

## PESTICIDE APPLICATION PREPAREDNESS AND PLANNING FORM

---

### **BE PREPARED:**

- The **most important step** in preparing yourself, your family, and your property for a pesticide application is to **know when and where applications are going to occur. Here's How:**
- Get a paid subscription for all pre-spray notices in your area from the Oregon Department of Forestry ([www.oregon.gov/ODF/privateforests/fpaFACTS.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/privateforests/fpaFACTS.shtml) #Become\_a\_Subscriber). These notices contain information regarding who is going to be spraying, where the spray is going to occur, the timeline for the spray, and what chemicals may be applied. The minimum subscription fee is \$25 for a five-section area (one section = one square mile).
- Obtain a map of your area from an Oregon Department of Forestry office. Carefully document where stream buffer zones are located, along with any other sensitive areas. Cross-reference any notice you receive against your map to determine exactly where the spray is going to occur.
- Review the area where the spray is planned and document any streams, rivers, or other riparian areas. Take photographs and/or live video in the process. Make sure that these areas are identified on the pre-spray notice.
- Document the condition of all vegetation in and around your property. Take lots of photographs or live video. Pay close attention to pesticide-sensitive plants, such as berries, maple trees, or any type of broad leaf plant.
- Prepare a plan for yourself and family in the event a spray occurs. If you haven't had a yearly physical, immediately preceding a spray would be an excellent time, as your physician will have up-to-date information on you and your family's health.
- After you have reviewed the notice and identified spray area, provide written comments and objections on the notice to your local forester (the contact person will be identified on the form).
- Develop relationships with ODF personnel and nearby timber owners. Ask the timber company's forester for a 5- to 10- day warning of when a spray is planned.
- Contact Forest Land Dwellers and ask for information on:
  - Taking and storing pre-spray urine samples. These samples are instrumental in determining whether and to what extent pesticide drift has occurred.
  - Taking and storing pre-spray water, soil, and vegetation samples. These samples are also instrument in determining whether and to what extent pesticide drift has occurred.
  - The Drift Catcher air analyses instrument. The Drift Catcher system records, in real time, the presence of any chemicals that drift away from a spray area and onto your property.

### **DURING A SPRAY:**

- **Be Alert!** Pesticide Sprays may occur at any day or time mentioned on the pre-spray notice. If an aerial-based application, listen for helicopters flying low altitude patterns.

- **Be Safe!** If evacuation is not possible, then close all windows and vents in your home. Quickly move family members, especially young children, indoors. Shelter all animals, domestic or otherwise. Do not go outside for at least one hour after the spray is finished. Contact your physician or Emergency Medical Services if you experience any of the following serious symptoms:

Shortness of Breath  
Heart Arrhythmia

Uncontrollable Dry Cough  
Partial or Complete Loss of  
Consciousness

Red, Burning Eyes, Throat, or Nose

Intense Nausea Accompanied by  
Headache

- **Document Everything!** Pay close attention to family members and animals. Keep a log or journal of every change you notice, no matter how small or insignificant. If possible, photograph or videotape the spray while it is occurring. Make records of current temperature, wind direction, wind speed, precipitation, and fog levels.
- **Take Precautions!** Immediately after a spray has concluded, remove all contaminated clothing or items and place into a plastic bag. Put the bag outdoors in an area where it will not be tampered with.

#### **AFTER A SPRAY:**

- When a spray concludes, make sure to wait at least one hour before exiting your home. Depending on weather conditions, pesticide particulates may remain airborne long after a spray is finished. Pesticides may also revolatilize into the air for weeks after a spray if ambient weather conditions are warm, humid, or foggy.
- Closely watch family members and animals for signs of pesticide contamination or poisoning. Symptoms may include nausea, diarrhea, red and itchy eyes, red and/or sensitive skin, skin rash, impaired mental functioning (similar to “chemo brain”), burning throat and/or sinuses, headache, and loss of appetite. Sensitive animals, especially small dogs and cats, may experience seizure-like symptoms. Document all symptoms using a notepad and photographic / video equipment. **If you or your family members experience serious symptoms, do not hesitate to call your physician or Emergency Medical Services.**
- Within 24 hours of a spray, contact Forest Land Dwellers and ask for information about post-spray urine, water, soil, and vegetation samples. If a drift catcher system was set up on your property, *please do not touch it*. Any tampering may invalidate the results.
- Walk all riparian zones and other sensitive areas and document any signs of pesticide drift or contamination. Signs include browning and dropping of leaves, isolated dead vegetation, and droopy branches and/or leaves. Document everything with a notepad and camera. Compare with pre-spray documentation.
- If you suspect that you or your family members have sustained injury from a pesticide application, or that your animals and/or crops have been damaged,

then immediately obtain and complete the “Report of Alleged Loss due to Pesticides” form from the Oregon Department of Agriculture ([www.oregon.gov/ODA/PEST/docs/pdf/reportloss.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/PEST/docs/pdf/reportloss.pdf)). Follow the instructions listed on the form. ***Failure to complete the form within 60 days of the pesticide application or discovery of your injury or loss may result in a complete waiver of any claim you may have.***