

EPA WPS Required Worker Notices About Pesticide Applications

Under most circumstances, the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) requires employers to make sure that workers are notified about areas where pesticide applications are taking place or where restricted-entry intervals are in effect. Some pesticide labels require you to notify workers BOTH orally AND with signs posted at entrances to the treated area. If both types of notification are required, the following statement will be in the Directions for Use section of the pesticide labeling under the heading Agricultural Use Requirements: "Notify workers of the application by warning them orally and by posting warning signs at entrances to treated areas."

Notification on Farms, Forests & Nurseries

Unless the pesticide labeling requires both types of notification, notify workers EITHER orally OR by the posting of warning signs at entrances to treated areas. You must inform workers which method of notification is being used.

Notification in Greenhouses

In greenhouses, you must post all treated areas, except as described below. If the pesticide labeling requires both types of notification, you must also notify workers orally.

Exceptions to Worker Notification

1. Oral warnings need NOT be given to:

• any worker on your farm, forest, or nursery who will not be in the treated area, or walk within 1/4 mile of a treated area, during the pesticide application or while the restricted-entry interval is in effect,

• any worker who will not be in your greenhouse during a pesticide application or while a restrictedentry interval is in effect there, OR

• any worker who applied (or supervised the application of) the pesticide and is aware of all of the information required to be given in the oral warning.

2. Treated area posting is NOT required if:

• no workers on your farm, forest or nursery will be in the treated area, or walk within 1/4 mile of the treated area, during the pesticide application or while the restricted-entry interval is in effect,

• no workers will be in the greenhouse during this pesticide application or while the restricted-entry interval is in effect there, OR

• the only workers for whom you need to post applied (or supervised the application of) the pesticide and are aware of all the information required to be given in the oral warning. November 1994

Posted Warning Signs

WPS-designed signs must be used when you post warnings at entrances to treated areas as described in the EPA WPS How to Comply Manual. For WPS sign requirements, see page 102 of the WPS "How To Comply " manual.

1. Location Of Signs

• On farms, forests, and nurseries, post the signs so they can be seen from all points where workers usually enter the treated areas, including at least:

* access roads,

* borders with any labor camp adjacent to the treated area, and

* established walking routes that enter the treated area.

• When there are no usual points of worker entry, post the signs in the corners of the treated area or in places where they will be most easily seen.

• In greenhouses, post the signs so they can be seen . from all points where workers usually enter the treated area, including doorways, aisles, and other walking routes. When there are no usual points of worker entry to the treated area, post the signs in the corners of the treated area or in places where they will be easily seen.

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