



A SINGLE drop of pesticide can breach the drinking water limit in a small stream for 30km

Stop and think about the water you drink -

Use Weed Killers/ Pesticides responsibly Protect YOUR Water

Careless use, handling or storage of weed killers/pesticides, or improper disposal of empty pesticide containers can easily cause high pesticide levels in watercourses which are used for **YOUR** drinking water supply.

- 1**
Examples of pesticide products include weed killers, insecticides, fungicides, rodent poisons and slug pellets.
- 2**
ONLY use pesticides if necessary and **CONSIDER** non-chemical methods instead.
- 3**
ALWAYS follow instructions on product label for use and safe disposal of unused product and container.

The Water Catchment Partnership



Department of
Agriculture and Rural Development
www i. v. k

AN ROINN
Talmhaíochta agus Forbartha Tuaithe

MÁNNYSTRIE O
Fairms an Kintra Fordèrin



cafre
College of Agriculture, Food & Rural Enterprise



ULSTER FARMERS UNION



NIEA Northern Ireland Environment Agency
www.ni-environment.gov.uk



The Voluntary Initiative
Promoting responsible pesticide use



northern ireland water



An Agency within the Department of the **Environment**
www i. v. k



DO's when using pesticides:



DO take every precaution during mixing and preparation of pesticides for application to avoid spills and drips.



DO read and follow product label instructions carefully.



DO take great care when handling pesticide as even a trace amount going down a drain or entering a water course can end up in drinking water.



DO take extra care to prevent entry to drains, particularly if applying pesticides to hard surfaces such as paths or driveways.



DO follow instructions for safe disposal of unused product or container.

DON'Ts when using pesticides:



DON'T apply pesticides near open drains, wells or springs.



DON'T perform handling operations (filling, mixing or washing the sprayer) near water bodies, open drains or well heads.



DON'T discard unused pesticide or washings down a drain or close to ditches, streams, ponds, rivers, lakes and springs.

The Water Catchment Partnership

The Water Catchment Partnership is a working partnership established from representatives of Ulster Farmers Union, Northern Ireland Water, Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise and the Voluntary Initiative.

Our aim is to deliver one message incorporating the ethos from all organisations to effectively tackle the problem of pesticides in the water environment; particularly in drinking water catchment areas.

Useful websites offering more information:

The Voluntary Initiative: www.voluntaryinitiative.org.uk

Ulster Farmers Union: www.ufuni.org

Northern Ireland Water: www.niwater.com

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development: www.dardni.gov.uk

College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise: www.cafre.ac.uk

Northern Ireland Environment Agency: www.doeni.gov.uk/niea

Pesticide Safety Directorate: www.pesticides.gov.uk

The Amenity Forum: www.amenityforum.co.uk