

## Teaching Consumers to Use Pesticides Safely A Mission of Land-Grant University Pesticide Safety Education Programs

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Important audiences that are educated by Pesticide Safety Education Programs (PSEPs) at Land Grant Universities are individuals who apply or supervise the use of pesticides as part of their farm, commercial business, or employment. **However, many PSEPs also have a critical role in educating the general public on the safe use of conventional, organic, antimicrobial and other pesticides in and around homes, on landscapes, gardens, and pets, and near public, business and private places.**

Consumers applying pesticides are faced with a wide range of topics related to the safe use of pesticides – for example, personal and family health, protection of pets and other non-target species, understanding the label and other pesticide laws, equipment calibration, storage, handling, waste disposal, and prevention of off-site movement. PSEPs teach these and other core principles of safe use so consumers can benefit from the pesticide products they choose to use while simultaneously protecting human health, non-target organisms, and the environment.

- PSEPs **have a significant role in train-the-trainer programs utilizing *Master Gardeners and County Agents who pass along their training to local constituents.***
- PSEPs **provide support to others who have opportunities to promote safe pesticide use by the general public: *Garden Center Retailers, Health Professionals, Consumer Educators specializing in IPM in or around schools or homes, etc.***
- PSEPs **educate consumers at public events** such as *County Fairs, Farm Safety Days, Plant Health Clinics, Farmers Markets, Retailer Workshops, Earth Days, and Library Reading Programs.*
- PSEPs **support pesticide safety education for school *Administrators, Teachers, Staff, Parents, and Students.***
- PSEPs **provide input into policy decisions and answer questions** from *Trade, Consumer and Property Associations; Not-for-Profits; Local, State and Federal Governments; and Advisory Committees for Parks, Day Care Centers, etc.*
- PSEPs **create or collaborate on pesticide safety education** using *Workshops, Mobile Clinics, Presentations, Training Manuals, Factsheets, Field Days, Videos, Lessons, Websites, Twitter, YouTube, Facebook, Ask-the-Expert, Blogs, and Radio.*
- PSEPs **provide free, on-demand website access to pesticide safety education resources** (***Ctrl Click*** to access some examples at the end of this document).

The first priority of PSEP consumer education is to teach safe and effective use of pesticides – the chemical component of IPM – in and around homes, on landscapes, gardens, and pets, and near public places. Safe use is taught within the framework of IPM – prevention, sanitation, accurate pest identification, monitoring, pest thresholds and a careful assessment of all appropriate control methods (biological, chemical, cultural, etc.) When the selected control methods involve pesticides – conventional, organic, antimicrobial, etc. – a strong understanding of safe use and handling practices is paramount, and PSEPs deliver this information in diverse ways, to homeowners, retailers, Master Gardeners, food safety advisors, medical professionals, public schools, communities and more.

### **Some Examples of Pesticide Safety Education Resources Developed by PSEPs**

- [Bedbugs around the Home](#)
- [Bug Bombs: Overkill can be Dangerous](#)
- [Calculating the Correct Amount](#)
- [Calibrate a Hand Sprayer](#)
- [Calibrate a Drop or Rotary Spreader](#)
- [Carpenter Ant Management](#)
- [Children and Pesticides](#)
- [Choosing a Pest Control Company](#)
- [Compressed Air Sprayer Calibration](#)
- [Counterfeit Pesticides for Your Pet](#)
- [Disposal of Hazardous Waste Pesticides in Colorado](#)
- [Disposal of Household Pesticide Products](#)
- [Drop Spreader Calibration](#)
- [Enhancing the Effectiveness of a Professional Pest Management Program](#)
- [Family Pesticide Safety - Understand Label Precautions](#)
- [Family Pesticide Safety - Wear Coveralls and Aprons](#)
- [Family Pesticide Safety - Wear the Right Gloves](#)
- [Family Pesticide Safety - What to do when Clothes are Soiled with Pesticides](#)
- [Family Pesticide Safety - Use Eye and Lung Protection](#)
- [First Aid](#)
- [First Aid for Pesticide Emergencies](#)
- [Flea and Tick Products and Your Pet](#)
- [Granular Spreader Calibration For Lawn Care](#)
- [Groundwater Quality and the Use of Lawn and Garden Chemicals by Homeowners](#)
- [Handling Pesticides Safely](#)
- [Handling Spills](#)
- [Handling Total Release Foggers](#)
- [Hand Sprayer Calibration](#)
- [Herbicide Drift](#)
- [Home Pest Management and Children](#)
- [Homeowner's Guide to Pesticide Safety](#)
- [Homeowner's Guide to Pesticide Use Around the Home and Garden](#)
- [Hose-end Sprayer Calibration](#)

- [Household Pesticides](#)
- [How do I Calibrate a Drop Spreader](#)
- [How to Choose a Lawncare Company](#)
- [How to Handle Spills of Household Pesticide](#)
- [How to Read a Pesticide Label](#)
- [How to Report Pesticide Misuse in Florida](#)
- [How to Select a Pesticide](#)
- [How to Use Homeowner Pesticides Safely](#)
- [Identification of Structure Invading Ants in Nebraska](#)
- [Insect Repellents](#)
- [Introduction to Safe Pesticide Use](#)
- [Lawncare Pesticide Application Equipment](#)
- [Low Toxic Cockroach Control](#)
- [Making Pesticide Applications in School/Community Gardens](#)
- [Minimizing Pesticide Contaminated Soil Around the Home and Garden](#)
- [Mosquitoes - Como Controlar estos Insectos Alrededor de su casa](#)
- [Mosquitoes - How to Manage Them Around Your Home](#)
- [Mr. Yuk's Page](#)
- [Offering Sound Pest Management Advice to the Public \(train-the-trainer\)](#)
- [Organic Pesticides and Biopesticides](#)
- [Pesticidas Organicos y Biopesticidas](#)
- [Pesticide and Container Disposal](#)
- [Pesticide and Container Disposal for Homeowners](#)
- [Pesticide Application Tips](#)
- [Pesticide Drift](#)
- [Pesticide Emergency and Non-Emergency Information and Resources](#)
- [Pesticide Emergency Response](#)
- [Pesticide Safety](#)
- [Pesticide Safety: A Guide for Gardeners and Homeowners](#)
- [Pesticide Safety and Calibration Math for the Homeowner](#)
- [Pesticide Safety in Landscapes](#)
- [Pesticides and Homeowners: About Pesticides, the Law, Health and Environmental Precautions, and Decision-Making](#)
- [Pesticides and Pest Prevention Strategies for the Home, Lawn, and Garden](#)
- [Pesticides and the Home, Lawn, and Garden](#)
- [Pesticides: Learning about Labels](#)
- [Pesticides: What are they?](#)
- [Pets and Lawn Chemicals](#)
- [Practices for Safe Use](#)
- [Prevent Child Poisonings](#)
- [Professional Application Services: What You Should Know](#)
- [Proper Pesticide Application](#)
- [Protecting Bees from Pesticides](#)
- [Protecting Bees in Iowa](#)
- [Protecting Your Pet from Pesticides](#)

- [Reading the Label](#)
- [Reading the Pesticide Label](#)
- [Rotary Spreader Calibration](#)
- [Safe and Effective Use of Pest Controls for Home Grounds and Animals](#)
- [Safe Use of Pesticides Around Homes](#)
- [Safe Use of Pesticides Around the Home](#)
- [Section 25\(b\) Pesticides: Minimum Risk?](#)
- [Selecting a Pesticide](#)
- [Selecting a Professional Pest Control Service](#)
- [Siphoning Bucket Sprayer Calibration](#)
- [Start an IPM Plan for Your Home](#)
- [Store Pesticides Safely](#)
- [Storing and Disposing of Pesticides](#)
- [Stormwater Management: Pesticide Use in the Lawn and Garden](#)
- [Symptoms of Pesticide Poisoning](#)
- [The Consumer Labeling Initiative](#)
- [Transporting Pesticides](#)
- [Trombone Bucket Sprayer Calibration](#)
- [Understanding Pesticide Labels](#)
- [Understanding Pesticides](#)
- [Understanding Pest Management](#)
- [Using Caution When Mixing Pesticides](#)
- [Using Insect Repellents Safely](#)
- [Using Insect Repellents Safely](#)
- [Using Pesticides on Your Pet](#)
- [Using Pesticides Safely and Correctly](#)
- [Using Your Handheld Lawn and Garden Sprayer](#)
- [Water Quality Protection Measures for Homeowners \(train-the-trainer\)](#)
- [What is a Pesticide?](#)
- [What to Wear When Handling Pesticides](#)
- [What you need to know about...Choosing a Qualified Pest Management or Lawn Care Company](#)
- [What you need to know about...Choosing a Qualified Pest Management or Lawn Care Company \(Spanish version\)](#)
- [What you need to know about...Disposing of a Pesticide](#)
- [What you need to know about...Disposing of a Pesticide \(Spanish version\)](#)
- [What you need to know about...Protecting Yourself When Using Pesticides](#)
- [What you need to know about...Protecting Yourself When Using Pesticides \(Spanish version\)](#)
- [What you need to know about...Reading a Pesticide Label](#)
- [What you need to know about...Reading a Pesticide Label \(Spanish version\)](#)
- [What you need to know about...Storing a Pesticide](#)
- [What you need to know about...Storing a Pesticide \(Spanish version\)](#)
- [What's on a Pesticide Label?](#)
- [When Cleaning Products Are Pesticides](#)