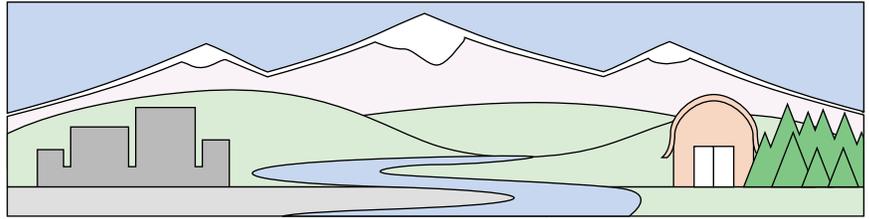


OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEMS & COMMUNITIES



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

Alaska
Idaho
Oregon
Washington

Pesticides Unit

(Marie Jennings, Manager, 206-553-1173)

Our Vision: To protect the public and the environment from the risks posed by pesticides and to promote safe means of pest control.

Because pesticides are found in almost every home, business, and school, as well as in parks and other public areas, we must consider both the risks pesticides pose to human health and the environment and the benefits that they offer society. Pesticide users in Region 10 include 56,000 private and commercial applicators, 90,000 farms, 420 pesticide producers, and homeowners.

Our work includes enforcing pesticide regulations, promoting ways to restore and protect the environment for naturally functioning ecosystems and healthy human communities and seeking to educate consumers by keeping them informed about the risks of pesticides. We work closely with states and tribes to: (1) manage grants; (2) provide training, technical assistance, and label interpretation; (3) assign certain categories of inspections; (4) review cases referred by the states; (5) take enforcement actions when violations are revealed; and (6) work with state agencies, universities, USDA and others to promote environmentally sensible pest management.

Key Statutes, Policies and Programs

- Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)
- Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA)
- Worker Protection Standards, and
- Urban Pesticide Initiative

Our Goals

- Reduce the agricultural use of potential carcinogenic or neurotoxic pesticides and promote environmentally sensible pest management
- Provide funding to reduce public and ecosystem exposure to pesticides
- Use all necessary enforcement tools to ensure that the regulated community complies with pesticide laws
- Promote pest management techniques that reduce adverse effects to human health and the environment in both urban and agricultural settings

What We're Doing to Achieve our Goals

- Working with commodity groups, farm groups, and government agencies to ensure that EPA decisions on availability of pesticides address both public and agricultural concerns.
- Working with states and tribes to establish groundwater management plans by 2004 that address persistent and toxic pesticides.
- Assessing states' enforcement programs to ensure that farm workers are sufficiently protected from pesticide exposure as they work in the fields.
- Assessing the effectiveness of the pesticides enforcement program.