

# Reduce your risks when handling pesticides

## Tips for proper handling, mixing, and use

### SAFETY GUIDELINES

- Avoid getting pesticides on your skin or in your eyes
- Don't breathe toxic vapors or swallow pesticide
- Wear personal protection equipment (PPE) provided to you (employers must furnish applicators with PPE)
- Wash your hands and face before you eat, drink, smoke, or use the restroom at work
- Stay out of restricted areas
- Never put pesticides into an unlabeled container or take them home

### SYMPTOMS OF EXPOSURE

- Rashes
- Tender nose
- Sore throat
- Watery eyes
- Vomiting
- Symptoms may appear months or years later

### IF YOU'RE EXPOSED

- React quickly if you get pesticides:
  - **In your eyes:** Rinse for 15 minutes with cool water and go to the nearest hospital
  - **On your body:** Remove clothes immediately and rinse skin with soap and water
- Know where to find a first aid kit and how to get emergency medical help
- Have someone drive you to the hospital, if necessary

### PREPARING PESTICIDES

- Read and follow the label directions
- Be especially careful with pesticides before they're mixed with water
- Wear the right kind of protection

### WARNING WORDS

- **Danger:** Extremely harmful
- **Warning:** Moderately harmful
- **Caution:** Slightly harmful—but may make you sick

### PESTICIDE CLEAN-UP

- Wash your body—including your hair—with plenty of soap and water
- Wash work clothes separately from the family laundry



<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/protect-yourself-pesticides-guide-pesticide-handlers>, January 2020.

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## Sign-in sheet

Please acknowledge you've read and understand these safety tips.  
If you have any questions, please contact your Hortica safety consultant.

Name of presenter \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name (printed)

Signature

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