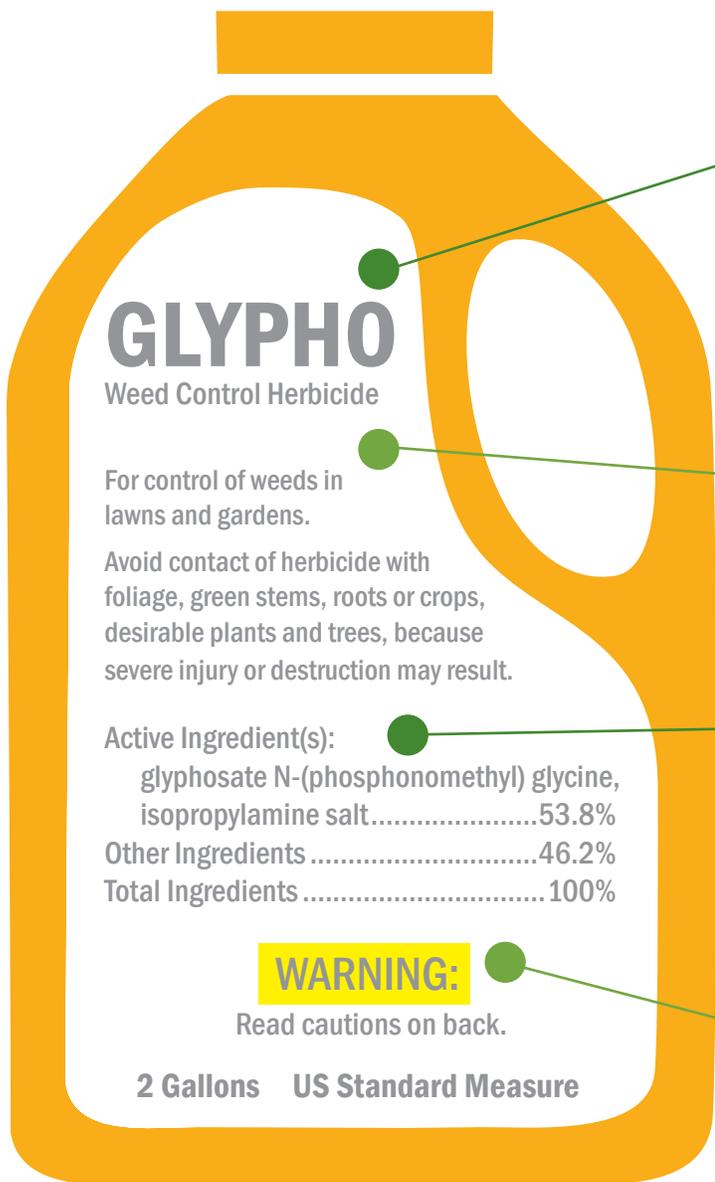


# Reading Pesticide Labels



Protect your family, our environment and our drinking water!

Pesticides and herbicides that you might buy at a local hardware store or online, are potentially dangerous chemicals. Read the label to learn how to use or dispose of them properly.



## What to look For:

1

### Product Name

Each manufacturer has a brand or trade name for each product. Be careful when choosing a product just by the brand name. Different manufacturers may use different brand names for the same pesticide or use a very similar name for an entirely different type of pesticide.

2

### Intended Use

This part of the label provides information about what types of weeds or pests this chemical is designed to control.

3

### Ingredients

The Active Ingredients are the specific chemicals that are effective for the intended use. Other Ingredients act as carriers for the active ingredient. The amount of the ingredient is generally listed as a percentage.

4

### Signal Word

How toxic is the product?

**Caution** = mildly toxic

**Warning** = moderately toxic

**Danger** = highly toxic

## Top pesticide safety tips:

- Read the entire label and follow all directions
- Only apply in locations indicated on the label
- Keep all pesticides in their original containers

## Parting with Pesticides

is a joint program funded by Clackamas River Water Providers with outreach and programming through Clackamas River Basin Council.



# Reading Pesticide Labels

**Pesticides and fertilizers can pollute local streams and waterways.**

You can prevent these chemicals from reaching streams and rivers. Always follow the instructions on pesticide labels, and never pour them down the drain.



5

## Directions for Use

The label has specific information on how and where to use the product, and how much is OK. Not following the directions is not only dangerous, but it is illegal.

6

## Precautions

Precautionary statements will explain how the product can be used safely, what harm it can cause, and what you can do to protect yourself and others.

7

## First Aid

Instructions provide information on what to do if the product gets in your eyes, mouth, lungs or on your skin.

8

## Environmental Hazards

Pesticide labeling will warn you not to contaminate water and alert you to any specific hazards to the environment.

9

## Storage & Disposal

Directions on how to safely store and dispose of pesticides are as important as how to use them. Always keep products in the original container and never pour rinse water down the drain.

## Resources:

Clackamas County - [www.clackamas.us/recycling](http://www.clackamas.us/recycling)

Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) - [www.conservatondistrict.org](http://www.conservatondistrict.org)

Environmental Protection Agency - [www.epa.gov/pesticides](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides)

Metro - [www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-living](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-living)

National Pesticide Information Center at Oregon State University - <http://npic.orst.edu>

Oregon Department of Agriculture - [www.oregon.gov/ODA/PEST/pages/disposal.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/PEST/pages/disposal.aspx)

Oregon State University County Extension Office - <http://extension.oregonstate.edu>