



Brian R. Leahy
Director

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

Sanitizer Poster FAQ

What is the reason for the poster and why am I getting one?

The poster was created by California's Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to bring awareness on safe use of sanitizers. Data from DPR's Worker Health & Safety Branch (WHS) Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program (PISP) showed that 91% of the products involved in pesticide-related injury/illness at food facilities were sanitizers.* PISP has been collecting pesticide-related illnesses since 1971. <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/pisp.htm>



Why is a sanitizer a pesticide?

A pesticide is any substance intended to control, destroy, repel or attract a pest. A sanitizer is a type of pesticide used to kill germs. Products used to kill insects, mold, and rodents are also pesticides.

Is it mandatory for me to put up the poster?

No, this is voluntary. The goal of this outreach project is to reduce sanitizer and pesticide-related illnesses and injuries in the workplace.

Am I responsible for providing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (e.g., gloves, safety glasses)?

Yes, California employers are required to provide a safe workplace, which includes providing the required personal protective equipment as specified on the product label.

What do I do if I do not have the PPE or I do not understand the hazards of the sanitizer?

Always read the product label before use. The product label contains information on specific PPE requirements, and how to use the sanitizer effectively, safely and legally. Employers must provide and keep in good condition any label required protective equipment.

Am I required to provide my employees training on the safe use of sanitizers?

Yes, Cal/OSHA requires safe and healthful working conditions including protection against chemicals for all California workers. Information on employee training requirements can be found at https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/dosh_publications/RsgHazcomModel.pdf.

What authority does DPR have in my facility?

DPR is charged with regulating the sale and use of pesticides in California. Their authority to enforce state and federal laws pertaining to pesticides is passed down to the local County Agricultural Commissioners (CAC). The CAC investigate reports of pesticide illness to determine the circumstances leading to exposure and if violations of pesticide laws have occurred and take enforcement action when warranted.

Where can I get more posters?

You can download or request more copies of the posters from DPR's website <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/sanitizersafety>.

The website also has additional information on sanitizer safety.



* Based on 673 associated pesticide-related illnesses that occurred at food facilities. 2005-2014 Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program data.

