

Sign Posting Guidelines

- Signs must be posted on pesticide treated lawns. This includes fertilizers/herbicide (weed and feed) applications
- The standardized sign that the Department has developed must be used in order to comply with the regulations.
- Sign(s) are not required and should not be posted for fertilizer only applications.
- Applicators must post sign(s) on lawns before beginning the pesticide application and leave the sign(s) posted on the lawn when they leave the property.
- Posted signs must be at least one foot above the surface of the turf.
- The sign(s) must be posted in such a position that the printed side faces the direction that persons will be entering the area. Residents or managers of the property will be responsible for removing the sign(s).

This notice deals only with sign posting. If you need additional information on the other provisions, contact the Pesticide Bureau at 617-626-1781

PESTICIDE BUREAU, MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
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SIGN POSTING

For Lawn Care Specialists

This notice is a reminder of the specific posting requirements for lawn care applications. These requirements are for commercial pesticide applications (including weed and feed) made to turf and do not apply to fertilizer only applications, tree and shrub applications or homeowner use of lawn care pesticides.

There are three other requirements to the Lawn Care Regulations:

- **Consumer Information Sheet:** must be given to consumers before an application
- **Pre-notification:** must be given on request by the consumer
- **Application Information:** must be left after an application

Sign posting requirements for different types of properties are outlined below:

Residential Applications

The applicator must have the property posted during the application and leave the signs posted upon leaving. Applicators are not required to ensure that the signs remain posted for a period of time after the application. Sign(s) must be posted "at conspicuous points of access" to the property. Sign(s) are required to be posted at the point where people are likely to enter the treated area. In the case of residential properties, a single sign must be posted at the front of the property on the treated lawn. However, if a residential property has more than one entrance, those areas must be posted.

Golf Courses

Sign posting is the only applicable provision of the regulation for golf courses. Since the access to golf courses is usually through one area, golf courses are allowed to post a written notification of which holes were treated with pesticides within the past 72 hours. This notification must be posted in a conspicuous area within the club house such as a bulletin board. Otherwise, approved sign(s) must be posted on each tee that was treated.

Commercial Properties and Municipal Fields

Commercial properties, municipal fields and school yards must have signs posted at each entrance to the treated area. Since signs are not required to be posted for a specific period of time, the Department recommends that the signs be removed after 72 hours.

Specifications for Lawn Care Signs

The sign must:

- be at least 5" X 4"
- have black lettering on a yellow field
- have bold print lettering
- be printed on one side only
- not contain any other words or symbols than specified in this notice
- contain lettering that conforms to the appropriate point type size
- be posted one foot above the surface of the turf.

Materials:

The signs must be made of sturdy, rigid, weather resistant materials. In other words, the sign cannot be made of floppy material such as in a flag type format.

The signs must be posted one foot above the surface of the turf. The Department has observed that a number of signs mounted on corrugated cardboard slip down to the turf surface after posting. Signs mounted on corrugated cardboard are acceptable, provided that they remain one foot above the surface of the turf. If this problem cannot be solved, alternative mounting materials should be sought.

Posting Locations:

Signs should be posted in conspicuous points of access to the property. The Department has observed that in some instances signs were not posted in the most conspicuous points. Signs must be posted in locations where passersby and persons immediately entering the treated area(s) can read them.

