



Frequently asked questions

What is drumMUSTER?

drumMUSTER is a recycling program for eligible, empty agricultural and veterinary chemical drums. It provides a way for farmers and chemical users to safely dispose of their drums in an environmentally responsible manner.

Who runs drumMUSTER?

drumMUSTER is managed by Agsafe on behalf of participating chemical manufacturers. It is an industry-led product stewardship program designed to ensure agricultural and veterinary chemical drums are disposed of safely and responsibly.

When did drumMUSTER start and how successful has it been?

drumMUSTER began in 1998 and has since collected and recycled more than 46 million drums, equating to over 48,000 tonnes of material. It is one of Australia's most successful product stewardship programs, helping protect the environment and support a circular economy.

Why is recycling chemical drums important?

Recycling helps reduce the number of drums ending up in landfills or being disposed of improperly. It supports environmental sustainability and reduces the impact of hazardous waste on ecosystems.

How does drumMUSTER work?

Farmers and chemical users can bring their empty, triple-rinsed, and lid-free chemical drums to designated collection points. These drums are then inspected for compliance and sent for recycling to be repurposed into new materials.

Is drumMUSTER safe for people and the environment?

Yes. drumMUSTER ensures that chemical drums are thoroughly cleaned and handled safely before being recycled. This prevents drums from being burnt, buried, or dumped, protecting farm workers, communities, and the environment.

Do I need to register before dropping off drums?

No registration is required. You can simply take your eligible, prepared drums to your nearest drumMUSTER collection site during its opening hours or scheduled collection event. Please note that some sites require bookings, so it's best to check with your local site before visiting.

Where can I find my nearest drumMUSTER collection site?

You can find your nearest collection site by visiting the 'Collection site' webpage on Agsafe's website, which allows you to enter your location for the most convenient options.

Is there a fee to use drumMUSTER?

No, there is no fee for users to drop off eligible drums at collection sites. The drumMUSTER program is funded by a fee for service paid by participating chemical manufacturers.

What happens to the drums after they are collected?

Collected drums are recycled into useful products like wheelie bins, road signs, fence posts, bollards, and new chemical drums, reducing waste and environmental impact.

How does drumMUSTER differ from ChemClear?

drumMUSTER is for the collection and recycling of empty, eligible chemical drums, while ChemClear provides a safe disposal pathway for unwanted or obsolete agricultural and veterinary chemicals. Together, they offer a complete solution for safe chemical and drum disposal.

How often are drumMUSTER collections held?

Collection schedules vary by location. Some collection sites have regular hours, while others host specific collection events. Please contact your nearest collection site for their schedule.

Can businesses or commercial operations use drumMUSTER?

Yes, drumMUSTER is available for both individual farmers and larger commercial operations, provided the drums are eligible and properly prepared.

What type of drums are accepted by drumMUSTER?

drumMUSTER accepts eligible, clean, dry, and lid-free agricultural and veterinary chemical drums ranging from 1L to 220L, including plastic or metal drums. Drums must have the drumMUSTER logo to be accepted.

How do I know if my drum is eligible for recycling?

Eligible drums will display the drumMUSTER logo. If you're unsure, you can check with your local collection site or contact drumMUSTER directly for clarification.

How do I prepare my drums for drumMUSTER?

To make sure your drums are ready for recycling and safe to handle, please follow these steps:

1. Empty the drum completely into your spray tank or application equipment. Allow it to drain for 30 seconds.
2. Fill the drum one-quarter full with clean water.
3. Secure the cap and shake or roll the drum for at least 30 seconds so that the water rinses all inside surfaces.
4. Pour the rinse water into your spray tank and allow the drum to drain for 30 seconds.
5. Repeat this process two more times (for a total of three rinses). If there is still chemical residue after three rinses, repeat steps 2-4 until the drum is completely free of all chemical residue.
6. Remove the cap and dispose of it safely – lids are not accepted through drumMUSTER.
7. Clean the outside of the drum to remove any residue, then let the drum dry before taking it to your collection site.

Why is triple-rinsing required for drums?

Triple-rinsing ensures that all residues are removed, which makes the drums safe for handling, recycling, and repurposing. It also helps protect those managing the recycling process and ensures compliance with safety standards.

What happens if I don't triple rinse my drums?

If drums are not properly rinsed, clean, and free of lids, they may be rejected at the collection site. This is to protect the safety of site operators and ensure drums can be recycled without contamination.

What should I do with the lids?

Lids are not accepted through drumMUSTER, as they are made from a different type of plastic that cannot be recycled in the program. Please remove them before bringing in your drums and dispose of them through your local council's recycling or waste service, depending on the facilities available in your area.

What if I have bulk drums like IBCs?

drumMUSTER only accepts eligible drums from 1L to 220L that carry the drumMUSTER logo. For larger bulk drums such as Intermediate Bulk Drums (IBCs), you will need to contact the manufacturer or supplier for return or recycling options.

Can I bring non-chemical drums to drumMUSTER?

No, drumMUSTER only accepts drums that held eligible agricultural and veterinary chemicals and carry the drumMUSTER logo. Other plastic or metal drums are not part of the program.

What if my drum is not eligible for drumMUSTER?

If a drum does not have the drumMUSTER logo or is not an eligible chemical drum, it will not be accepted at a drumMUSTER site. You can consult with your local council or waste management service for other recycling options.

How do I find out more information about drumMUSTER?

Explore the drumMUSTER section of the Agsafe website or contact our team for additional details, support, and answers to any additional questions you may have about the program.



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