

ADDRESSING PESTICIDES USED NEAR SCHOOLS AND CHILD DAY CARE CENTERS



California has adopted regulations that address agricultural pesticide applications near public K-12 schools and licensed child day care centers (collectively referred to as schoolsites). These regulations provide minimum distance standards for certain agricultural pesticide applications near schoolsites and require annual notifications to schoolsites. The goal is to reduce the chances of unintended pesticide exposure to children and increase communication between growers, County Agricultural Commissioners, and schoolsites.

WHO

Schoolsite Administrators

Receive annual pesticide use notification from nearby growers

County Agricultural Commissioners

Enforce the regulations and answer questions

Growers

Follow pesticide use restrictions during set days and times, and provide annual pesticide use notification to Schoolsite Administrators and County Agricultural Commissioners

WHAT

Pesticide Use Restrictions

Within ¼ mile of a schoolsite, growers cannot make certain types of agricultural applications on Monday through Friday between 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. Some exceptions apply, such as when a schoolsite is closed for the day.

Requests to extend restriction days and times, like during extracurricular activities on the weekend, can be handled through a written agreement between the schoolsite, County Agricultural Commissioner, and grower. The written agreement must achieve the same or greater level of protection as the regulations.

Annual Pesticide Use Notification

Growers must provide written, annual notification of all agricultural pesticides that may be used on fields within ¼ mile of a schoolsite. There are no exceptions.

Included in the notification will be:

- Map of field and schoolsite
- List of pesticides that may be applied
- Contact information for grower and County Agricultural Commissioner

Pesticides not on the annual notification may be used as long as the grower amends the notification at least 48 hours before use.

WHEN

The new regulations take effect on January 1, 2018. Annual pesticide use notifications must be sent to schools by April 30 of every year beginning in 2018. A new grower, through purchase or lease of field, must provide pesticide use notification to schoolsites within 30 days of assuming control of the property, and by April 30 for subsequent years.

Contact your local County Agricultural Commissioner's office for questions and additional information.

HOW

Schoolsite Administrators will have access to a website to verify schoolsite boundaries and to view the annual pesticide use notification(s) provided by grower(s) within ¼ mile of the schoolsite. If the boundaries of the schoolsite are incorrect, Schoolsite Administrators can redraw them in the website. The County Agricultural Commissioner will review and approve any changes. Using this website will make it easier to receive annual pesticide use notifications from nearby growers.

QUESTIONS?

County Agricultural Commissioner:
www.cdfa.ca.gov/exec/county/countymap/

Department of Pesticide Regulation:
www.cdpr.ca.gov/schoolnotify/