Guidelines and Best Practices for Reusable PPE (Gloves)

Most personal protective equipment (PPE) is designed to be used once by one person before being disposed of safely. However, reusable PPE can be used multiple times. Please be aware that PPE has a shelf life, and cannot be used indefinitely.

Please read the directions for all PPE in question; make sure it is in fact reusable. If it is reusable, follow the appropriate care instructions issued by the manufacturer. If there is a doubt, please consult with your local management, supervisor, or qualified person who can assess PPE readiness and make that determination to use or replace.

Here are a few keys to maintaining your reusable PPE:

- **Daily Inspection:** Always check PPE for faults, damage, wear and tear, and dirt or soiling.
- **Test:** Make sure PPE is working the way it was designed to function.
- **Clean:** Make sure PPE is cleaned and disinfected, if appropriate.
  - Clean PPE before each day of reuse according to the instructions from the PPE manufacturer, unless the pesticide labeling specifies other requirements.
  - If there are no such instructions or requirements, wash PPE thoroughly in detergent and hot water, and do so separately from other items.
  - Dry the clean PPE thoroughly before it is stored, or put it in a well-ventilated place to dry.
  - Store clean PPE separately from personal clothing and away from pesticide-contaminated areas.
- **Ensure readiness:** Make sure PPE is fully prepared for use.
  - Is it dry after having been cleaned?
  - Is it the right temperature?
  - Also, make sure PPE is fully compatible with any other equipment the user will be wearing at the same time.
- **Repair:** If PPE has been damaged, replace it.

The personal protective equipment we rely upon helps keep us safe as we work. Always treat it with respect and care, and remember that the first word in PPE is “personal,” which means that for best results, your PPE is best only used by you. Stay safe.