



THE NEW FEDERAL WORKER PROTECTION STANDARD (WPS)




The following pages contain a comparison between the NEW Federal Worker Protection Standard (WPS) and Arizona's agricultural pesticide safety regulations. The tables display the key changes only. They do not include all of the information needed to comply with the regulation. The New WPS will go into effect in January 2017.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule an outreach presentation about the changes to the WPS, please contact Jennifer Weber, Pesticide Safety Field Consultant, Arizona Dept. of Agriculture's, Ag Consultation and Training Program — (602) 542-0985, jweber@azda.gov



PESTICIDE SAFETY TRAINING

Requirement	New WPS - January 2017	Current Arizona Regulations
Frequency of full training for workers & handlers	Annual training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handler Training – every 3 years • Worker Training – every 5 years
Training grace period for worker training	No grace period. Workers must be trained before they work in an area where a pesticide has been used or a restricted-entry interval has been in effect in the past 30 days.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Basic Training on before workers enter a treated area. • Provide full WPS agricultural worker training before 6th day of work in a treated area.
Qualifications for trainers of workers	Certified applicators, State/Tribal/Federal approved trainers, and persons who have completed an EPA-approved train-the-trainer course.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arizona Certified Applicators and PCAs with a signed one-time, one-year agreement with the Arizona Department of Agriculture • People who have completed the Arizona Department of Agriculture's Pesticide Safety Train-the-Trainer course and have passed the Trainer's Exam with a score of 75% or higher.
Expand training content for workers and handlers 	Keep existing and expand content. Final worker training topics expanded to 23 items, and handler training expanded to 36 items. Training on new content not required until 2 years from effective date of final rule.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 basic training items for workers and 13 items for handlers. Minimal training on reducing take-home exposure, reporting use violations, and prohibition from employer retaliation.
Recordkeeping of training	Keep records for 2 years. Give copy of record of training to workers and handlers upon their request.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide WPS trained pesticide handlers with green EPA training verification cards for handlers. • Provide WPS-trainer agricultural workers with blue EPA training verification cards for workers. • Trainers must keep pesticide handler training records for 3 years. • Trainers must keep agriculture worker training records for 5 years.



NEW DEFINITIONS AND MINIMUM AGE OF PESTICIDE HANDLERS

Requirement	New WPS - January 2017	Current Arizona Regulations
Immediate Family	Expand to also include all in-laws, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and first cousins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes spouse, parents, stepparents, foster parents, children, stepchildren, foster children, brothers, and sisters.
Enclosed space production	New definition: enclosed space production that is indoors or in a structure or space that is covered in whole or in part by any nonporous covering and that is large enough to permit a person to enter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenhouse means an operation inside any structure or space that is enclosed with nonporous covering and that is of sufficient size to permit worker entry.
Employ	Employ means to obtain, directly or through a labor contractor, the services of a person in exchange for a salary or wages, including piece-rate wages, without regard to who may pay or who may receive the salary or wages. It includes obtaining the services of a self-employed person, an independent contractor, or a person compensated by a third party.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No definition of "employ" in existing rule. Definitions of "agricultural employer" and "handler employer" covered aspects of what types of employment covered.
Minimum age for handlers and early-entry workers	Handlers and early-entry workers must be at least 18 years old.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No minimum age.




DECONTAMINATION SUPPLIES

Requirement	New WPS—January 2017	Current Arizona Regulations
Quantity of water	Provide 1 gallon for each worker and 3 gallons for each handler and each early entry worker as measured at beginning of workers' or handlers' work period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide enough water for routine washing and emergency eye flushing for workers and handlers. For handlers, also provide enough to wash entire body in emergency.
Use of natural waters	Must provide water for decontamination. There is no reference to, or prohibition from, using natural waters in addition to decontamination water provided. Workers and handlers are trained to use any nearest clean water source in case of emergency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must provide water for decontamination. May use natural waters in addition to water provided for decontamination.
Eye wash for handlers	Provide a system capable of delivering 0.4 gallons/minute for 15 minutes, or 6 gallons of water able to flow gently for about 15 minutes at a mix/load site if handlers use products requiring eye protection or use a pressurized closed system. One pint of water in a portable container must be available to each handler applying pesticides if eye protection is required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide enough water for emergency eye flushing. One pint of water in a portable container must be available to each handler if eye protection is required.

HAZARD COMMUNICATION AND CENTRAL POSTING



Requirement	New WPS - January 2017	Current Arizona Regulations
Display of pesticide safety information	Display pesticide safety information at a central location and at sites where decontamination supplies are located, if the decontamination supplies are at a permanent site or at a location with 11 or more workers or handlers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display a safety poster at central location.
Content of pesticide safety information 	Information can be displayed in any format (doesn't have to be a poster); keep the 7 concepts about preventing pesticides from entering your body; delete the point that there are federal rules to protect workers and handlers; add instructions for employees to seek medical attention as soon as possible if they have been poisoned, injured or made ill by pesticides; add name, address and telephone number of state or tribal pesticide regulatory authority; revise "emergency medical facility" to " <u>a nearby</u> operating medical care facility." New content for safety information display not required until 2 years from effective date of final rule.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The safety poster must include 7 concepts about preventing pesticides from entering your body; the point that there are federal rules to protect workers and handlers • Write in the name, address, and phone number of the nearest emergency medical center • Write in Arizona Department of Agriculture's Pesticide Hotline: 1-800-423-8876
Content and availability of hazard communications materials	Employer must display application information and safety data sheets (SDSs) at central location within 24 hours of end of application and before workers enter that treated area. Display both for 30 days after REI expires. Keep application information and SDS for 2 years from end of REI and make available to workers, handlers, designated representatives (identified in writing) or treating medical personnel upon request.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer must display application-specific information at a central location before application occurs, or, if no workers or handlers are on the establishment, before next period workers/handlers are on establishment. Keep posted for 30 days after REI expires. No record-keeping .



EMERGENCY MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Requirement	New WPS - January 2017	Current Arizona Regulations
Emergency Assistance	Provide prompt transportation to medical facility. Promptly provide the SDS, product information (name, EPA Registration Number and active ingredient) and circumstances of exposure to treating medical personnel.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide prompt transportation to medical facility and provide any obtainable information about the product, antidote, first aid, and circumstances of exposure to the worker/handler or treating medical personnel.



NOTIFICATION OF TREATED AREA

Requirement	New WPS - January 2017	Current Arizona Regulations
Notification of treated areas under an REI	Post warning sign if REI is greater than 48 hours (outdoor applications) or 4 hours (enclosed space applications (e.g., greenhouses)), otherwise option for posting or oral notification unless label requires both.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farms, forests, nurseries, and golf courses: Refer to the pesticide label for field posting requirements. If the pesticide label does not contain notification and/or posting requirements, the employer may choose to post the treated area or verbally notify employees about the application and REI.
Warning sign	Same as current sign.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red circle containing stern-faced man with upraised hand. At the top: "DANGER" and "PELIGRO", "PESTICIDES", "PESTICIDAS". At the bottom: "KEEP OUT", "NO ENTRE."
Information exchange between handler employer and agricultural employer	Agricultural employer must provide application information on treated areas the handler may be in (or walk within ¼ mile of). Handler employer must notify before the application begins for certain changes and within 2 hours of end of application for most other changes, unless only change was less than 1 hour difference in application time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agricultural employer must provide application information on treated areas the handler may be in (or walk within ¼ mile of). Handler employer must notify of changes to application plans before application begins.
Exceptions to REIs for early entry workers – notification requirements	Notify early-entry workers of application specifics, tasks to be performed, conditions of the early-entry exception, and hazard information from the pesticide label.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform early-entry workers of hazard information from the pesticide label.



NRCS Photo

ENTRY RESTRICTIONS DURING APPLICATION

Requirement	New WPS - January 2017	Current Arizona Regulations
<p>Ag employers must prohibit entry in areas during application for outdoor production. (Restrictions for greenhouses/ enclosed space production are different.)</p>	<p>All outdoor production: No entry into treated area or the application exclusion zone, which is an area up to 100 feet area around the application equipment during pesticide application on farms, forests and nurseries. Size of the application exclusion zone depends on type of application. Revised descriptions of application methods.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farms, forests and golf courses: No entry into treated area. • Nurseries: No entry into treated area or an area up to 100 feet around the treated area, where the size of the additional area depends on type of application.
<p>Handler (applicator) must suspend application in certain circumstances</p>	<p>Handler must apply pesticides so as not to contact workers or other persons. Handler must suspend application if a worker or other person is in the application exclusion zone, an area up to 100 feet around the application equipment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handler must apply pesticides so as not to contact workers or other persons. No specific requirement to suspend applications.



RESPIRATORS AND CHEMICAL RESISTANT MATERIAL

Requirement	New WPS - January 2017	Current Arizona Regulations
Respirators	Employer must provide respirator and fit testing, training, and medical evaluation that conforms to OSHA standards for any handler required to wear any respirator by the labeling. Require recordkeeping of completion of fit test, training, and medical evaluation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer must provide respirator listed on label and ensure it fits. No recordkeeping required. • Note: Additional regulations exist for pesticide handlers working with soil fumigants. Please refer to EPA's website: http://www2.epa.gov/soil-fumigants
Definition of chemical-resistant	Same as current definition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made of a material that allows no measurable movement of the pesticide through the material during use.



P P E E X C E P T I O N S

Requirement	New WPS - January 2017	Current Arizona Regulations
PPE exception for closed systems	Exceptions to the labeling-specified PPE allowed for handlers when using closed systems. A closed system must meet a broad performance-based standard and basic operating standards (written operating instructions and training of handlers in use of the system) must be provided.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exceptions to the labeling-specified PPE allowed for handlers when using closed systems. No specific criteria for closed systems.
PPE exception from eyewear for pilots in open cockpits	If product label requires eye protection, pilots in open cockpits may wear a helmet with lowered face shield instead of label-required eye protection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If product label requires eye protection, pilots in open cockpits may wear visor instead of label-required eye protection.
PPE exception from gloves for pilots in enclosed cockpits	Same as current requirement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloves are optional when entering and leaving aircraft unless required by product label.
PPE exception for enclosed cabs	Maintain exception for dermal PPE as in existing rule with same conditions, but handlers in enclosed cabs must wear the labeling-specified respiratory protection except when the only labeling-specified respiratory protection is a particulate filtering face-piece respirator (NIOSH approval number prefix TC-84A), previously called a dust/mist filtering respirator.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exceptions to the labeling-specified PPE are allowed when handling tasks are performed from inside an enclosed cab that meets the specifications defined in the rule and certain conditions are met. • Exceptions to the labeling-required respiratory protection are allowed only if the cab has been certified by the manufacturer to provide respiratory protection equivalent to the respiratory protection required by the pesticide labeling for handling.



PPE EXEMPTIONS FOR CROP ADVISORS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES

Requirement	New WPS - January 2017	Current Arizona Regulations
PPE exception for crop advisors and their employees	Crop advisors and their employees entering treated areas while a REI is in effect to conduct crop-advisor tasks may wear a standard set of PPE (coveralls, shoes plus socks and chemical-resistant gloves made of any waterproof material, and eye protection if the labeling of the pesticide product applied requires protective eyewear for handlers, as outlined in rule), <i>OR</i> the PPE specified on the pesticide labeling for early-entry activities instead of the PPE specified on the pesticide labeling for handling activities, provided certain conditions are met. (See exemption for certified crop advisor.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crop advisors and their employees entering treated areas while a REI is in effect to conduct crop-advisor tasks may wear the PPE specified on the pesticide labeling for early-entry activities instead of the PPE specified on the pesticide labeling for handling activities, provided certain conditions are met. (See exemption for certified crop advisor.)
Exemption for certified crop advisors and their employees	Only certified crop advisors are exempt from labeling PPE and WPS requirements as specified in exemption. Certified crop advisor employees must use label-required PPE while working in a field during an REI, and employer must provide all required WPS protections, or rely on the PPE substitutions allowed under the crop advisors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certified crop advisor chooses PPE for themselves and their employees working under their direct supervision in a field during an REI. Also exempted from providing decontamination supplies and emergency assistance for themselves and employees.

SPECIAL NOTE:

THERE IS A DIFFERENCE IN THE EXEMPTIONS FOR “CERTIFIED” CROP ADVISORS AND “NON-CERTIFIED” CROP ADVISORS.

ONLY “CERTIFIED” CROP ADVISORS ARE EXEMPT FROM THE PPE REQUIREMENTS.