

HOME

- ABOUT PFI
 - WHO IS THE PFI?
 - DIRECTORS & COMMITTEES
 - MEMBERS
 - PFI CODES
 - PFI CODES- CONTRACT
 - PFI CODES-HANDLING
 - PFI CODES-LOGO
 - PFI CODES-PRODUCT CONTROL
 - PFI CODES-STATISTICS
 - PFI MEMBERSHIP CODES
 - PFI MEMBERSHIP CODES - AFFILIATE
 - PFI MEMBERSHIP CODES - ASSOCIATE
 - PFI MEMBERSHIP CODES - ORDINARY
 - MEMBERSHIP FORM
 - PFI MEETINGS SCHEDULE
 - NEWSLETTERS
 - TECHNICAL ARTICLES
 - USEFUL LINKS
 - ADVERTISING RATES
- NEWS & EVENTS
 - ADD NEWS AND EVENTS
 - DOGS
 - CATS
 - OTHER PETS
 - VETERINARY
 - INDUSTRY
 - SNIPPETS
 - EVENTS CALENDAR
 - GENERAL
 - PHOTO GALLERY
- FAQs
 - PET CARE
 - PET NUTRITION



- FIND A PET
- FIND A VET
- FIND A CLUB
- FIND A SERVICE
- FIND A BREEDER
- USEFUL LINKS

Site Search

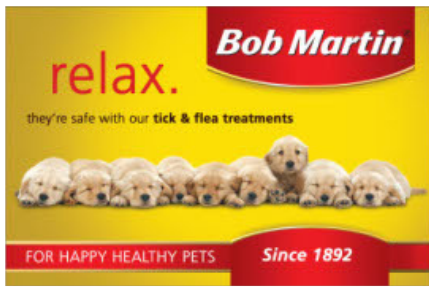
Enter Keywords

Select Category

CONTACT US



WELCOME to petwise.co.za



Members have access to:
19 puppies, kittens and other pets offered for sale.
0 People are looking for pets.
 Join a dog, cat or other pet club.
113 clubs listed.
 Easily find a Vet near you with

SAPCA PROMOTES RESPONSIBLE PESTICIDE USAGE FOR PET OWNERS
MEDIA RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - 27 November 2009

There have been many incidents where pet owners have lost their pets due to the use of pesticides in their homes. This alarming issue has emphasised the need for responsible pesticide use amongst home and pet owners. Dogs and cats come into direct contact with pesticides more frequently than humans, whether it be while rolling around in the grass, relaxing in the shade or playing around with their favourite toy.

176 veterinary clinics listed on petwise.co.za.

Need a pet service? We have **276** services listed.



PET FOOD ISSUES?
[CLICK HERE](#)



Book your advertising now
Special rates apply

petwise.co.za



 **CALENDER**

Many consumers today are not aware of the implications and health risks that the incorrect use of pesticides has on their pets and others, let alone it being illegal. There are many dangers involved when pesticides are misused and as the regulatory body for pest control industry, the South African Pest Control Association (SAPCA) senses the urge to educate consumers of responsible pesticide usage.

When applying pesticides yourself always read the label on the pesticide that you intend using and ensure that it is registered for the particular application and spectrum of control required. Follow the safety precautions indicated on the label, this includes the use of personal safety equipment, such as gloves and a face mask. Ensure to also follow precautions such as not eating, drinking or smoking whilst applying pesticide. Hands should always be washed with soap after application. Give special attention to withdrawal periods especially related to edible garden crops. The withdrawal period is the time that you need to wait before you eat the fruit, vegetables or herbs. If there is any doubt we suggesting referring to a pest management professional for the sake of your own and your family's safety.

However, when using a professional pest management company always make sure that they are registered with the Department of Agriculture. SAPCA invites consumers to visit www.sapca.org.za to locate pest management professionals close to them. "This is a valuable referral service knowing that by using a SAPCA member you will receive quality work, good service and ensure that your family and the environment is taken care of, whilst your pest problem is effectively resolved," says Mark Enslin, President of SAPCA.

According to Act No. 36 of 1947, pesticides may only be applied for purposes as indicated on their labels, by registered Pest Control Officers. PCO's that are not registered often apply pesticides contrary to the label instructions and therefore contravene the Act. The Registrar has the power designated in the Act to prosecute operators that make themselves guilty of these contraventions. However, 'prevention is better than cure' and for this reason it is best to use a registered pest control officer when you wish to make use of a company to assist in pest management around your house. South Africa is plagued by unregistered pest control operators (PCOs) that defraud the public with unprofessional and potentially harmful services that often lead to human health impacts and environmental impacts. For this reason it is advisable to use a registered pest control officers. SAPCA members adhere to a strict code of conduct, which forces the member to act lawfully in the application of pesticides.

There are a number of things to look out for when using an unregistered PCO. SAPCA advises not to let just anyone with a sprayer treat your premises; they might cause more problems in the end by damaging the environment. Use only registered individuals, preferably members of the association, since membership is voluntary; it shows the commitment of the individual or company to ethical conduct and good practice that members are bound to. SAPCA has recently introduced a lapel type ID card that identifies the individual as a SAPCA member to make it easier and safer for the consumer. Ask questions regarding the treatment and the precaution before, during, and after treatment. If the individual is not knowledgeable and cannot supply satisfactory answers chances are they will not be able to deliver on the service promises either. Lastly, do not be misled by extended guarantees and warranties, as these could be indicators that illegal pesticide "cocktails" or some other environmentally hazardous substance will be used. A reasonable service guarantee is based on the type of service, the pest being treated and the remedy being applied.

Dr Gerhard Verdoorn of the Griffon Poisoning Centre believes that people don't realise that technically, anything can be dangerous to human and animal health – with regards to chemicals. Consumers should be aware of the procedures when using chemicals as it is often not the chemicals that harms humans or the environment but the incorrect use thereof. Verdoorn concludes by saying that it is important for the industry and government to recognise the need for institutions such as SAPCA and that pest control operators should be members of an industry association that can implement self-administration and self-regulation of the pest control industry.

Taking the necessary precautions, using a registered pest control officer and the correct application of pesticides could save you countless tears and thousands of rands at the vet's office.

As a pet owner, here are a few tips to prevent your pet from getting contaminated with pesticides:

- Rentokil recommends that the insecticides and rodenticides used must be environmentally acceptable and registered for use in South Africa. The registration must be indicated by an "L" number, which will refer to the relevant pest for which the pesticide is designed.
- Check all products for child safety. If they're not safe for kids, they're not safe for dogs and cats.
- Wash your pet's feet after walking on any suspect area, at least, wipe paws with a damp cloth
- Read the small print and follow instructions carefully.

- Keep pesticides in their original containers which should be clearly marked and tightly sealed.
- Never, never pour pesticides or household chemicals down the drain
- Always read pesticide labels for specific instructions as to how long to keep the animals out of the house or treated area.
- Place baits in areas where pets cannot reach them.
- Do not allow pets in sprayed areas until the pesticide has dried completely.
- Use care when applying pesticides directly to pets. Follow the label carefully, and be sure to use the correct amount of product for the animal being treated.
- Products labelled for use on "dogs only" should never be used on cats or other animals.
- Products designed for adult cats or dogs should never be used on kittens or puppies unless the label states that the product may be used on younger animals.
- Become informed - the more you know, the safer your home and environment will be.

For more information, contact SAPCA on 086 111 4556 or visit www.sapca.org.za

[• Home](#) [• About PFI](#) [• News & Events](#) [• Pet Care](#) [• Pet Nutrition](#) [• Contact Us](#) [• Useful Links](#)



Copyright © 2009 www.petwise.co.za

[• Privacy Policy](#) [• Terms Of Use](#)