

Worker Safety Bulletin

A pesticide safety publication of the GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY PESTICIDE CONTROL OFFICE

Volume 3

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Agriculture Worker Safety

When you work in and around pesticide treated fields, your employer must provide you with certain *decontamination* or *washing supplies* to make sure that you are able to wash yourself before eating, drinking, or any other activities where your hands may contact your face. You may also need these supplies to wash yourself in case you are ex-

posed to pesticide residue.

The decontamination supplies are:

- Enough <u>clean</u> water to routinely wash and rinse eyes if needed
- Soap
- Single use towels

The decontamination supplies must be available to you within one quarter-mile from where you are working. It is important to make sure that you have

Decontamination Supplies

enough supply of clean water to wash yourself with, in addition to your drinking water, which you should keep separate from the decontamination water.

If your employer is not supplying these decontamination supplies to you even after you request them, you may call the Pesticide Control Office to ensure that your employer provides the supplies to you. Your employer cannot retaliate against you for wanting to comply with the Worker Protection Standard.

Safety Tip:

Keep dirty work clothes away from non-work clothes and wash separately from the family laundry.



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Pesticide Handler Safety

As a WPS trained handler, your employer may ask you to handle pesticides. Examples of handling activities are:

- Mixing, loading, or applying pesticides
- Cleaning, handling, or repairing the parts of mixing, loading, or application equipment that may contain pesticide residue
- Assisting with a pesticide application
- Disposing of pesticides or pesticide containers

When handling pesticides, your employer must provide you with the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required by each pesticide label. Some common PPE required by many pesticide labels are:



- Chemical Resistant Gloves



Coveralls

Safety Tip:

Do not reuse empty pesticide containers. They should be triple rinsed and punctured or disabled so they cannot be reused again. Once they are disabled, they

can be disposed of per the label's disposal instructions.

- Goggles



- Respirator
- Face Shield

While some PPE is designed to be used once and then disposed of, other PPE is designed by manufacturers to be reusable. You must check reusable PPE before each use to make sure that it will protect you. If your employer is not supplying PPE to you even after you request it, you may call the medical

Pesticide Control Office to ensure that your employer provides the PPE to you. Your employer cannot retaliate against you for wanting to comply with the Worker Protection Standard. If you or someone you work with has possibly been exposed to pesticides, please seek medical attention immediately. You may then report the exposure to:

The Pesticide Control Office

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(520) 562-2234
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Emergency Medical Centers located near the Gila River Indian Community:

- Ak-Chin Health Clinic
 48203 West Farrell Road
 Maricopa, AZ 85239
 (520) 568-3881
- B) Casa Grande Regional Medical Center
 1800 E Florence Boulevard
 Casa Grande, AZ 85222
 (520) 381-6300
- C) Chandler Regional Medical Center 475 South Dobson Road (Dobson & Frye) Chandler, AZ 85224 (480) 728-3000
- D) Huhukam Memorial Hospital 483 Seed Farm Rd Sacaton, AZ 85247

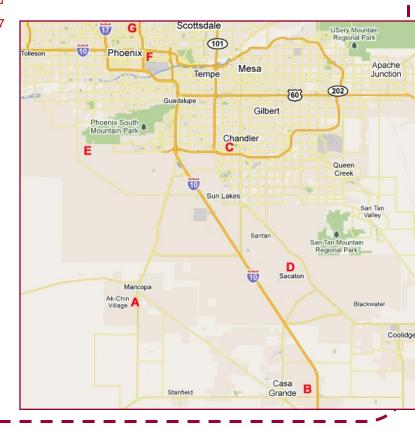
(520) 562-3321

(602) 528-1350

- E) Komatke Health Center 17487 S. Health Care Dr. Laveen, AZ 85339 (520) 550-6000
- F) Maricopa Medical Center
 2601 East Roosevelt Street
 Phoenix, AZ 85008
 (602) 344-5011
- G) Phoenix Indian Medical Center
 4212 North 16th Street
 Phoenix, AZ 85016
 (602) 263-1200

"Know where the closest emergency medical facility is <u>before</u> an accident happens."

Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital, Sacaton





Gila River Indian Community Department of Environmental Quality Pesticide Control Office PO Box 2139 Sacaton, AZ 85147

The Pesticide Control Office was established in 1982 to address pesticide related human health and environmental concerns within the Community.

The Office regulates pesticide activities through the Gila River Indian Community Code, Title 18, Chapter 3. The Office staff also conducts WPS trainings and other pesticide safety outreach to ensure that the Community is aware of pesticides that may be around them, symptoms of exposure, and how to avoid exposure to these sure, and how to avoid exposure to these products.

For questions regarding pesticides or to schedule WPS training, please contact the Office staff.

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The Gila River Indian Community Department of Environmental Quality Pesticide Control Office

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