



Organic Farms: Does the Worker Protection Standard Apply to you?

If you use a pesticide product registered by the EPA in the production of organic agricultural plants, the WPS most likely applies to you.

Natural products like sulfur, *Bt*, and copper sulfate are considered pesticides by the EPA.

Some protective requirements for workers and handlers (personal protective equipment, restricted-entry intervals, etc.) are clearly identified on the pesticide label. However, many of the requirements are only referenced on the label by citing the WPS rule (40 CFR 170).

If you are using a pesticide product with labeling that refers to the WPS and you are using it on an agricultural establishment directly related to the production of an agricultural plant, you must comply with the WPS. Otherwise, you will be in violation of federal law, as it is illegal to use a pesticide product inconsistent with its labeling.



Agricultural Employer Requirements

If you are an agricultural employer, you must know your responsibilities under the WPS and provide WPS protections to your workers and handlers.

You may qualify for the owner/immediate family exemption from certain WPS responsibilities.

Visit pesticideresources.org for more information.

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Know your Responsibilities: pesticideresources.org/wps/jfy/agemp/responsible.html

Protections for Workers: pesticideresources.org/wps/guide/protectworkers.html

Protections for Handlers: pesticideresources.org/wps/guide/protecthandlers.html

Immediate Family Exemption: pesticideresources.org/wps/guide/famexempt.html