The goal of this regulation is to provide additional protection to schoolchildren by providing minimum statewide standards for agricultural pesticide applications near schoolsites* and licensed child day care facilities. The regulation will also increase communication between growers and schoolsites/licensed child day care facilities and provide information to those entities about the agricultural pesticides used in the fields around them.

The proposed regulation, which will take effect, January 1, 2018 will:

1/ Ban growers from making certain pesticide applications near schoolsites/licensed child day care facilities Monday through Friday between 6am and 6pm within a ¼ mile of a school site/licensed child day care. This means that during this time frame and for the allotted distance:

- **No pesticides can be applied by aircraft.** This includes planes, helicopters, and all aerial means of application.
- **No pesticides by sprinkler (chemigation) or by airblast sprayer.**
- **Most dust and/or powder pesticide applications will be prohibited.**
- **No fumigants (gaseous pesticides) applications will be allowed.**
• Growers with fields within ¼ mile of a schoolsite/licensed child day care must provide an annual notification (which lists all the pesticides expected to be used during the upcoming July through June period. This must be provided to the principal or licensed child day care facility administrator by April 30 each year. This notice must include among other things:

  • Names of pesticide products (and the main active ingredient) expected to be used
  • A map showing the location of the field to be treated
  • Contact information for the grower/operator and the county agricultural commissioner (CAC)
  • Web address for the National Pesticide Information Center, which provides sources of information or additional facts on pesticides.

California has varying microclimates and schools have various extracurricular school activities. Therefore, the regulation will allow the individual schoolsite/licensed child day care facility, the grower and the CAC to develop an alternative written agreement, to which all three parties must consent, that provides equal or more protection as the regulation. This agreement will be enforced by the CAC.

*“Schoolsite” means any property used as a child day care facility, as defined in Health and Safety Code section 1596.750, or for a kindergarten, elementary, or secondary school. This includes all areas of the property used on weekdays by children who attend such facilities or schools, or other similar areas identified by the commissioner, such as a park adjacent to a school that is used by the school for recess, sports, or other school activities. It does not include family day care homes as defined in Health and Safety Code section 1596.78; any private kindergarten, elementary, or secondary school facilities; or vehicles or bus stops not on schoolsite property.