

Helpful Hints for Posting Warning Signs at Pesticide Application Sites

In Wisconsin, agricultural producers may need to post warning signs at pesticide application sites. The signs are used to warn agricultural workers or the general public about a pesticide application. It is placed at the application site to protect the health and safety of agricultural workers on the farm and any people who may be near the area of pesticide application work.

Agriculture producers in Wisconsin need to be aware of and follow two regulations that require posting of warning signs:

1. The federal EPA Worker Protection Standard (WPS)
2. ATCP 29

The pesticide label outlines how to follow these two rules!

Specific information on posting warning signs will be found in a section of the label titled "Agricultural Use Requirements". It will look like this:

AGRICULTURAL USE REQUIREMENTS

Use this product only in accordance with its labeling and with the Worker Protection Standard, 40 CFR part 170. This standard contains requirements for the protection of agricultural workers on farms, forests, nurseries, and greenhouses, and handlers of agricultural pesticides. It contains requirements for training, decontamination, notification, and emergency assistance. It also contains specific instructions and exceptions pertaining to the statements on this label about personal protective equipment (PPE), notification to workers, and restricted-entry intervals. The requirements in this box only apply to uses of this product that are covered by the Worker Protection Standard.

Do not enter or allow worker entry into treated areas during the restricted-entry interval (REI) of 48 hours.

PPE required for early entry to treated areas that is permitted under the Worker Protection Standard and that involves contact with anything that has been treated such as plants, soil, or water, is:

- coveralls worn over short-sleeve shirt and short pants,
- chemical-resistant gloves made of any waterproof material,
- chemical-resistant footwear plus socks,
- protective eyewear, and
- chemical-resistant headgear (if overhead exposure).

Notify workers of the application by warning them orally and by posting warning signs at entrances to treated areas.

To comply with WPS requirements:

- Agricultural producers with workers must post the WPS warning sign if the pesticide label requires it.
- If the label does not specifically mandate the use of a WPS warning sign, a producer can decide to verbally notify workers about pesticide applications OR post warning signs. **Workers must know ahead of time how you, the producer, will notify them!**
- Signs must be removed 3 days after the Restricted Entry Interval (REI) expires.

Note: If workers on your farm will **not** be in the treated area or walk within ¼ mile of a treated area, during the pesticide application or while the restricted entry interval is in effect, verbal notification and/or posting of warning signs is not required.

To comply with ATCP 29 requirements:

- Post warning signs for all dual notice pesticide products.
- Post the signs at the field entrance.
- Also post the signs every ¼ mile if the pesticide application site is within 300 feet of a sensitive area (school, hospital, playground, day care, etc).
- Signs may stay posted indefinitely.

Chemigation and Fumigation pesticide applications have their own specific sets of warning signs. Make certain to obtain the correct signs for these pesticide applications in advance of any work performed.

Example Signs

WPS



ATCP 29

