

Mandatory distances for the storage, preparation and application of pesticides in forest areas and road, railway or power corridors

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This table is made available for the purposes of s. 15, 29, 35, 50, 59, 60, 76 and 80 of the [Pesticides Management Code](#).

Protection targets	Storage ¹ Anyone storing pesticides of classes 1 to 3	Preparation ² Permit or certificate ³ holders	Application Permit or certificate ³ holders	
			Ground	Aerial
Lakes Watercourses Wetlands	30 m (s. 15)	30 m (s. 35)	<p>For non-agricultural purposes: 3 m (s. 29) Exceptions (0 m):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railway line ballasts where there is a windbreak • Dikes, dams and around power plants • Wooden poles for the distribution or transmission of electric power or telecommunications • Wooded peat bog or a swamp not on a lakeshore, riverbank or littoral zone, located north of the St. Lawrence River, in bioclimatic domains of balsam fir, paper birch or spruce-moss forests, when applying phytocides for the maintenance of a power line corridor • Tree or shrub injection to control insect pests or parasitic disease • If the pesticide was authorized as part of a research and experimentation project under s. 29 of the <i>Environment Quality Act</i> (s. 30.4) <p>Road, railway or power corridors: 30 m (s. 59) Exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballast with windbreak; wooden poles: 0 m • Wooded peat bog or a swamp not on a lakeshore, riverbank or littoral zone, located north of the St. Lawrence River, in bioclimatic domains of balsam fir, paper birch or spruce-moss forests, when applying phytocides for the maintenance of a power line corridor: 0 m • Tree or shrub injection: 3 m • <i>Chondrostereum purpureum</i> stump treatment: 3 m • Foliar application of glyphosate using a knapsack or horizontal boom sprayer: 10 m • Glyphosate or triclopyr stump treatment: 15 m • Basal triclopyr tree or shrub treatment: 15 m 	<p>Forest area or non-agricultural purposes (s. 80) Phytocide if the height of the application apparatus from ground level is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < 5 m: 30 m • ≥ 5 m: 60 m <p>Excludes dikes, dams and around power plants: 0 m</p> <p><i>Intermittent flow watercourses are excluded.</i></p>

Protection targets	Storage ¹ Anyone storing pesticides of classes 1 to 3	Preparation ² Permit or certificate ³ holders	Application Permit or certificate ³ holders	
			Ground	Aerial
Categories 1 or 2 or bottled water withdrawal sites	100 m (s. 15)	100 m (s. 35)	100 m (s. 50)	100 m (s. 76)
Category 3 water withdrawal sites	30 m (s. 15)	30 m (s. 35)	30 m (s.50) Except for railway line ballast if it is carried out with a windbreak: 0 m	30 m (s. 76) Except if the facility supplies a building located in a forest area that serves as a dwelling and is inhabited on an occasional basis (e.g. a summer cottage): 0 m
Other groundwater withdrawal sites	30 m (s. 15)	30 m (s. 35)	3 m (s. 50) Except for railway line ballast if it is carried out with a windbreak: 0 m	3 m (s. 76) Except if the facility supplies a building located in a forest area that serves as a dwelling and is inhabited on an occasional basis (e.g. a summer cottage): 0 m
Protected immovables Note: Excludes protected immovables where work is being carried out by a resident owner or producer	—	—	Road, railway or power corridors: 30 m (s. 60) Exceptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ballast with windbreak; wooden poles: 0 m • Tree or shrub injection: 0 m • <i>Chondrostereum purpureum</i> stump treatment: 0 m • Pesticides other than <i>Chondrostereum purpureum</i> stump treatment: 3 m • Basal tree or shrub treatment: 3 m • Foliar application using a knapsack or horizontal boom sprayer: 10 m 	Forest area or non-agricultural purposes (s. 80) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki (Btk)</i>: width of one treatment flight lane of the aircraft ▪ Phytocide if the height of the application apparatus from ground level is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < 5 m: 30 m • ≥ 5 m: 60 m Excludes dikes and dams or around power plants: 0 m
Daycares Schools	—	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 30 m, if a knapsack or air-blast equipment is used, except if it includes a horizontal boom sprayer (s. 50) ▪ 3 m, for all other types of equipment during the period of activities carried out on or off the premises (s. 50) 	If the height of the apparatus from ground level is as follows (s. 76): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • < 5 m: 30 m • ≥ 5 m: 60 m

¹ Operators of a storage site holding an Agrichemical Warehousing Standards Association (AWSA) certificate of compliance issued prior to April 3, 2003 are exempted from the certified storage site requirements set out in the table.

² When preparation is carried out on a storage site belonging to a holder of an AWSA certificate of compliance issued prior to April 3, 2003, the certificate holder is not required to comply with the certified storage site application distances set out in the table.

³ Unless otherwise indicated, permit and/or certificate holders are required to comply with these obligations during pesticide usage that require a permit or certificate.

For more information, see the [Pesticides Management Code reference guide \(French\)](#).

DEFINITIONS

Daycares (as defined in the *Pesticides Management Code*)

Early childhood centres, daycares and home childcare residences governed by the *Educational Childcare Act*. Distance from a daycare is measured from the property line.

Protected immovable (defined in the *Pesticides Management Code*)

- In a built-up area: built-up lots.
- Outside a built-up area: residential dwellings (except for cottages and hunting camps), buildings used or intended to be used to shelter or receive persons or animals, administrative or commercial buildings, tourist accommodation establishments and a 30 m strip around such buildings that belongs to the owner of the building.
- Recreation, sports or cultural centres, outdoor recreation centres or nature interpretation centres, camping establishments, parks, public beaches, golf clubs and ecological reserves.

Schools (as defined in the *Pesticides Management Code*)

Preschools, primary or secondary schools governed by the *Education Act*, the *Education Act for Cree, Inuit and Naskapi Native persons* or the *Act respecting private education*. Distance from a school is measured from the property line.

Watercourse (defined in the *Regulation respecting activities in wetlands, bodies of water and sensitive areas*)

Any mass of water running along a bed in a regular or intermittent flow, including a bed created or altered by human intervention, the St. Lawrence River, the estuary of the St. Lawrence River, the Gulf of St. Lawrence and all the seas surrounding Québec, excluding a ditch.

The relative distance to a watercourse is measured horizontally from the boundary of the littoral zone. The “littoral zone” means the part of a lake or watercourse that extends from the boundary separating the littoral zone from the lakeshore or riverbank towards the centre of the body of water. If there is an embankment, the distance must include a width of at least 1 m from the top of the embankment.

Water withdrawal sites (defined in the *Water Withdrawal and Protection Regulation*)

- **Category 1:** water withdrawals carried out for a municipal waterworks system supplying more than 500 persons and at least one residence
- **Category 2:** water withdrawals carried out to supply a municipal waterworks system supplying between 21 and 500 persons and at least one residence; any other waterworks system supplying 21 or more persons and at least one residence; a system, independent from a waterworks system, supplying at least 21 or more persons at one or more educational institutions, one or more detention facilities, or one or more health and social services institutions within the meaning of the *Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water*
- **Category 3:** water withdrawals carried out to supply a system, independent from a waterworks system, supplying only one or more food processing establishments; a system, independent from a waterworks system supplying only one or more enterprises, one or more tourist establishments or one or more seasonal tourist establishments within the meaning of the *Regulation respecting the quality of drinking water*; any other system supplying 20 persons or fewer.
- **Other groundwater withdrawal sites:** all other sites of water withdrawal not intended for human consumption, food processing or bottled water purposes

Wetland (defined in the *Regulation respecting activities in wetlands, bodies of water and sensitive areas*)

Area characterized in particular by hydromorphic soils or vegetation dominated by hygrophilous species, such as a pond, marsh, swamp or peatland. A reference to a “wetland” excludes a peat bog being harvested.

The relative distance to a wetland is measured horizontally from the boundary. The “boundary” means a line marking the limit of a wetland and corresponding to the point at which the soil ceases to be hydromorphic and the vegetation ceases to be dominated by hygrophilous species, in relation to the area where at least one of those conditions does apply. If there is an embankment, the distance must include a width of at least 1 m from the top of the embankment.