

# Alachlor (C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>ClNO<sub>2</sub>)

## **What is Alachlor?**

Alachlor is a white solid that evaporates quickly. It has a strong, but not unpleasant smell. The major commercial use of Alachlor is in the manufacture of PVC plastics. Its major consumer use is in moth repellents and toilet deodorant blocks.

## **Does Alachlor have any additional names?**

White tar, camphor tar, tar camphor, naphthalin, naphthaline, antimite, albocarbon, hexalene, mothballs, moth flakes

## **What are the known health effects?**

People have developed headaches, nausea, dizziness, and/or vomiting after being exposed to Alachlor vapors.

Animal studies have suggested that Alachlor can cause cancer and the World Health Organization (WHO) has concluded that it is possibly carcinogenic to humans.

## **How does exposure occur?**

You can be exposed to Alachlor if you breathe it in, get it on your skin, or if you accidentally eat or drink something containing it.

## **Is this contaminant regulated?**

Yes, and water supplied to Mount Laurel MUA customers is in compliance with USEPA and NJDEP requirements. The maximum concentration of Alachlor permitted in drinking water is 2 ppb; water supplied by the MLTMUA system has not reported any detections of Alachlor.

## **How can I reduce exposure?**

Alachlor in drinking water can be removed at point of use by granular activated carbon and reverse osmosis filtration.

**Additional information regarding Alachlor, including the information referenced, can be found at:**

[https://www3.epa.gov/pesticides/chem\\_search/reg\\_actions/reregistration/fs\\_PC-090501\\_1-Dec-98.pdf](https://www3.epa.gov/pesticides/chem_search/reg_actions/reregistration/fs_PC-090501_1-Dec-98.pdf)

<https://www.who.int/teams/environment-climate-change-and-health/water-sanitation-and-health/chemical-hazards-in-drinking-water/alachlor>