

What to do if pesticides drift onto our workplace



Pesticides should not drift away from the intended field onto other fields or workplaces. Act quickly and report it if you see, smell, or feel ill from pesticides coming from nearby fields. This may prevent you and others from getting ill and may help stop the drift.

- Move away from the pesticide application if possible. If there is an indoor location that is safe, move indoors, close windows and doors, and turn off the ventilation.
- Tell your supervisor and/or manager right away. Also, tell them if you are feeling ill from the pesticides or if spray from the pesticide application got onto your skin.
- If pesticides get onto your skin, remove contaminated clothing and rinse skin with water for at least 15 minutes. Use an emergency shower if available.
- If pesticides get into your eyes, hold your eyes open and gently rinse with water for 15-20 minutes. Use an eyewash station if available.

The supervisor, manager, or a designated person should:

- Call 9-1-1 if anyone at the workplace is feeling sick from pesticides.
- If pesticides got onto a person's skin or into their eyes, make sure they decontaminate as listed above. Call the Poison Control Center (1-800-222-1222) or a doctor for treatment advice.
- Call the local County Agricultural Commissioner to report drift or pesticide illness:
Contact: _____ at: (____)_____
- Call the field owner or the applicator. Get pesticide labels and Safety Data Sheets.
Contact: _____ at: (____)_____
- Get the labels and Safety Data Sheets (SDS) of ALL pesticides that are being used and ensure that the labels and SDS are brought to the health care provider.

See the Occupational Pesticide Illness Prevention Program fact sheet at <http://bit.ly/OPIPPpublications> for more information about planning for drift response.