

# CONTRA COSTA COUNTY PESTICIDE USE POSTING AND NOTIFICATION POLICY

## General Provisions

This policy applies only to land and facilities owned by—AND under the control of— the County of Contra Costa.

*Any County Department that uses or authorizes the use of a pesticide shall comply with the following posting and notification procedures:*

- Signs shall be posted at least three (3) days before application of the pesticide and remain posted at least four (4) days after application. In specific situations/locations, permanent signs may also be used. See provisions below under “Permanent Signs”.
- Application information shall be posted on the County website’s pesticide posting page at least three (3) days before the application. If the application is postponed or changed, information on the website must be updated.
- If treatment is in an enclosed area, signs shall be posted at all major public and employee entry points.
- If treatment is in an open area, signs shall be posted at highly visible location(s).
- If treatment is on the property of an adult or juvenile detention facility where posting placement is limited, the chief medical officer at that facility must be notified annually by the IPM Coordinator of pesticides that may be used during the year.
- If rodenticides are used in bait stations for rats or mice, bait stations shall be posted at eye level on the wall or other structure above the bait station.
- Exceptions to these provisions are listed below under “Exemptions”.

## Contents of Signs

The signs shall be of a standardized design, easily recognizable by the public and County employees and shall contain the following information:

1. Name of pesticide product
2. Active ingredient(s) in the product
3. United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) or California State registration number
4. Target pest
5. Acute health hazard warning (from the label’s precautionary statement)
6. A check box indicating whether the product is on the Proposition 65 list and the following text:  
“Chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer, birth defects or reproductive harm.”
7. Area to be treated
8. Method of treatment
9. Date(s) of anticipated use; a window of time for anticipated use is acceptable
10. Date of re-entry for staff and the public to the treated area, if applicable
11. Date application is completed
12. Name and contact number of County Department responsible for the application
13. IPM website address for more information
14. IPM Coordinator name and contact information
15. National Pesticide Information Center contact information
16. A web address AND quick response (QR) code linking to the County website’s pesticide posting page
17. A disclaimer saying, “Direct exposure to certain pesticides may cause acute or chronic health effects on humans and animals.”

## Exemptions

Departments shall *not* be required to post signs in accordance with the provisions above

1. In roadway rights-of-way
2. On airport property specifically regarding vegetation management
3. In other areas where the general public has not been granted access for use for recreation or pedestrian purposes. Recreation is defined as any activity where significant physical contact with the treated area is likely to occur.

*Note:* In the case of numbers 1 or 3, each department that uses pesticides in such locations shall provide a

public access telephone number for information about pesticide applications. The public access telephone number shall be posted in a prominent location at the department's main office building. Information provided to callers shall include all items listed under "Contents of Signs", above.

4. In or around County-owned buildings, if the pesticide is on a list agreed to by the IPM Coordinator and is posted in accordance with provisions under "Permanent Signs" below.
5. In facilities subject to *The Healthy Schools Act (HSA)*. Posting requirements in such facilities will be in accordance with HSA laws and regulations as applicable. Where feasible, every effort should be made to post in a manner consistent with both HSA parameters and this policy in and around facilities that house school or childcare programs. In the event of conflicting posting and notification requirements, HSA guidelines supersede those outlined in this policy.
6. When using antimicrobial pesticides such as sanitizers and disinfectants intended for use on objects or surfaces. These products are pesticides and must be used according to the label by trained personnel. Annual HSA training is required by all staff who use antimicrobial pesticides at facilities that house school or childcare programs.

Any pesticide granted an emergency exemption for public health emergencies or other urgent situations by the County IPM Coordinator shall not be required to be posted prior to treatment. However, all other requirements for posting, as set forth above, shall be followed.

Use of any pesticide listed by the Organic Materials Research Institute or of any products on the FIFRA 25(b) list or in California Code of Regulations Section 6147 may be posted on the day of application. All other provisions listed above apply.

The County IPM Coordinator may, at his or her discretion, grant necessary exemptions to the posting requirements. Such exemptions will be documented with the reason for the exemption.

#### Permanent Signs

Each County building shall post a permanent sign in a prominent location with a list of pesticides that may be used in or around the structure without individual postings. Pesticides not on this list must be posted in accordance with the provisions above.

Any permanent sign shall contain the following information OR provide a link to the County website's pesticide posting page containing the following:

- a. Name of the pesticide product
- b. Active ingredient(s) in the product
- c. Acute health hazard warning (from the label's precautionary statement)
- d. Areas inside or outside the building where the pesticide might be used

Any permanent sign that does not contain items (a) through (d) above shall include the following:

- e. A web address AND quick response (QR) code that links to additional pesticide information for all products that may be used in and around the structure
- f. A check box indicating whether any proposed product is on the Proposition 65 list along with the following text: "Chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer, birth defects or reproductive harm."
- g. Contact number of the County Department responsible for applications

In addition to the provisions above regarding permanent signs in and around buildings, the use of permanent signs is generally discouraged.

#### ***Other Uses of Permanent Signs***

Permanent signs may be an effective public communication tool in certain locations. Some areas away from County-owned or leased buildings where pesticide applications are a regular, periodic occurrence and others such as parks and walkways that are specifically intended for public recreation or pedestrian purposes may be

appropriate. The following provisions apply:

1. At least three (3) days before any pesticide application, the application information must be posted on the County website's pesticide posting page. If the application is postponed or changed, information on the website must be updated.
2. On the actual day of the pesticide application prior to beginning application, a paper sign with the information listed above under "Contents of Signs" must be affixed to the permanent sign and remain for at least four (4) days.



# NOTICE

## OF PESTICIDE TREATMENT



### Contra Costa County Public Works Facilities and Grounds

Contra Costa County has reduced its pesticide use by 88% since the County initiated its Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program. The County's IPM Policy focuses on long-term pest prevention and combines the use of physical, horticultural, biological, and chemical methods to manage pests. When pesticides must be used, they are selected and applied in a manner that minimizes risks to human health, to beneficial and non-target organisms and to the environment.

**PREVENTION  
FIRST**



**NON-CHEMICAL  
METHODS NEXT**



**LEAST-HAZARDOUS PESTICIDES  
AS A LAST RESORT**

Considering the above, it has been decided that a pesticide treatment is necessary in this area.

## Avoid area during active pesticide application.

Pesticide Trade Name:

Active Ingredient(s):

Acute (short-term) health hazard warning:

Proposition 65\* listed: Yes      No

\*Chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer, birth defects or reproductive harm.

EPA Number:

Target Pest(s):

Area(s) to be Treated:

Date of Scheduled Application:

Method of Treatment:

Date/Time it is okay to re-enter (per EPA label):

Date Completed:

**Direct exposure to certain pesticides may cause acute or chronic health effects on humans and animals.**



**For more information about this treatment, contact**  
Contra Costa County Public Works at 925-313-7052 or  
Wade Finlinson, IPM Coordinator at [wade.finlinson@cchealth.org](mailto:wade.finlinson@cchealth.org)

**For more information on IPM:** [cchealth.org/ipm/notification.php](http://cchealth.org/ipm/notification.php)  
Scan the QR Code at right to be taken to the County IPM website.

**For more information on pesticides, contact**  
National Pesticide Information Center at 800-858-7378 or  
[www.npic.orst.edu](http://www.npic.orst.edu). Open 8:00 AM to noon, Monday-Friday.

