

Landlords: Do You Use Pesticides?



Often landlords or their employees apply pesticides in rental housing to get rid of bedbugs, cockroaches, or other pests. Landlords or their employees do not need to be certified and licensed to apply pesticides, if:

- They make applications to property they own
- Do not accept payment for the application
- Use only general use (over-the-counter) pesticides

You do need to remember:

The label is the law.

You are responsible for reading the pesticide product label and following all the instructions for use – where to apply the product, how much to apply, how often to apply it, what pests to use it on. If you assign an employee to apply the pesticide, you are responsible for seeing that he or she is familiar with all the label requirements and that the label requirements are followed.



Wisconsin law clearly states that you must leave this written information for your tenants:

- Name and address of the person who applied the pesticide.
- Telephone number where residents can get more information.
- What was applied (brand name, product name or common chemical name).
- Amount applied.
- Post-application precautions, such as time before re-entry to the treated area.
- If such a re-entry time is listed on the label, you must also post a warning sign at each entrance to the treated area.
- Date, starting and ending time of the application.
- Notice that a copy of the label is available on request.
- Specific description of where you applied the pesticide. For example, do not say “kitchen.” Say “behind the stove and under the sink.”

Pesticides include insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, herbicides and any other product intended to kill living things. The requirements cover use of all of these types of products.

For more information:

Email DATCPpesticideinfo@wi.gov

Call (608) 224-4500



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Laws governing pesticide use are found Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 94 (<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/94>) and Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter 29 (http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/admin_code/atcp/020/29).