Duties for employers of handlers (cont.)

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Provide handlers with the PPE the pesticide label requires for the task, and be sure it is:
- Clean and in operating condition.
- Worn and used correctly.
- Inspected before each day of use.
- Repaired or replaced as needed.

Make sure respirators fit correctly. In Oregon, OSHA’s Respiratory Protection program requirements apply.

Take steps to prevent heat-related illness.

Provide handlers a pesticide-free area for:
- Storing personal clothing not in use.
- Putting on PPE at start of task.
- Taking off PPE at end of task.

Do not allow employees to wear or take home used PPE.

Care of PPE

Store and wash used PPE separately from other clothing and laundry.

If PPE is reused, clean it before each day of reuse, according to the instructions from the PPE manufacturer unless the pesticide labeling specifies other requirements. If there are no other instructions, wash in detergent and hot water.

Dry the clean PPE, or hang to dry, before storing.

Store clean PPE away from other clothing and away from pesticide areas.

Replacing respirator purifying elements

Replace dust and mist filters:
- When breathing becomes difficult.
- When filter is damaged or torn.
- When respirator label or pesticide label requires (whichever is shorter).
- In the absence of any other instructions, at the end of that day’s work period.

Replace gas- or vapor-removing cartridges or canisters:
- When you notice odor, taste, or irritation.
- When respirator label or pesticide label requires replacement (whichever is shorter).
- In the absence of any other instructions, at the end of that day’s work period.

Disposal of PPE

Discard coveralls and other absorbent materials that are heavily contaminated with undiluted pesticide having a “DANGER” or “WARNING” signal word.

Follow federal, state, and local laws when disposing of PPE that cannot be effectively cleaned.

Instructions for people who clean PPE

Inform people who clean or launder PPE:
- That PPE may be contaminated with pesticides.
- Of the potentially harmful effects of exposure to pesticides.
- How to protect yourself when handling contaminated PPE.
- How to clean the PPE correctly.

EPA’s WPS Publications:
www.epa.gov/agriculture/awor.html

Oregon OSHA’s WPS Page:
www.orosha.org/subjects/worker_protection_standard.html

OREGON OSHA RESOURCES:
website: www.oregonosha.org
1-800-922-2689 (English)
1-800-843-8086 (Español)

Central office: 503-378-3272
Portland office: 503-229-5910
Consultation: 503-229-6193
Salem office: 503-378-3274
Consultation: 503-373-7819
Eugene office: 541-686-7562
Consultation: 541-686-7913
Bend office: 541-388-6066
Consultation: 541-388-6068
Medford: 541-776-6030
Consultation: 541-776-6016
Pendleton: 541-276-9175
Consultation: 541-276-2353

Oregon OSHA offers a wide variety of safety and health services to Oregon employers and employees. For information, call the office nearest you or visit the website.
Duties for all employers

Anti-retaliation
Do not retaliate against employees (workers or handlers) who attempt to comply with the WPS.

Information at a central location
Display in a prominent, central location at each agricultural establishment:
- WPS Protect Yourself from Pesticides safety poster.
- Name, address, and telephone number of the nearest emergency medical facility.
- These facts about each pesticide application from before each application begins until 30 days after the restricted-entry interval (REI):
  - Product name, EPA registration number, and active ingredients.
  - Location and description of treated area.
  - Time and date of application and REI.

Tell workers and handlers where the information is posted and allow them access.
Tell them if emergency medical facility information changes and update the posted information.
Keep the posted information legible.

Pesticide safety training
Unless they possess a valid training card, train handlers and workers before they begin work and at least once every five years. Training must be given by a certified applicator or other qualified person:
- Using language the employees can understand.
- Using oral, written, or audiovisual materials.
- Using WPS handler materials for training handlers.
- Using WPS worker materials for training workers.

Decontamination supplies
Establish accessible decontamination supplies located together within 1/4 mile of all workers and handlers. Supply:
- Enough water for routine and emergency whole-body washing and for eyeflushing.
- Plenty of soap and single-use towels.
- At least one clean coverall.

Provide water that is safe and cool enough for washing, eyeflushing, and drinking. Do not use tank-stored water that is also used for mixing pesticides.

Provide handlers the same supplies where they remove their personal protective equipment (PPE) at the end of a task.
Provide the same supplies at each pesticide mixing and loading site.
Ensure that at least one pint eyeflush water is immediately accessible to each handler.

Duties for employers of handlers

Restrictions during applications
Do not allow workers to enter areas being treated with pesticides; allow entry only to appropriately trained and equipped handlers. Keep workers at least 100 ft. away from treated nursery areas. Allow only trained and equipped handlers to be in a greenhouse:
- During a pesticide application.
- Until label-listed air concentration level is met or, if no such level, until after two hours of ventilation with fans.

Restricted-entry intervals (REIs)
Do not allow workers to enter a treated area or to contact anything treated with the pesticide during an REI.

Notice about applications
Orally warn workers and post signs in treated areas if the pesticide labeling requires both actions. Otherwise, either orally warn workers or post signs in entrances to treated areas. Tell workers which method is in effect. Post all greenhouse applications.

Posted warning signs
Post legible 14” x 16” WPS-design warning signs just before application. Keep posted during REI and remove before workers enter or within three days after the end of the REI. Post signs so they can be seen at all entrances to treated areas, including entrances from labor camps.

Oral warnings
Before each application, tell workers who are on the establishment in a manner they can understand:
- The location and description of treated area.
- The duration of the REI and not to enter during REI.
Workers who enter the establishment after an application starts must receive the same warning.

Duties for employers of workers

Restrictions during applications
Do not allow workers to enter areas being treated with pesticides; allow entry only to appropriately trained and equipped handlers. Keep workers at least 100 ft. away from treated nursery areas. Allow only trained and equipped handlers to be in a greenhouse:
- During a pesticide application.
- Until label-listed air concentration level is met or, if no such level, until after two hours of ventilation with fans.

Restricting Entry Intervals (REIs)
Do not allow workers to enter a treated area or to contact anything treated with the pesticide during an REI.