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 pest.

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.dllr.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:
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:

Contact the Environmental Health Bureau with questions about reporting pesticide illness:
1-866-703-3266
dhmh.envhealth@maryland.gov

How are pesticide exposures prevented?
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
- Third
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Dizziness
- Shortness of breath
- Confusion

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 or contaminated clothing and do not store or wash contaminated clothing with other household clothes

For more information see Occupational Health Indicator #11 at:

1. www.epa.gov/pesticides

Maryland Occupational Safety and Health Act
For workers
For immediate assistance
For healthcare providers