

# How To Conduct **WPS** Worker Training

Editor's note: Our Tailgate Training Tip Sheets are [available in Spanish at www.gemplers.com](http://www.gemplers.com).

## KEY POINTS:

- Train your workers orally or audiovisually.
- Cover all 11 required **WPS** concepts.
- Speak in a manner trainees will understand.
- Allow time for questions and answers.
- Be sure your training tools are EPA-approved.

**Note to trainer:** Use this sheet to help you train your agricultural workers in EPA's Worker Protection Standard (**WPS**). You may photocopy this sheet for your employees' personal use. However, it may not be published or sold. **Reminder:** EPA requires trainers to be state-certified pesticide applicators, **WPS**-trained pesticide handlers, or graduates of a **WPS** Train-the-Trainer program.

## Know what is required

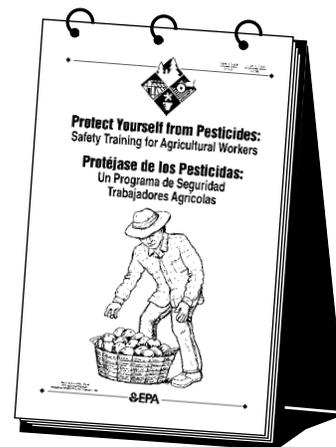
- Present the training orally or audiovisually.
- Use written and/or audiovisual materials.
- Train workers in a manner they can understand. Use nontechnical terms.
- Use a translator if necessary.
- Answer trainees' questions.

## Choose your training tools

- EPA requires you to cover 11 specific **WPS** concepts. (See back for listing.)
- The *Protect Yourself from Pesticides: Safety Training for Agricultural Workers* flipchart, an EPA-approved **WPS** video, or the *Protect Yourself from Pesticides – Guide for Agricultural Workers* handbook will help you.
- Review the training tools you choose ahead of time.
- Become familiar with the content so you can answer questions.
- Identify key points and choose key concepts to begin discussion during the training.
- **Reminder:** Be sure you cover all 11 concepts when using the training tools.

## How to use the flipchart

- Stand the flipchart on its easel so the pages with illustrations face your trainees.
- Flip the pages to Section 1. The bilingual (English/Spanish) script will be facing you.
- Read the objectives at the bottom of the page to yourself. Then summarize them for your trainees.
- Read the material the arrows point to aloud. The illustrations your trainees see coincide with the script.
- Flip to the next page and continue in the same manner.
- Ask your workers the review questions at the end of each section. Encourage them to ask other questions.
- Restate your key points if trainees seem confused. Then continue with the next section.



(Continued on back)

## WPS WORKER SAFETY TRAINING DO'S AND DON'TS

### DO:

- Look at the trainees.
- Speak loudly enough for them to hear you.
- Encourage participants to ask questions.

### DON'T:

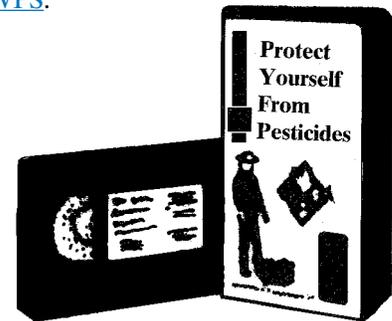
- Skip any of the 11 required WPS concepts.
- Run through the material too quickly.
- Forget to take breaks.

See our [full line of safety supplies](#), including respirators, eye and ear protection, coveralls, first aid and more.

## How to Conduct **WPS** Worker Training

### How to use the **WPS training videos**

- Make sure the video you choose is EPA-approved for training workers in the **WPS**.
- Review the video ahead of time.
- Determine good places to stop the video to take questions.
- Show the video to your trainees. Stop it in key places to take questions.
- Talk about how the video material relates to specific areas of your operation.
- Allow time for more questions and answers at the end of the session.

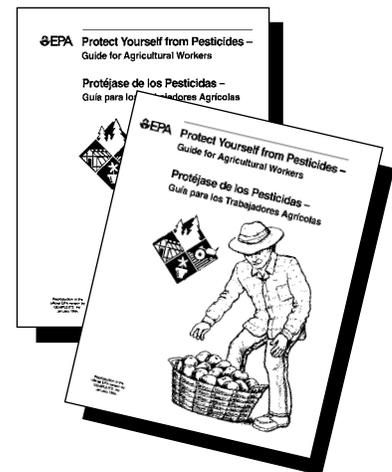


### How to use the **WPS worker handbook**

- Use the handbook as a supplement to other training materials or alone.
- If you use it alone, present the material orally to your workers.
- Read the name of the section at the top of the page. Then read the material next to the illustrations.
- Stop at the end of each chapter to take questions.
- Restate your main points before continuing.

### Cover these 11 **WPS** concepts

- Where and in what form workers may encounter **pesticides** on the job.
- Hazards resulting from toxicity and exposure.
- Routes through which **pesticides** can enter the body.
- Signs and symptoms of common **pesticide** poisonings.
- Emergency **first aid**.
- How to get emergency medical care.
- Decontamination procedures, including emergency eye flushing techniques.
- Hazards from chemigation and drift.
- Hazards from **pesticide** residue on clothing.
- Dangers of taking **pesticides** or **pesticide** containers home.
- **WPS** requirements aimed at reducing the risk of **pesticide** exposure, including:
  - application and entry restrictions
  - oral and posted warnings
  - availability of application information
  - protection from retaliation



### **Document your training**

- Keep a written record of which workers were trained.
- Include the trainer's name and the date.
- Record which materials you used for training.
- Have each trainee sign a sheet at the end of the session saying that he or she was trained.
- Put a copy of the signed sheet in your operation's files.



#### **BASIC TRAINING TIPS:**

- **Find out about your trainees' backgrounds before you begin.**
- **Get a translator if needed.**
- **Speak on your trainees' level.**
- **Review training materials ahead of time.**
- **Be prepared to answer questions.**

See our [full line of safety supplies](#), including respirators, eye and ear protection, coveralls, first aid and more.