

Maryland

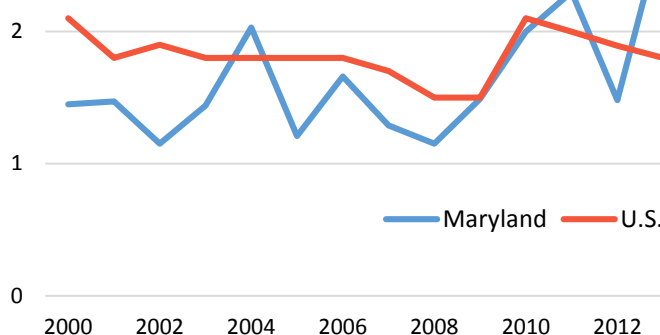
Occupational Health and Safety

Tracking occupational health indicators allows Maryland to reduce preventable workplace injuries

What is a pesticide?

A pesticide is any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating any pest¹

Work-Related Rate of Pesticide Poisonings per 100,000 Workers – Indicator 11



How to report pesticide poisonings

For immediate assistance

National Poison Control Center:
1-800-222-1222



For workers

The Maryland Occupational Safety and Health Act gives employees the right to file complaints about workplace safety and health hazards:
www.dlir.state.md.us/labor/mosh/complaintpage.shtml

The Pesticide Regulation Section at the Maryland Department of Agriculture administers Maryland's Pesticide Applicator's Law, which includes approving training courses in the handling, storage and use of pesticides; and investigates pesticide accidents or incidents:
http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/pages/pesticide_regulation.aspx

410-841-5710

For healthcare providers

In accordance with Maryland code, healthcare providers must report suspected pesticide-related occupational exposures and illness to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene:
<http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/OEHFP/EH/SitePages/occupational-safety-and-health-in-maryland.aspx>

Contact the Environmental Health Bureau with questions about reporting pesticide illness:

1-866-703-3266

dhmh.envhealth@maryland.gov

In 2013, there were **83** Maryland cases of acute work-related pesticide-associated illness and injury reported to Poison Control Centers

What are the signs of pesticide poisoning?

- Coughing
- Irritation of the nose, throat, eyes or skin
- Headache
- Thirst
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Dizziness
- Shortness of breath
- Confusion

How are pesticide exposures prevented?

DO

- Wear the proper personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Use the right pesticide for the job and follow label instructions
- Keep the pesticide in the original container if possible and label new containers
- Keep up-to-date Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)
- Follow directions and signs to keep out of treated or restricted areas
- Follow waste disposal directions on the label and clean up spills immediately
- Wash hands with soap after handling pesticides



DO NOT

- Do not mix products
- Do not use more pesticide than recommended
- Do not bring pesticides into your home on contaminated clothing and do not store or wash contaminated clothing with other household clothes

1. www.epa.gov/pesticides

For more information see Occupational Health Indicator #11 at:
<http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/OEHFP/EH/Pages/occupational-safety-and-health-in-maryland.aspx>