

WPS REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE HANDLER EMPLOYERS (Chapter 5)

Ensure handlers are a minimum of 18 years old.
Complete WPS handler training before conducting handler tasks.
Keep records of WPS handler training and provide record to handlers if requested.
Provide handler with training/instruction on safe operation of pesticide equipment and all application equipment is inspected daily for leaks, etc. and repaired if necessary.
Read to, or inform, handlers of pesticide label statements related to human hazards, first aid & safety, in a manner they can understand.
Have pesticide label available to handler at all times during application.
Provide tasks and instructions to handler supervisors to ensure compliance with WPS requirements.
Ensure supervisors give directions to handlers for WPS compliance.
Provide information (Information Exchange) to agricultural employer (customer) prior to application.
Give your handler the information about treated areas that the agricultural employer (customer) provided to the CPHE (Information exchange).
Ensure handlers do not work on pesticide equipment without receiving handler training (ensure any individual not directly employed receives information on pesticides before using, cleaning, repairing, etc. pesticide equipment).
Provide clean PPE in operating condition to handlers.
Only exceptions to handler PPE are those allowed by WPS.
Provide decontamination supplies (and eye flushing supplies if required) at required locations.
Follow restrictions DURING applications to keep workers and other persons out of certain areas (treated area and AEZ or enclosed space production area).
Follow relevant restrictions DURING applications (do not contact workers or other persons directly or through drift; and applicator temporarily suspends the application if workers or other persons are in the AEZ or enclosed space production area).
Monitor handler every 2 hours visually or by voice communication for applications of pesticides with skull & crossbones on label.
Fumigant applications in enclosed space production facilities – have a second handler outside of the enclosed space to continuously monitor (voice or visual), or rescue the applicator if necessary. Must have second set of required PPE outside of application space.
If a respirator is required, follow respirator requirements (i.e., medical evaluation, fit testing, respirator training) and ensure that all records of completion of these tasks kept for 2 years.
Make emergency assistance available (information and transportation).