

## Odors

Some pesticides have an odor associated with them which an individual may smell after a recent aerial pesticide application. Being able to smell an odor does not always mean there is a health risk. At the same time, many chemicals, including some pesticides, have odors that can be bothersome. The chemical you smell may not be the pesticide's active ingredient itself.

Pesticide products contain a number of ingredients: the "active ingredient" that targets the pest, solvents to dilute the formula, and other ingredients designed to make the product more effective. Any one of them may produce an odor. Odors also may be related to its decomposition product, a warning agent (a smelly substance added to make an odorless products easier to detect such as the rotten egg odor you smell with propane gas), or a chemical added to the formula to hide a bad odor.

Finding the source of a pesticide odor or why it occurred can be difficult. Two pesticide applications may be almost identical in how they are conducted, yet one results in odor problems and the other does not. The Community's Pesticide Ordinance does include provisions which limit aerial pesticide applications to be conducted only when wind speeds are 5 mph or less. This restriction, and others, is designed to deter drift of odors and the pesticide itself.

## Pesticide Management Areas

Aerial pesticide applications by fixed-wing aircraft are prohibited within a PMA.

A grower who has fields located within a PMA must request an emergency exemption to apply pesticides by fixed-wing aircraft within the PMA. The Pesticide Control Office must approve the exemption before the application can take place.

## Investigation

If a pesticide odor is causing problems for you or your represented residents, has drifted onto an individual or their property, or if there is cause to believe a pesticide was applied in violation of law, please contact our office so that we may investigate.

The Office investigates all claims of pesticide misuse within the Community and works jointly with the Arizona Department of Agriculture, should there be misuse which extends beyond the Community's boundary.

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

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



# Aerial Pesticide Applications

*...within the  
Gila River Indian Community*



The Community's Pesticide Ordinance, GR-05-14, identifies the Pesticide Control Office as the regulatory authority over all pesticide handling, storage, sales, production, transportation, and applications within the Reservation. In regards to aerial pesticide applications, the Pesticide Ordinance helps to ensure the safe use of pesticides by enacting buffer zone restrictions in addition to enforcement of the pesticide label through routine inspections by the Office of the aerial applicators.

The ordinance requires an 8-hour notification of planned aerial pesticide applications being conducted within the Community, however this does not cover all applications as many growers apply fertilizer in this manner which is not regulated by our office.

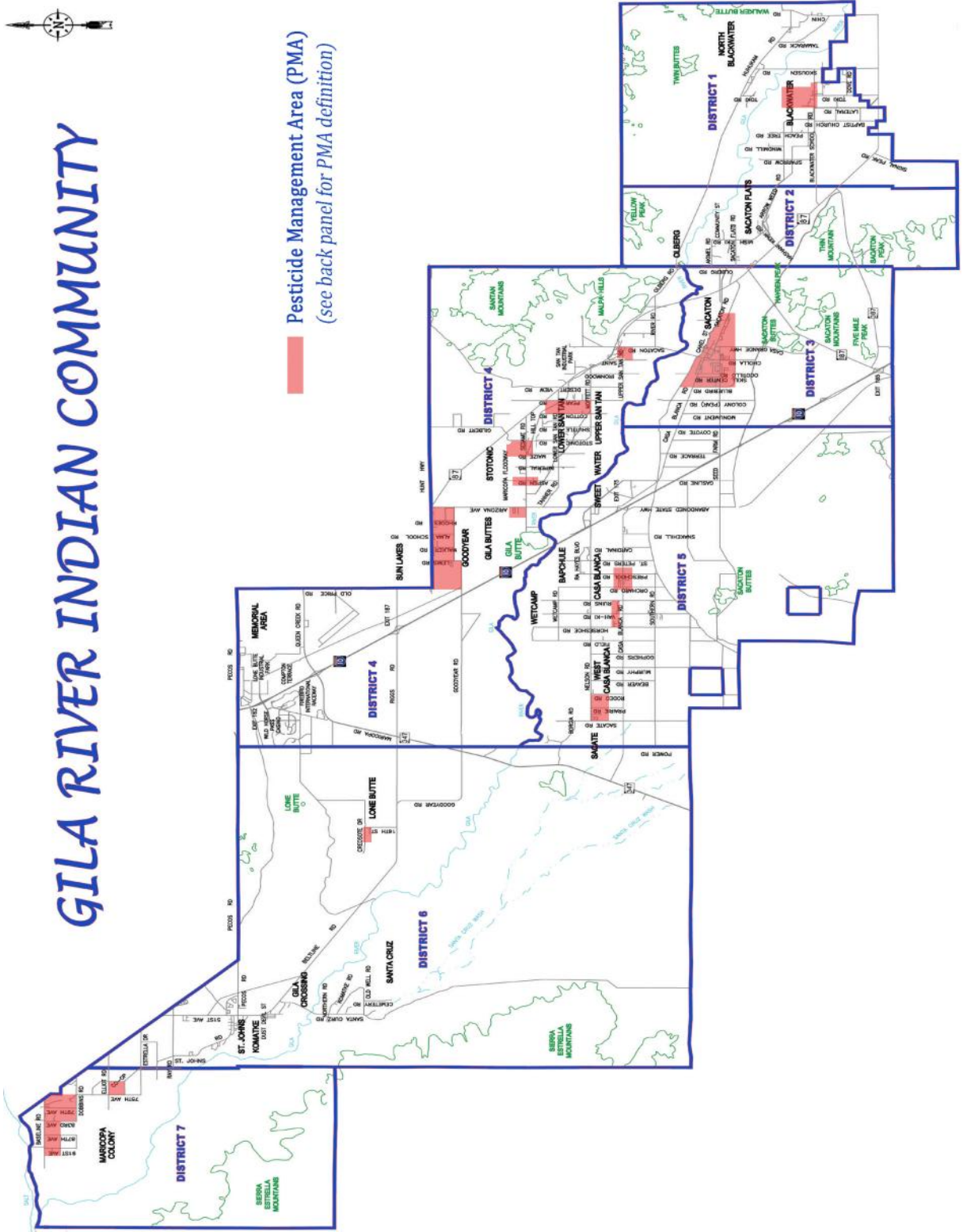
### Buffer Zones

Aerial applicators are prohibited from applying pesticides: within 100 feet of a person; within 10 feet of the property line of a residence; and within 100 feet of a residence if the residence is less than 100 feet from the property line.

Aircraft are prohibited from transporting pesticides over schools, daycares, and healthcare institutions. Pesticides are not allowed to be applied by aircraft within one-quarter mile of a school during school hours, within 500 feet of an operating school bus, or within 400 feet of a healthcare institution.



# GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY



**Pesticide Management Area (PMA)**  
(see back panel for PMA definition)