct vehicles to a designated waiting area before entering the receiving/unloading area. The vehicle will be checked to make sure the resident pre-registered, attended the required workshop, and that they are there at the appropriate time allotted for that resident. Participants will be scheduled in fifteen minute to 30 minute intervals to prevent a back log of vehicles. The contractor will direct vehicles when to enter the receiving/unloading area. Once vehicles have been unloaded, County staff/volunteers will direct vehicles to the exit. Traffic cones and signs will be used to clearly mark the entrance and exit points.

### D. Site Security Plan

Access to the unloading/receiving area will be restricted to CARE Environmental staff members. If necessary, barriers and fences or hazard tape will be used to identify these areas. In addition, all participants in the program will be required to remain in their vehicle during the unloading process. All wastes that are collected will be appropriately packaged and removed from the site immediately following the conclusion of the collection event and will not be stored on site for any length of time.

### E. Eligibility and Verification

This collection day is for agricultural pesticide waste only. There will be no

household hazardous waste accepted. The program will be limited to 40 participants. Only Cortland County residents will be eligible to participate. These restrictions will be enforced by requiring all participants to pre-register with Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD). To register, participants will be required to complete a pesticide survey sheet detailing the type and amount of pesticides to be collected. The survey sheets will be collected and participants will be assigned a registration number for collection day along with an assigned time to arrive with their pesticides for disposal. Registrants will also be provided with information on proper packaging techniques and transportation requirements. Participants must be pre-registered to access the landfill on collection day.

F. Publicity

Due to time constraints the CCSWCD will advertise and have all participants pre-registered for Amnesty Day. CCSWCD is advertising the event through its quarterly newsletter and a direct mailing to County farmers and businesses. Newspaper advertisements were sent to 4 area newspapers. Other announcements will also be published and distributed by Cortland County Farm Bureau, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Cortland County, and local agri-businesses. The event has also been announced on the Cornell Cooperative Extension weekly radio program.

II. PERSONNEL

A. Sponsoring Organization

The sponsoring organization is the Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD) located at 100 Grange Place, Room 202, Cortland, NY 13045. Funding for the program is provided through a Water Quality Coordinating Committee Mini-grant secured by CCSWCD.

B. Site Manager

The site manager will be Amanda Barber an employee of Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District. She will oversee the event and assist the contractor with any difficulties that may come up during the event.

C. Contractor

The contractor for Amnesty Day will be CARE Environmental Corporation located at 10 Orben Drive, Landing, NJ 07850. The contractor's EPA ID number is NJR000 032 39, USDOT Hazmat. Reg. number is 062900 014 005IK, USDOT # 746147, and their NY Permit/Registration number is NJR 459. The contractor's project manager will be Francis J. McKenna, Jr.. The additional titles and description of additional workers being provided by the contractor is enclosed as Schedule B.

D. Volunteers



The County will recruit volunteers to assist with the direction of traffic during the collection event. These volunteers will be briefed prior to the collection event as to their duties and responsibilities.

### III. WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

#### A. Transportation of Waste to Collection Site

All agricultural pesticide waste will be transported to the landfill for collection by the participant in their own vehicle. The County will advise participants of the safest method of transporting pesticide wastes prior to collection day. Once on site, the participant is directed to the unloading/receiving area where CARE Environmental employees will remove the material from the vehicle and take it to the packaging tables.

#### B. Waste Determination

CARE Environmental's chemist and/or technicians will inspect agricultural waste and waste container labeling to determine the hazard classification of the material. Material which CARE Environmental or CCSWCD deems as unacceptable will not be collected.

The following is the list of wastes that will not be accepted:

- Household hazardous waste
- Explosives and munitions
- Infectious waste
- Radioactive Materials

#### C. Waste Identification

CARE Environmental will perform testing on unlabeled material from participants, which includes but is not limited to pH, odor, flash, viscosity, color and physical characteristics. CARE Environmental's field chemists and technicians draw from a wealth of knowledge and years of experience in the process of hazardous waste identification and classification. Their experience, plus interviewing techniques directed to ward residents, enable chemists and technicians to determine whether the waste meets disposal criteria as presented by Federal and State regulations and the contractual agreements formulated for the event. Any waste that cannot be identified will not be accepted.

#### D. Waste Segregation

Hazardous waste will be segregated according to the Department of Transportation waste hazard classifications. Additional segregation may be required, depending on the ultimate site criteria, if applicable. All waste segregation begins on-site with receipt from the resident and ends with the sorting process.

E. Waste Packaging

CARE Environmental chemists and technicians will package/consolidate the waste in accordance with all Federal, State, City, D.O.T, CARE Environmental Corp., and Disposal Site guidelines, as well as the contractual agreements between Care Environmental and the state. Hazardous waste containers will be secured with mandated lids, rings, and bolts. The necessary identification labels will be affixed and the containers will be removed to the “staging area”, where shipment technicians will load hazardous waste containers onto trailers for transport to approved disposal facilities.

F. Transportation Permits

The contractor’s transportation permits are enclosed as Schedule C.

G. Final Disposal Method and Site

All wastes will leave the site immediately following the event and will not be stored at the landfill for any length of time. The final disposal facilities are enclosed as Schedule D.

IV. SAFETY

A. Health and Safety Plan

This information is enclosed as Schedule E and was written by the contractor, CARE Environmental.

B. Emergency Management Plan

This information is enclosed as Schedule E and was written by the contractor, CARE Environmental.

C. Spill and Leak Contingency Plan

This information is enclosed as Schedule E and was written by the contractor, CARE Environmental.

V. EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES

This information is enclosed as Schedule F and was written by the contractor, CARE Environmental.

## **Appendix 11-B. Request for Bids**

TO:Cortland Standard

Date:May 29, 2003

From:Amanda Barber, Manager

Re: **LEGAL NOTICE**

1 day advertisement

### Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District Request for Proposals

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District (CCSWCD) is accepting proposals from licensed hazardous waste service providers for the purpose of collecting, transporting and disposing of agricultural pesticides from farms, municipalities and businesses in the County of Cortland at a one (1) day event to be held at the Cortland County Landfill on October 2, 2003. Specifications for the project identified are available from the CCSWCD offices at Rm. 202 100 Grange Place, Cortland, NY 13045 , and may be obtained by any interested person. Proposals will be received at the CCSWCD offices until 4:00 p.m. on July 1, 2003.

The CCSWCD Board of Directors reserves the right to reject proposals.



# **AGRICULTURAL AMNESTY DAY**

## **OCTOBER 2, 2003**

### **CORTLAND COUNTY LANDFILL**

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#### **WHAT IS AMNESTY DAY?**

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Amnesty Day is a FREE agricultural pesticide waste collection event. The goal of the program is to provide participants the opportunity to properly dispose of pesticides that are banned or no longer wanted.

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#### **WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?**

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- Cortland County:
- \* farmers
  - \* persons who acquired agricultural pesticides through retirement, inheritance, or property transfer
  - \* agri-businesses
  - \* golf courses
  - \* municipal facilities
  - \* schools

---

#### **WHICH PESTICIDES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR COLLECTION?**

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This program will accept and dispose of most banned or unusable agricultural pesticides such as:



- \* Fungicides
- \* Insecticides
- \* Herbicides
- \* Rodenticides
- \* Nematicides

---

#### **WHAT ARE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO PARTICIPATE?**

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- ✓ Call Cortland County SWCD at 753-0851 ext. 3 to register. Participation is limited so call early. A registration packet will be sent with further details and **must be returned before September 22, 2003.**

## **Appendix 11-D. Contract for Pesticide Collection**

### **HAZARDOUS WASTE SERVICE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement is entered into the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2003 by and between the Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District (hereafter referred to as "CCSWCD") in the State of New York and \_\_\_\_\_ (hereafter referred to as "Contractor").

The CCSWCD and Contractor hereby agree as follows:

On October 2, 2003, at 9:00 a.m., Contractor shall have present at the Cortland County Landfill, Town Line Road, McGraw, NY (the "Site") employees of the Contractor trained in the identification and handling of agricultural pesticide hazardous and acutely hazardous wastes (Wastes) as defined by State and Federal laws and regulations, and such personnel, equipment and materials as are necessary to handle, containerize, label, load and transport said Wastes for disposal in a manner which conforms to State and Federal laws and regulations.

The CCSWCD shall provide an individual to maintain order and register participants.

Contractor shall accept only agricultural pesticide hazardous waste for transportation and disposal from those individuals who are approved by the CCSWCD in such amounts as are approved by the CCSWCD.

Contractor reserves the absolute right to reject any Wastes delivered to the site.

Contractor shall be deemed to be the "generator" of all Wastes accepted by the Contractor at the Site.

Contractor shall transport all Wastes that it has accepted at the Site. Such Wastes shall be immediately transported from the Site to duly licensed facilities for proper disposal and proof thereof submitted to CCSWCD.

Contractor represents that it shall possess on the day of collection and transport:

A valid Environmental Protection Agency identification number for the generation and transport of hazardous and acutely hazardous wastes.

A valid State Transporter's License for transportation of hazardous and acutely hazardous waste.

A vehicle identification device for each vehicle used by Contractor to transport Wastes from the Site.

Authorization from the Interstate Commerce Commission and the appropriate state agency to operate a common carrier.

Liability insurance as required by the CCSWCD for claims resulting from bodily injury or death and property damages evidenced by a Certificate of Insurance naming Cortland County and the CCSWCD as an "Additional Insured"; all in the amounts described by the Request for Proposals (RFP).

All other State and Federal permits and licenses necessary to legally transport the Wastes in Interstate commerce.

Title to all Wastes accepted by Contractor at the Site shall pass to the Contractor.

Contractor represents that it understands the currently known hazards and suspected hazards to persons, property, and the environment resulting from the transportation, treatment, and disposal of Wastes. Contractor further represents that it will perform all services under the Agreement in a safe, efficient and lawful manner, using industry-accepted practices and methods, and as required in the attached RFP.

The CCSWCD shall use its best efforts to assure that all Wastes approved by the CCSWCD are the wastes of Cortland County farmers and residents. The CCSWCD represents and warrants that execution of this Agreement by the signatory below has been duly authorized by CCSWCD Board Resolution dated \_\_\_\_\_ and is in conformance with applicable provisions of State and local law.

Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless Cortland County, the CCSWCD, their agents, employees, officers, and volunteers from and against any and all liabilities, penalties, fines, or forfeitures, and the costs and expenses incident thereto (including costs of defense, settlement, and reasonable attorney's fees) which may be incurred as a result of death or bodily injury to any person, destruction or damage to any property, contamination of or adverse effects on the environment, or any violation or alleged violation of governmental laws, regulation or orders caused by or resulting from the negligent acts or omissions of any employee or agent of Contractor, or arising from this agreement.

Contractor shall perform this Agreement as an independent contractor and shall have and maintain complete control over its employees, agents, and operations. Contractor and its agents and employees shall not represent, act, purport to act, or be deemed to be the agent, representative, employee or servant of the CCSWCD. CCSWCD agents or employees shall not represent, act, purport to act or be deemed the agent, representative, employee or servant of Contractor.

Contractor shall not assign any rights hereunder nor shall Contractor subcontract any of its obligations without the prior written consent of the CCSWCD.

The price and terms of the payment established for the services provided by Contractor under this Agreement are set forth in the CCSWCD's RFP and Contractor's response thereto, both of which are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. In no event shall the total cost exceed \$10,775 for the Agricultural Pesticide Waste Collection.

All of the terms of the CCSWCD's RFP are incorporated herein by reference and shall constitute a part of this contract.

Contractor shall not receive final payment until the CCSWCD receives proof of proper disposal.

No modification of this Agreement shall be binding on Contractor or the CCSWCD unless in writing and signed by both parties.

This Agreement shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of New York.

Any notice or other communication given under this Agreement shall be in writing and addressed or delivered to the following:

**Cortland County SWCD (CCSWCD):**

Accepted and Agreed to this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2003.

By:

\_\_\_\_\_ (authorized signature)

\_\_\_\_\_ (type name/title)

**Contractor:**

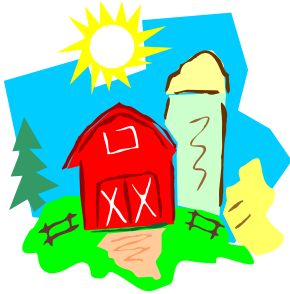
Accepted and Agreed to this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2003.

By:

\_\_\_\_\_ (authorized signature)

\_\_\_\_\_ (type name/title)

**Appendix 11-E. Pre-registration Form**



# AGRICULTURAL PESTICIDE AMNESTY SURVEY

September 2003

Amnesty Day is a free pesticide waste collection event scheduled for October 2, 2003 at the Cortland County Landfill. This event is sponsored by Cortland County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) and Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE). Prior to attending the Pesticide Amnesty date you must complete this survey and return it to SWCD by September 22, 2003. Please be certain your pesticide survey information is accurate, any pesticides not included on this survey will not be eligible for disposal on collection day. If you have any questions or require further information please contact Cortland County SWCD at 753-0851, Ext. 3.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY USING BALLPOINT PEN

1. Approximately what total quantity of agricultural hazardous waste do you have to dispose of? Please be as specific as possible as to the trade name or the active ingredient, the quantity to be disposed of, the pesticide's use and the type of container it is in. If additional space is needed, attach a separate sheet.

	<u>Trade name or Active Ingredient</u>	<u>Quantity to be disposed of</u>	<u>Pesticide use</u>	<u>Size/Type of container</u>
Example:	<u>Kill-All, Chlordane 80%</u>	<u>2 gallons</u>	<u>insecticide</u>	<u>5 gal. plastic</u>
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____



Please indicate the main reasons for disposing of the above listed pesticides (check all that apply).

\_\_\_\_\_ Use banned \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Changed Pesticide Used \_\_\_\_\_ Ceased Farm Operations

2. Do you have any waste that is unlabeled or its identity is unknown to you? Yes or No

If yes, do you have any idea what it might be, how much of each, what formulation it is (emulsifiable concentrate [EC], granular [G], flowable [F], wettable powder [WP], liquid [L], dust, soluble powder [SP], spray concentrate [SC], and what kind of container it is in? Please list any unidentified materials below.

TYPE	QUANTITY	FORMULATION	CONTAINER
_____	- _____	- _____	- _____
_____	- _____	- _____	- _____
_____	- _____	- _____	- _____
_____	- _____	- _____	- _____

Special arrangements will be made in order to try and identify unknown pesticides before the collection date. Provide as many details as possible about the item.

Complete this survey to the best of your knowledge and mail or return to Cortland County SWCD by September 22, 2003. Only the materials listed on this survey will be accepted on collection day. You will be notified of your scheduled time to deliver your waste to the collection site. You will be provided with a copy of this survey and a DOT waiver that must accompany you to the landfill on collection day.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

WORK PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER #'s: \_\_\_\_\_

**(WE MUST BE ABLE TO REACH YOU)**

Contact SWCD with any questions ASAP.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Cortland Co. SWCD  
100 Grange Place, Rm 202  
Cortland, NY 13045  
607-753-0851 ext. 3

## Appendix 11-F. Pre-collection mailer to participants

October 24, 2003

Dear Agricultural Pesticide Amnesty Day Participant:

This letter is a reminder that Amnesty Day will be held on **October 2, 2003 at the Cortland County Landfill**. Enclosed for your use is a copy of the NYS Department of Transportation (DOT) Waiver, the Participant Drop Off Schedule, packaging, transportation and safety guidelines, and your completed Pesticide Survey.

You are scheduled to be at the landfill at \_\_\_\_\_ **a.m.** to drop off your pesticides for disposal.

CARE Environmental is the waste hauler for this event. CARE has reviewed each of the pesticide surveys submitted and informed me that they do not need to pre-sample any of the unknown products. All unknowns will be "fingerprinted" or tested the day of the collection at the landfill.

Pay specific attention to packaging procedures and safety precautions.

Before departing for the landfill please be certain to have the following documentation:

- ✓ **The NYS DOT Waiver** - should be carried on your person during transport of your pesticide waste to the landfill.
- ✓ Your **Agricultural Pesticide Amnesty Survey** - detailing what products you are bringing and what amounts.
- ✓ Emergency Telephone Numbers - to be used in the event of a spill

Please try and arrive at the landfill at your designated time. Timely disposal of your waste pesticide will ensure the program runs smoothly and safely. If you have any further questions please call me.

Sincerely,

Manager

Encs.

## Collection Day

This collection event **will** be held rain, shine, or flurry. Unsafe road conditions such as ice or a snow storm may reschedule this event. You will be contacted by Cortland SWCD by phone in the event of cancellation.

1. Load your waste pesticides and drive directly to the collection site.  
Refer to the Transportation Waiver.

Check the time slot that you were assigned and be sure to show up on time.

2. Form a line at the CHECK IN (scales)

Provide proof of registration-completed pesticide survey form.

Beyond this point, you must **stay in your vehicle** unless otherwise directed. There is no smoking beyond this point.

3. Follow signs and directions to UNLOADING/RECEIVING AREA. Stay in line unless otherwise directed.

4. When signaled, proceed to UNLOADING/RECEIVING AREA located in the green 3 bay garage.  
Back into bay area to be unloaded.

Your load will be compared to your pesticide registration form. The contractor will inspect individual waste pesticides and do ALL of the unloading.

Please stay in your vehicle unless the contractor requests that you unlock your vehicle trunk/door or provided information needed to identify a pesticide.

5. After unloading, you will be waved to the EXIT.
6. Participants with unknown or unidentified pesticide waste will be required to wait for UNKNOWN test results. *If a pesticide cannot be identified, the contractor will not be able to take the waste and the pesticide will have to be returned to the participant.*

EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO PROCESS THE PESTICIDES AS QUICKLY AND AS SAFELY AS POSSIBLE. YOUR COOPERATION IS APPRECIATED.

## Safety Outline

All standard pesticide handling precautions and procedures apply here, and extra care is advised.

If you are unfamiliar with these products, there are a number of people who can assist you.

DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL FOR HELP.

Cortland County Soil and Water Conservation District      607-753-0851 X 3

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation  
Division of Solid & Hazardous Materials      315-423-7419  
DEC Spill Hotline      800-457-7362

Poison Control Center      800-222-1222

**REMEMBER:** Any person, company, or organization that purchases or controls a pesticide is legally responsible for proper use, handling, storage, and disposal. These products are yours until the contractor accepts them at the Agricultural Pesticide Collection.

WHEN EXAMINING YOUR PESTICIDE INVENTORY, TAKE APPROPRIATE PRECAUTIONS!

- Wear protective pesticide applicator equipment; gloves, an apron and goggles.
- Before handling, visually check for deteriorated containers
- Examine labels for safety instructions. If there is no label, treat the product as if it is highly hazardous.
- Work in well ventilated areas. Avoid breathing pesticide fumes and dusts. Do not open a container if it appears unsafe to do so.
- Do not remove products from their original containers or try to consolidate like wastes!

IF CONTAINERS ARE IN DANGER OR LEAKING, THEY SHOULD BE PLACED INTO AN OVERSIZED PLASTIC CONTAINER, OR PLASTIC LINED CARDBOARD BOX, WITH VERMICULITE OR OTHER NON-FLAMMABLE ABSORBENT MATERIAL FOR SPILL PROTECTION.