Appendix V: General Best Management Practices for Pesticide

Licenses and permits are required for the purchase and application of certain chemicals in Illinois. Check with the Illinois Department of Agriculture for more information.

- Individuals applying non restricted pesticides should be licensed. Obtaining a license provides valuable learning opportunities.
- Maintain a spill containment and cleanup kit appropriate for the materials to be applied on the operation and report all spills.
- Follow all EPA product label instructions on chemical containers.
- Apply chemicals only under favorable weather conditions.
- Calibrate spray equipment to apply chemicals uniformly and in the correct quantities.
- Prevent chemical leaks from equipment. Do preventative maintenance and repair on all equipment for leaking hoses, connections and nozzles.
- Use chemicals in streamside management zones with guidance from a trained natural resource professional.
- Avoid applying herbicides in areas where the chemicals can kill stabilizing vegetation on slopes, gullies, and other fragile areas subject to erosion that drain into surface water.
- Pesticides should only be used and applied by trained, licensed individuals or under their direct control.
- Special care should be exercised in the application of pesticides to prevent drift.
- Mix and load chemicals out of streamside management zones.
- Rinse spray equipment and discharge rinse water only in areas that are part of the application site.
- Dispose of chemical containers according to label instructions.
- When applying chemicals not labeled for aquatic use in streamside management zones, use spot injection or stump treatment methods.