

Pesticides in Your Path



Rodent Trappers

Farm Workers

Pesticides in Agriculture:

- Ground sprayers to spray fields
- Aerial crop dusters

Tips for Safety:

- Be aware of "Do Not Enter" signs
- Seek medical treatment if you experience symptoms after entering a field that has been sprayed
- Wear PPE (mask, gloves, etc.)
- Do not bring pesticides into your home on contaminated clothing.
- Wash contaminated clothing separate from other family clothes



Families

Gardeners

Pool Cleaners

Pest Control Workers

Pesticides in Homes:

- Disinfectants to kill germs
 - Bleach,
 - Pine cleaner,
- Chlorine for pools
- Pest control for rodents and insects (indoors or outdoors)

Safety Tips:

- Keep pesticides out of reach of children
- Read the label and follow the instructions
- Store pesticides in a locked cabinet
- Use in well ventilated areas



Janitors

School

Cafeteria Workers

Pesticides in Schools:

- Disinfectants to kill germs in/on
 - Kitchens
 - Countertops
 - Restrooms
 - Public areas

Tips for Safety:

- Workers should wear proper PPE (mask, gloves, etc.)
- Read warning labels and follow instructions
- Workers should not mix cleaning products (e.g., Chlorine bleach and ammonia)
- Keep away from areas that have just been cleaned
- Maintain accessible copies of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

Acute Occupational Pesticide Exposure Surveillance in Texas

Pesticides include any products used to control pests, such as insects, weeds, birds, animals, fish, worms, or germs, which are considered a nuisance. So pesticides are not just an agricultural problem; exposure can occur in homes, schools, hospitals, retail stores, and restaurants.

- Health practitioners should be familiar with the symptoms associated with pesticide exposure.
- Employers should train their employees on the proper use of pesticides.
- Workers should follow warning labels and protect themselves by wearing the proper personal protective equipment (PPE).

Common signs and symptoms of exposure to common pesticides include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, eye redness or tearing, dizziness, shortness of breath, and confusion.

Acute Occupational Pesticide Exposure is a Reportable Condition (Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 84).

Call 1-800-588-1248 Fax 512-776-7222



Dishwashers

Wait Staff

Restaurant

Kitchen Workers

Pesticides in Restaurants:

- Disinfectants to kill germs in/on
 - Kitchens
 - Countertops
 - Restrooms
 - Public areas

Tips for Safety:

- Workers should wear proper PPE (mask, gloves, etc.)
- Workers should not mix cleaning products (e.g., Chlorine bleach & ammonia)
- Maintain accessible copies of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)
- If exposure occurs, depending on the severity of the symptoms, workers can call:
 - Poison Control Network
 - 911 or seek medical attention



Apartments
POOL

Maintenance Workers

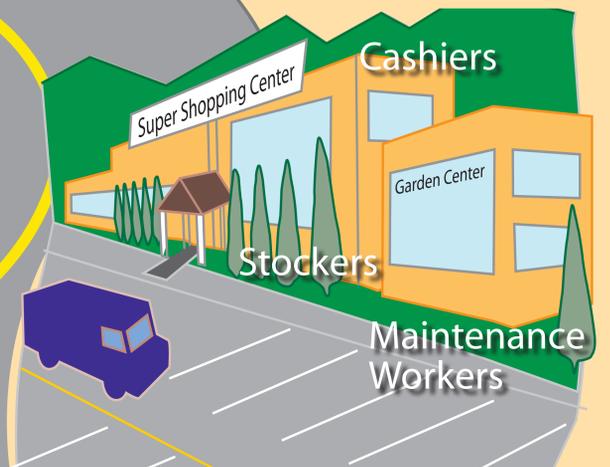
Pool Cleaners

Pesticides in Apartment Complexes and Hotels:

- Chlorine for pools
- Disinfectants to clean apartments/rooms

Tips for Safety:

- Do not open chlorine container in a closed area.
- Wear mask and gloves when handling chlorine
- If exposed to chlorine call Poison Control
- Get fresh air if you accidentally breathe in chlorine
- Seek medical attention immediately if the symptoms worsen



Super Shopping Center

Cashiers

Garden Center

Stockers

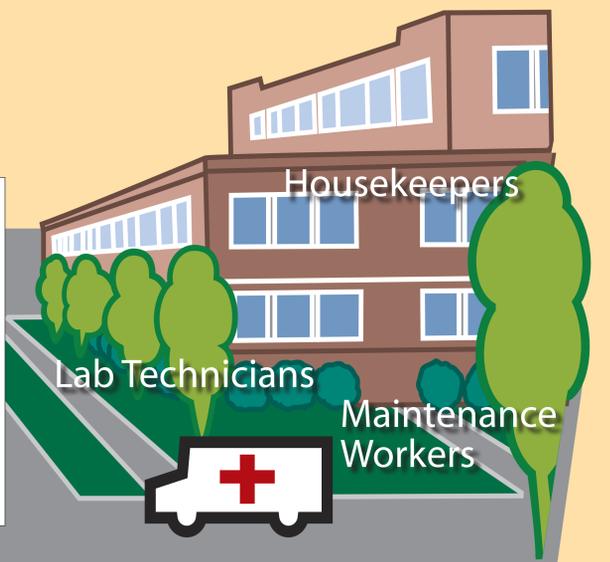
Maintenance Workers

Pesticides in Retail Stores:

- Many retail stores sell pesticides (for example)
 - Grocery stores
 - Hardware stores

Tips for Safety:

- Be sure to check pesticide bags for rips or tears
- Wash skin thoroughly if you get pesticides on your skin
- Drink plenty of water if you accidentally swallow pesticides and call Poison Control for advice
- Get fresh air if you breathe in pesticides and seek medical attention if you experience symptoms
- If exposure occurs, depending on the severity of the symptoms, workers can call:
 - Poison Control Network
 - 911 or seek medical attention



Housekeepers

Lab Technicians

Maintenance Workers



Pesticides in Hospitals:

- Disinfectants to sterilize equipment and kill germs in public areas

Tips for Safety:

- Workers should wear proper PPE (mask, gloves, etc.)
- Maintain accessible copies of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)



Environmental and Injury Epidemiology and Toxicology Unit
Pesticide Exposure Surveillance in Texas (PEST) Program
(512) 776-7269 –or– (800) 588-1248
www.dshs.state.tx.us/epitox/pest.shtm