

DOWN THE PIPELINE

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 3

September 19, 2016

EPA acts against Unregistered Pesticide in Supermarkets

On July 18, 2016 PuriCore Inc. of Malvern, PA paid a \$550,000 penalty for the unauthorized distribution of two pesticide products that were used in supermarkets nationwide, as reported by EPA.

The products included ProduceFresh, an unregistered pesticide used as part of a crisping process in the produce section of stores, and FloraFresh that was used in floral departments.

Along with the penalty, EPA issued a stop-sale order to PuriCore Inc. prohibiting the sale of ProduceFresh.

The penalty and order were issued under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), the federal statute regulating the manufacture, labeling, sale, and use of pesticide products. FIFRA's safeguards protect public health and the environment by ensuring the safe production and handling of pesticides and devices; and by preventing false, misleading, or unverifiable product claims.

Although the company has submitted an application

to EPA to register ProduceFresh as a pesticide, EPA has not completed its review of the risks associated with the product. No stop-order was issued for FloraFresh because it was registered as a pesticide as of February 12, 2016. However, PuriCore had been distributing it to supermarkets for at least a year prior to it being registered!

This makes us all stop and wonder what unknown substances we have been exposed to by purchasing produce at our supermar-

kets.



RIVERKEEPER OBJECTIONS TO DEQ: AN UPDATE

This environmental group will get their day in court during September. Their lawsuit challenges aspects of DEQ's 2013 biosolids regulations.

Two of their substantive arguments are that there should be a ban of land application on karst terrain. Their contention is that materials applied there will rapidly enter groundwater due to the geology of the area. The second argument is that existing regulations allow over application of nutrients. They desire to limit application to a single-season agronomic rate.

The Commonwealth has presented a strong rebuttal to the Riverkeepers' challenges to the biosolids regulations.

The bottom line is that the law requires the Court to defer to the SWCB's judgment.

Inside this issue:

EPA vs PuriCore Inc.	1
Pollution Prevention	2
Pump/Motor Enclosures	2
Inspection Time	2
Pretreatment and Source Control	3

“What have our Supermarkets been spraying all over our fresh produce?”

FALL INSPECTION TIME

It is that time of the year once again. Facility inspection time! If your permit requires you to be inspected two times per year, then you need to get ready now.

Sometime during the month of October you will need to have arranged a day and time to have an inspection conducted.

You can do a pre-inspection tour of your facility and check the following areas for compliance:

- Sampling point/s
- Chemical storage
- Boilers and their conditioning agents

- Cooling towers
- Grease/Oil storage



- Raw material storage
- Waste by-product collection and disposal
- Recycling areas
- Kitchens
- Spill containment

Just be prepared!

WASTEWATER PUMP/MOTOR ENCLOSURES

Proper ventilation is necessary to prevent deterioration of valuable equipment and allow safe access by staff. Codes are normally established to enforce minimum ventilation requirements.

Drywells may be continuously ventilated to minimize moisture and gas buildup. Proper air exchange rates can help prevent corrosion of metal parts, electrical fixtures, etc.

Pump enclosures can include confined spaces and so all necessary safety cautions must be rigorously observed

Monitors for hazardous gases should be provided.

Sufficient space must be provided around each pump and motor to allow staff to comfortably work upon them.

With the presence of noxious odors, chemicals can be added to wetwells. Scrubbers on exhaust fans may use chemical sprays or activated carbon filters. It may even come down to simply limiting turbulence, which will reduce odor release.



POLLUTION PREVENTION IN INDUSTRY

Perhaps the most attractive benefit of pollution prevention is the potential for cutting costs and saving money. Source reduction, in-process recycling, and improved energy efficiency can reduce the amounts of raw materials and energy required, thus cutting back on expenses.

Substituting hazardous substances

with safer alternatives can reduce procurement expenses and reduce pre-treatment costs.

These types of activities can cut down on the costs of complying with federal, state, and local regulations and reporting requirements. For example, if a waste or emission is eliminated from a production process, the compliance and

reporting activities associated with that pollutant may also be eliminated.

Prevention can logically protect a company from future liability. Prevention can relieve a company of enforcement activities and criminal/civil penalties. Long range vision and planning are what is required on the part of any company if it wishes to do these things.

BEDFORD REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY

Central WWTP
852 Orange Street
Bedford, VA 24523

Eric Rajaniemi
Pretreatment Coordinator
Phone: 540-586-7679, ext. 105

"Providing Quality Service To Everyone."

WE WILL TREAT THE
WATER AS LONG AS IT
KEEPS FLOWING TO OUR
WASTEWATER
TREATMENT PLANTS!



Here at Bedford Regional Water Authority we understand that we are to be good stewards of the freshwater sources to be found all across Bedford County. We seek to diligently and efficiently reclaim the polluted water produced by all water users connected to our several treatment facilities. In this way we remain protective of the downstream users of the water that is discharged from each treatment facility into its specific receiving stream.

In all that we do each day, we seek to conserve as much water as possible and remain committed to accounting for all of our distributed water supplies.

PRETREATMENT AND SOURCE CONTROL

Pretreatment and source control of interfering industrial pollutants is the most direct and efficient way of mitigating the effects of industrial pollutants since the cause of said interference never reaches the WWTP.

This reasoning was the impetus for the General Pretreatment Regulations which specify the guidelines under which municipalities must develop pretreatment programs.

Setting local industrial discharge limits is one of the best and most direct ways of mitigating any interference that may exist at a WWTP. Federal Categorical Pretreatment Standards must be applied by WWTPs with approved pretreat-

ment programs. In addition, noncategorical industries are not regulated by the federal categorical standards. Thus, municipalities must set



rational, technically-based local limits in a fair and equitable manner in order to prevent interference at the WWTP.

Another step is for the municipality to develop an accident spill prevention program. This provides a set of procedures and a regulatory structure that will minimize the chance that accidental spills of toxic materials will damage the collection system, lift stations, and WWTP.

This program would involve even insignificant users who have potential for spillage into floor drains connected to the WWTP, such as radiator shops, chemical warehouses, Look for part 2 in next newsletter.