

## Preventing Drift

It is your legal responsibility to keep your application on the intended target site only.

In addition to following label directions, these steps can help you reduce the potential for drift. For more information on drift prevention, go to <https://oda.direct/Pesticide-Drift>.

- Use the correct nozzle, droplet size, pressure, and sprayer speed
- Use the lowest pressure setting possible and spray as close to the target while maintaining adequate coverage
- Use drift reduction nozzles and adjuvants
- Do not spray during temperature inversions, or during other unfavorable weather conditions. Plan with the weather predictions in mind.
- Be aware of nearby sensitive sites (nursing homes, schools, sensitive crops)

## The label

### *Read it ...*

**Read the label before you purchase a pesticide product**, each time you apply it, and when you store or dispose of it.

### *Follow it ...*

**Always follow label directions exactly.**

Wear required personal protective equipment, apply correct rates on listed sites, and observe all restrictions and special precautions.

## Avoiding Problems

- Read and follow all label directions
- Keep application equipment in good condition and calibrated correctly
- Prevent drift
- Avoid areas where runoff or drift into water is likely
- Protect endangered species – if directed to do so by the label you are using, visit Bulletins Live Two! and follow all applicable directions
- Avoid applications that may harm foraging bees
- Be especially careful near sensitive crops, bee hives, and schools
- Observe buffer zones around waterways
- Wear required personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Make sure the producer knows the pre-harvest intervals (PHIs), if any
- Make sure the producer knows the restricted entry intervals (REIs), if any
- Make sure the producer knows the associated plant-back restrictions
- Make sure your license is active before making any applications (<https://oda.direct/SearchPesticideLicenses>)

## Protecting workers

Call OR-OSHA 800.922.2689 for more information on:

- Worker Protection Standard (farm, forest, nursery, and greenhouse sites)
- Hazard Communication Standard

## Recertification

Once earned, certification is valid for up to five calendar years, ending December 31st of the final year.

Renew your certification by:

- Attending accredited continuing education during your certification period
  - » A total of 40 pesticide credits of any type are required
  - » A maximum of 15 pesticide credits can be earned per calendar year
  - » A list of ODA-accredited classes is available on ODA's website, <https://oda.direct/PestRecertClasses>

or

- Retaking and passing all required exams

## Don't Forget to Update Your Information With ODA

Remember to keep your address and email up to date with ODA so you do not miss out on important information.

Updated 11/2025

**Pesticides Program**  
**Oregon Department of Agriculture**  
635 Capitol St. NE, Salem, OR 97301  
503.986.4635

Si necesita ayuda en español, llame al 503.986.4550.  
[pesticide-expert@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:pesticide-expert@oda.oregon.gov)  
<https://oda.direct/Pesticides>

# Applicator



Commercial,  
Noncommercial and Public  
Pesticide Applicator  
Responsibilities



**OREGON**  
**DEPARTMENT OF**  
**AGRICULTURE**

## Public Applicator

**Is a person who**

- is an employee of the State of Oregon or its agencies, counties, cities, municipal corporations, other governmental bodies or subdivisions thereof, irrigation districts, drainage districts and public utilities and telecommunications utilities, or of an Indian tribe [see ORS 634.006(21)]; **and at least one of the following:**
- Applies any pesticide using machine-powered application equipment\*; or
- Applies restricted use pesticides to the property under the ownership, possession, control, or jurisdiction of their employer; or
- Applies any pesticide at the campus of a school, as defined in ORS 634.700.

*\*Starting Jan. 1, 2026, a limited exemption applies to individuals who use electric-powered application equipment that has a tank size of 5 gallons or less who meet certain employer training requirements. This limited exemption excludes individuals applying restricted use pesticides, applications to a school campus, or any application by aircraft including UAVs.*

- Additional requirements apply to pesticide applications made to property not under their employer’s ownership, possession, control, or jurisdiction (see ORS 634.116)

## Commercial Applicator

**Is a person who:**

- is an employee of an Oregon licensed Commercial Operator; **and**
- applies pesticides to someone else’s land or property. This includes either restricted use pesticides or general use pesticides (including pesticides labeled as organic inputs) for others.



## Noncommercial Applicator

**Is a person who:**

- uses restricted use pesticides for a purpose other than the production of an agricultural commodity or forest crop on land or property they or their employer owns or leases.
- alternatively, could be a private school employee or owner that applies any pesticide on the school’s campus, as defined in ORS 634.700.

## Licensing Categories

Commercial, Noncommercial, and Public Pesticide applicators may only make pesticide applications under the categories specified on their license.

## Recordkeeping

**Recordkeeping elements**

- Customer full name, address, and phone number
- Address or geographical description where application was made. Also include the size of the treated area (acres, square feet, linear feet, etc.)
- Date (month/day/year), beginning and ending time of application(s)
- Product supplier (full name of individual or business)
- EPA registration number or the FULL product trade name, formulation type, and manufacturer
- Amount applied—use lbs., oz. or gal. of actual product per acre or concentration (lbs. or oz. product/gal.) and total gallons applied. Include amount and type of other material applied (e.g. adjuvant, wetting agent, etc.)
- Application site or crop
- Equipment description, including FAA number if applied by air
- Full name and license numbers of all applicators, including Pesticide Apprentices and Immediately Supervised Trainees who made pesticide application
- Records must be maintained for three years
- Record any additional element required by the product label
- Records must be legible
- Provide records to ODA, Pesticide Analytical and Response Center (PARC), and/or licensed health care professionals when requested
- For a full recordkeeping explanation, go to <https://oda.direct/Recordkeeping>

## School Campuses

- Unique requirements apply to pesticide applications made to a school campus. For more information, go to <https://oda.direct/IPMSchools>
- Each pesticide application must be authorized by the school’s Integrated Pest Management (IPM) coordinator.
- Pesticide applications must only be made by an appropriately licensed individual

## Supervising Immediately Supervised Trainees and Pesticide Apprentices

- Immediately Supervised Trainees and Pesticide Apprentices may only make applications consistent with the supervisor’s license categories
- For Immediately Supervised Trainees, their licensed supervisor must be physically on-site during the pesticide application and physically available at the specific point of pesticide use within a time-period of no more than five minutes
- Pesticide Apprentices can perform pesticide application activities when their licensed supervisor is not physically present. However, the licensed supervisor must be reasonably available for any needed consultation or further direction (e.g. cell phone, 2-way radio)
- Licensed supervisor is responsible for the actions and training of the licensed Pesticide Apprentice or licensed Immediately Supervised Trainee, including proper pesticide use and recordkeeping
- For more information on Immediately Supervised Trainee and Pesticide Apprentices, go to <https://oda.direct/PesticideLicenseTypes>