

SENATE, No. 4650

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 1, 2026

Sponsored by:

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER
District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)
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District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes farm pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer collection and disposal program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/8/2026)

1 AN ACT establishing a farm pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer
2 collection and disposal program and supplementing Title 13 of
3 the Revised Statutes.

4
5 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 1. As used in this act:

9 "Commercial farm" means the same as that term is defined by
10 section 3 of P.L.1983, c.31 (C.4:1C-3).

11 "Department" means the Department of Environmental
12 Protection.

13 "Pesticide" means the same as that term is defined by section 3
14 of P.L.1971, c.176 (C.13:1F-3).

15
16 2. a. The Department of Environmental Protection shall, in
17 consultation with the Department of Agriculture, establish a farm
18 pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer collection and disposal program
19 to collect, transport, and dispose of unused pesticides, herbicides,
20 and fertilizers held or owned by commercial farms. The farm
21 pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer collection and disposal program
22 shall also collect, transport, and recycle pesticide, herbicide, and
23 fertilizer containers held or owned by commercial farms.
24 Participation in the farm pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer
25 collection and disposal program by commercial farms shall be
26 voluntary.

27 b. In implementing the farm pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer
28 collection and disposal program, pursuant to this subsection, the
29 department shall:

30 (1) strategically place collection sites in diverse regions of the
31 State, including at least one collection site in each of the northern,
32 central, and southern regions of the State, to ensure program
33 accessibility for all commercial farms;

34 (2) offer at least two collection events per year in each
35 collection site;

36 (3) contract with, and provide oversight of, entities qualified to
37 safely collect, transport, and dispose of pesticides, herbicides, and
38 fertilizers;

39 (4) contract with, and provide oversight of, entities qualified to
40 safely collect, transport, and recycle pesticide, herbicide, and
41 fertilizer containers;

42 (5) appoint local agents or representatives to inventory collected
43 pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers and pesticide, herbicide, and
44 fertilizer containers disposed of and recycled by farms through the
45 program, and to provide that information in a timely manner to the
46 department; and

47 (6) provide any other measures deemed necessary by the
48 department to implement the provisions of this act.

1 c. Any activity undertaken pursuant to this section shall
2 comply with relevant department regulations, and the laws
3 governing registration, collection, transportation, and disposal of
4 pesticides pursuant to the “Pesticide Control Act of 1971”,
5 P.L.1971, c.176 (C.13:1F-1 et. seq.).

6 d. The department, in consultation with the Department of
7 Agriculture, shall prepare and submit an annual report to the
8 Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991,
9 c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), summarizing the operations of the farm
10 pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer collection and disposal program.
11 The report shall be submitted by March 1 of each year and shall be
12 made publicly available on the department's Internet website. The
13 report shall include, but not be limited to:

- 14 (1) the total quantity and types of pesticides, herbicides,
15 fertilizers, and containers collected;
16 (2) participation levels by region;
17 (3) program expenditures and funding sources;
18 (4) an assessment of the environmental benefits of the program;
19 and
20 (5) recommendations for program improvements.

21
22 3. a. The Department of Agriculture, acting in consultation
23 with the Department of Environmental Protection, shall engage in a
24 cooperative public education and awareness campaign, and take
25 other appropriate action, in order to inform farmers about:

- 26 (1) the location of collection sites, and dates of upcoming
27 collection events;
28 (2) the types of pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and containers
29 accepted by the program;
30 (3) the benefits of the farm pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer
31 collection and disposal program for farmers;
32 (4) the environmental benefits of properly disposing of
33 pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers, and recycling pesticide,
34 herbicide, and fertilizer containers; and
35 (5) any other information about the farm pesticide, herbicide,
36 and fertilizer collection and disposal program to increase awareness
37 of the program and promote farmer participation.

38 b. The information prepared pursuant to this section, and any
39 additional information concerning the provisions of this act, shall be
40 conspicuously posted on the Department of Agriculture’s Internet
41 website and shall be updated, by the department, as necessary.

42
43 4. The Department of Environmental Protection, in
44 consultation with the Department of Agriculture, shall adopt rules
45 and regulations, pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,”
46 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as may be necessary to
47 implement the provisions of this act.

1 5. This act shall take effect on the 180th day after the date of
2 enactment, but the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and
3 Secretary of Agriculture may take such anticipatory administrative
4 action in advance thereof as shall be necessary for the
5 implementation of this act.

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8 STATEMENT
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10 This bill would direct the Department of Environmental Protection
11 (DEP), in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, to create a
12 farm pesticide, herbicide, and fertilizer collection and disposal
13 program to collect, transport, and dispose of pesticides, herbicides, and
14 fertilizers held or owned by commercial farms. Participation in the
15 program by commercial farms would be voluntary.

16 In implementing the program, the DEP would: (1) strategically
17 place collection sites in diverse regions of the State; (2) offer at least
18 two collection events per year in each collection site; (3) contract with,
19 and provide oversight of, entities qualified to safely collect and
20 dispose of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers, and their containers;
21 and (4) appoint local agents or representatives to inventory pesticides,
22 herbicides, and fertilizers, and their containers collected and disposed
23 of or recycled through the program. The DEP would also be required
24 to develop and publish an annual report that provides information
25 about the program.

26 The Department of Agriculture, acting in consultation with the
27 DEP, would establish a cooperative public education and awareness
28 campaign to inform farmers about: (1) the location of collection sites,
29 and dates of upcoming collection events; (2) the types of pesticides,
30 herbicides, and fertilizers and their containers accepted under the
31 program; (3) the benefits of the program for farmers; and (4) the
32 environmental benefits of the program. This information would be
33 posted on the Department of Agriculture's Internet website and would
34 be updated as necessary. The bill would take effect on the 180th day
35 after the date of enactment.