IDOA TO OFFER FREE RECYCLING PROGRAM FOR AGRICHEMICAL CONTAINERS

SPRINGFIELD, IL – The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) encourages farmers and agrichemical facilities to take part in a free agrichemical container recycling program. Beginning in the middle of July and continuing into August, sites throughout the state will collect containers that are recycled to make shipping pallets.

"This program grows in popularity each year because it provides a safe and convenient way for farmers and agrichemical facilities to dispose of empty pesticide containers," **said IDOA Director Jerry Costello II**. "Repurposing the plastic into pallets is far better for the environment than shipping them off to landfills."

Metal and household pesticide containers are not eligible for the recycling program. Collection sites will accept only high-density polyethylene, #2 plastic agrichemical containers that are clean and dry. Participants are responsible for rinsing them and removing all caps, valves, metal, labels, booklets and foil seals. Participants are responsible for cutting off the top and bottom of plastic drums and cutting the side of the drum from top to bottom.

Mini-Bulk and Intermediate Bulk containers can be recycled via the Department's container recycling program by making the following container preparations: Mini Bulk (cage) containers are required to be cut into separate top, bottom and sides, fittings discarded (no metal, no wood) (6 slabs of plastic). Intermediate Bulk Containers are to be cut in to one-foot square pieces, fittings discarded (no metal, no wood). G. Phillips and Sons, LLC is offering services to pick up Mini-Bulk and Intermediate Bulk containers throughout the year. Please contact them at 678-232-6047 to learn more.

The program is a cooperative venture between IDOA, Agriculture Container Recycling Council, GROWMARK, Inc., Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association, G. Phillips and Sons, LLC, Illinois Farm Bureau, and University of Illinois Extension.

To obtain a free brochure about the program, call IDOA toll free at 1-800-641-3934.

Permanent collection sites:

County	Location	City	Contact	Phone #
Pike	Logan Agri Srv, Inc.	Griggsville	Josh Schaver	(217) 833-2375
Lawrence	Klein Flying Service	Lawrenceville	Ryan Klein	(812) 890-6685
White	Klein Flying Service	Carmi	Bri Klein	(812) 890-8605

Single Day Collection Sites:

Date/Time	Location	Contact
07/25 1-3 PM	Heritage FS, Inc., Gilman, Illinois Iroquois County	Chris King (815) 707-7020
07/31 9-11 AM	Chebanse Ag, Chebanse, Illinois Kankakee County	Dean Schafer (815) 697-2392