Good Neighbors
*Healthy Neighborhoods*

# The Neighbor Notification Law For Homeowners

## What you need to know before applying pesticides to your lawn, trees and shrubs.

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# The Neighbor Notification Law

**Residents who apply pesticides to their lawns are required to post visual notification markers (signs) around the perimeter of their property being treated with pesticides.**

**PESTICIDES APPLIED**

Indicate DATE of application  Indicate TIME of application

**Do NOT Enter Property**

Do NOT Remove Sign Sooner than
24 Hours Following Pesticide Application

*Printable sample signs can be found at: www.monroecounty.gov*

***The Neighbor Notification Law of 2000, formally known as Chapter 285 of the Laws of 2000, added new provisions to Title 10 of Article 33 of the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL), regarding posting of visual notification markers for residential lawn applications, posting of signs at certain retail establishments, and mandating neighbor notification of certain commercial lawn applications. The Neighbor Notification Law became effective in Monroe County on January 1, 2006.**

## What is a Residential Lawn Application?

A residential lawn application is any application of over the counter **liquid or granular** pesticides (herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, etc.) to ground, trees, or shrubs on outdoor property owned, leased, or rented by the individual making such application.

*The application of pesticides for the purpose of producing an agricultural commodity (vegetables, fruits, etc.) or the application of pesticides around or near the foundation of a building for the purpose of indoor pest control (ants, termites, etc.) are NOT considered residential lawn application.*

## What Does the Law Require for Residential Lawn Applicators?

Individuals who make residential lawn applications of more than 100 square feet to property they own, lease or rent, must post visual notification markers around the perimeter of the lawn pesticide application site to warn others of the pesticide application.

## What are the Requirements for Posting Visual Notification Markers (signs)?

- Markers must be posted every 50 feet along the perimeter of the area where pesticides are to be applied.
- Markers must be posted on the day of any residential lawn application and must be posted BEFORE pesticides are applied.
- Markers must be clearly visible to persons immediately outside the perimeter of the property.
- Markers must instruct persons not to enter the treated area and not to remove markers sooner than 24 hours following application.
- Markers must be at least four inches by five inches in size and posted so that the top of the marker is at least 12 inches above the ground.
- Text on the markers must be in contrasting colors to the background and in letters at least three-eighths of an inch in height.

*No markers are necessary at any portion of the perimeter of the treated area which is rendered impassable by fence, wall, hedge or similar natural topographic barrier; however, every treated area of over 100 square feet must be marked by at least two notification markers.*

## What Information Must be on the Visual Notification Markers?

- The phrase:
  **"PESTICIDE APPLICATION,"**
  **"PESTICIDE TREATMENT,"**
  or **"PESTICIDES APPLIED"**

- The date and time of the residential lawn application

- Instructions to not enter the treated area or remove the markers for 24 hours.

### Additional Information...

Visual notification markers do not have to be purchased. You can make your own markers as long as they meet the requirements for markers described in the law. Markers can be reused as long as the markers include all of the required information, including new date and time of application.

If you hire a pesticide applicator to apply pesticides to your lawn or trees, your commercial lawn applicator is responsible to comply with all of the commercial lawn application provisions of the Neighbor Notification Law.

## Enforcement and Penalties

The Neighbor Notification Law will be enforced by the Monroe County Department of Public Health and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation.

The penalties set forth for homeowners in the Neighbor Notification Law are up to a maximum of:

- A written warning and provision of educational materials for the first violation;

- A $100 fine for the second violation;

- A $250 fine for the third and subsequent violations.

*These penalties may be levied only after a hearing or opportunity to be heard.*

**For more information or to report a possible violation, contact the Monroe County Department of Public Health at:**

**(585) 753 - PEST**

mchealth@monroecounty.gov
www.monroecounty.gov

This brochure is intended to provide highlights of the Neighbor Notification Law. Obtain a full copy of the law to ensure you are in full compliance. Copies can be obtained from the Monroe County Department of Public Health or at monroecounty.gov