

# Updates to the Federal Worker Protection Standard



**PERC** Pesticide Educational  
Resources Collaborative

# Goals of the Revised WPS

- ▶ Improve occupational protections
- ▶ Reduce acute occupational pesticide exposures and incidents
- ▶ Reorganize and streamline the rule
- ▶ Address concerns related to 1992 WPS

# The Principles of the Worker Protection Standard



## Inform

- about pesticide safety



## Protect

- from potential pesticide exposure



## Mitigate

- pesticide exposures when they do occur



# Rules Meant to Inform

Pesticide safety  
training

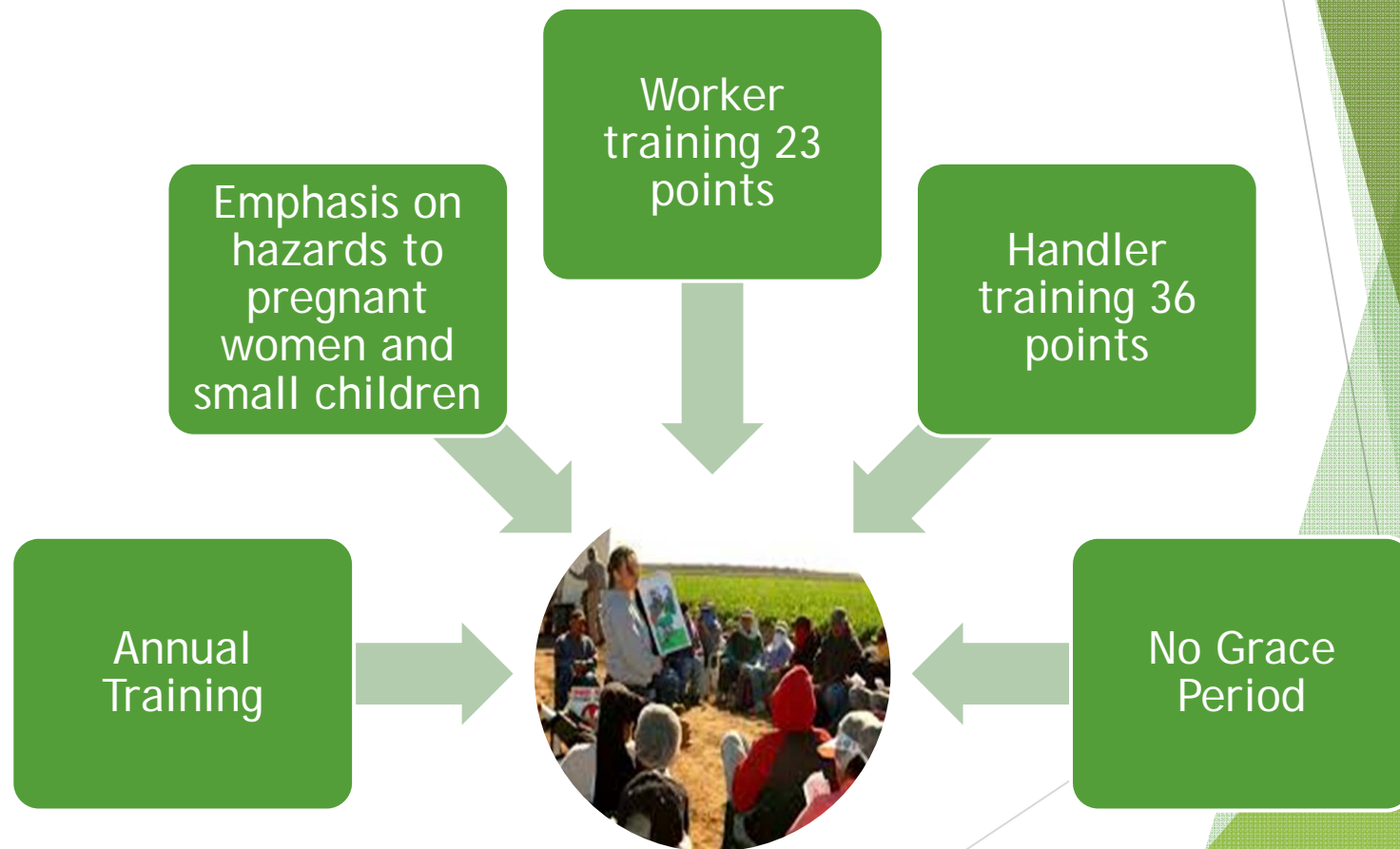
Trainer  
requirements/  
Training material  
requirements

Posted pesticide  
safety  
information

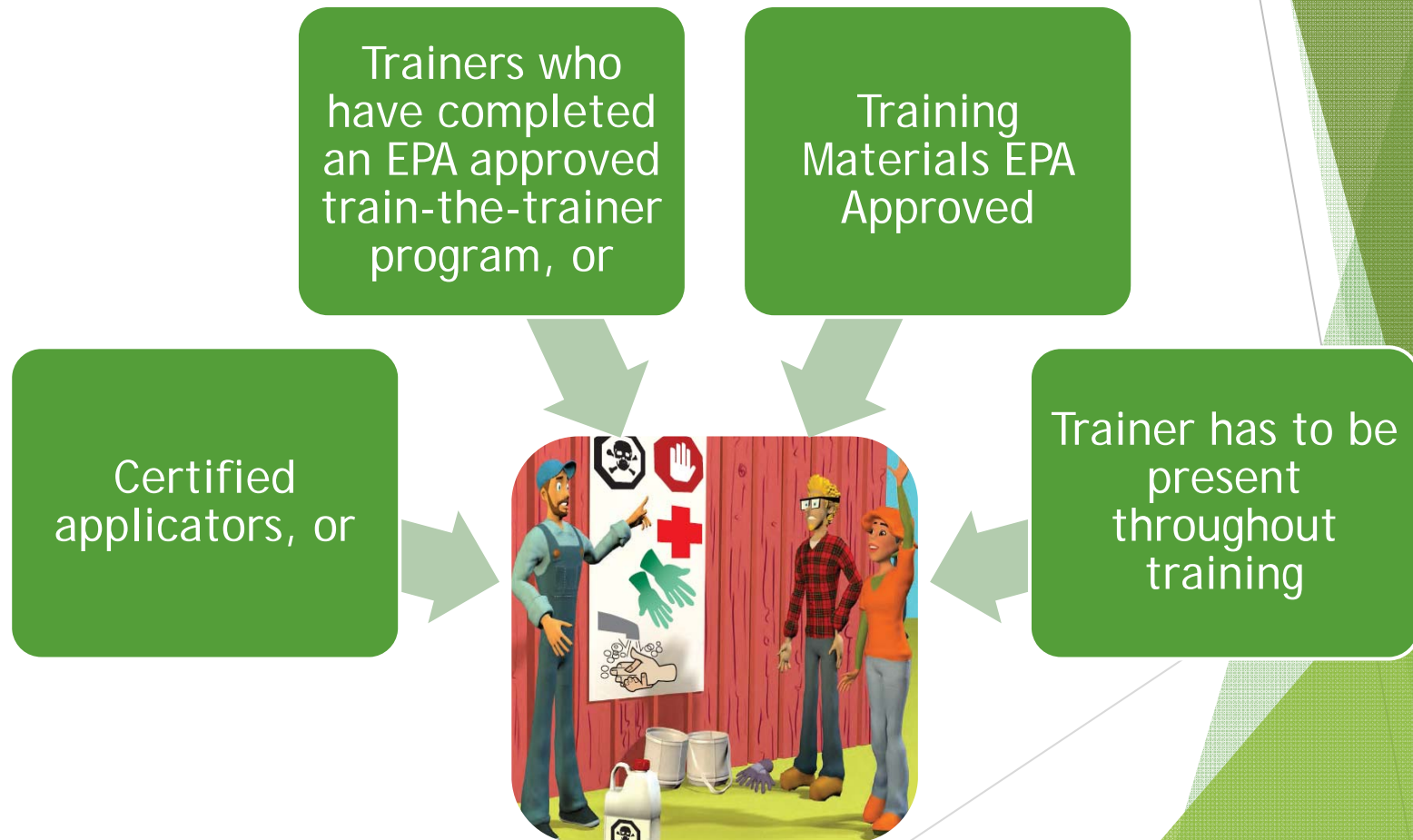
Pesticide  
application  
recordkeeping

Pesticide  
application  
notification  
requirements

# Rules Meant to Inform Updates to Pesticide Safety Training



# Rules Meant to Inform Updates for Trainers / Training of Handlers or Workers





# Rules Meant to Inform Updates to Posted Safety Information

- ▶ SDS for all pesticides applied must be kept in a location accessible to workers and handlers



# Rules Meant to Inform Updates to Pesticide Recordkeeping

- ▶ Workers/Handlers must be able to obtain information about pesticide applications and SDS sheets that occurred when they are/were employed
- ▶ Worker/Handler may also designate a person in writing to have access to this information
- ▶ Facilities must now keep pesticide application records, SDS, training records for two years



# Rules Meant to Inform Updates for Pesticide Application Posting



Outdoor  
Applications

REI Greater  
than 48 hours

Enclosed  
Space  
Application

REI Greater  
than 4 hours

# Rules Meant to Protect

Minimum  
Age

Application  
Exclusion  
Zone (AEZ)

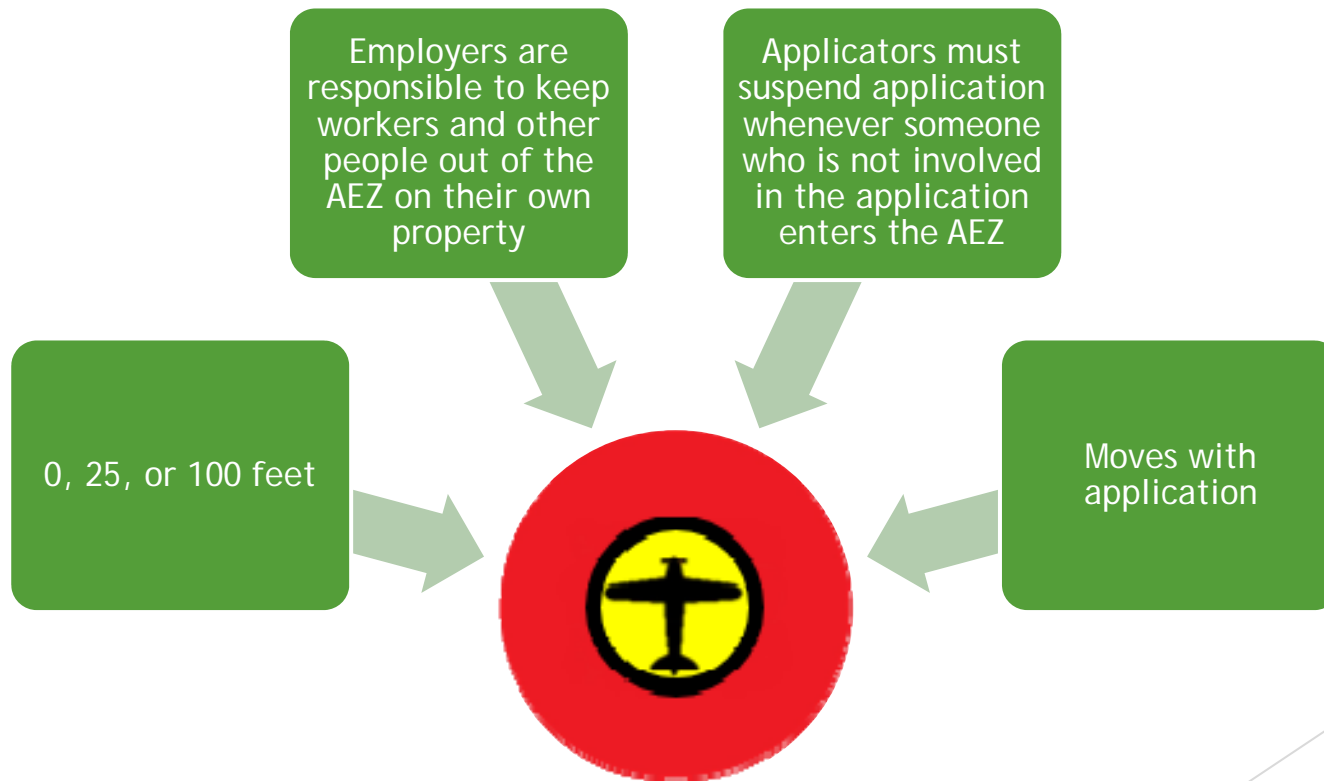
Respiratory  
protection

# Updates to Rules Meant to Protect Minimum Age





# Updates to Rules Meant to Protect Application Exclusion Zone



# AEZs in Outdoor Production (170.405(a)(1))

- ▶ 100 foot AEZ
  - ▶ Applied aurally, by air blast or with a spray quality smaller than medium (volume median diameter < 294 microns)
  - ▶ Applied as a fumigant, smoke, mist or fog
- ▶ 25 foot AEZ
  - ▶ Applied other than above & sprayed from a height of >12 inches from planting medium with spray quality of medium or larger
- ▶ No AEZ
  - ▶ Applied otherwise



# Droplet Size and Relation to AEZ

Pesticidestewardship.org

**Color Codes for Droplet Size**

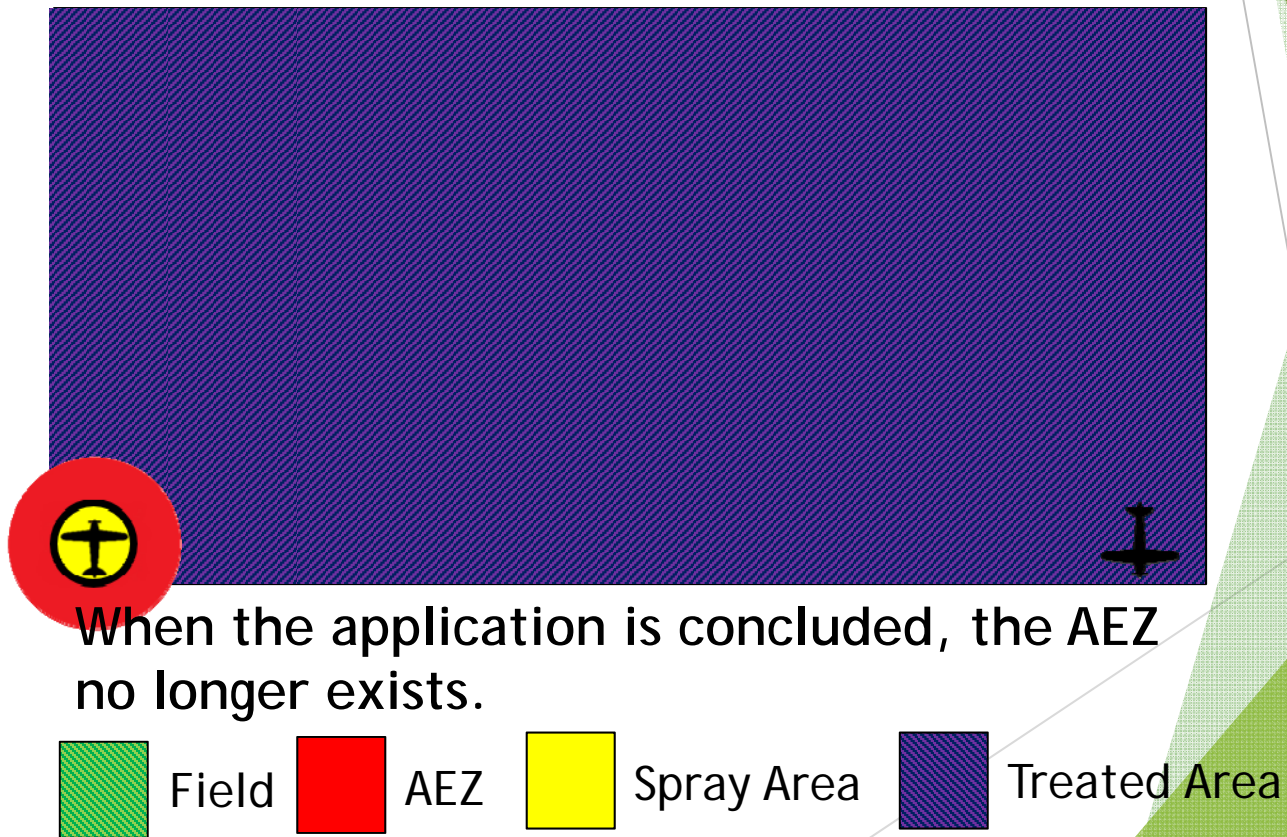
Category	Symbol	Color Code	Approximate VMD Range
Very Fine	VF	Red	< 150
Fine	F	Orange	150 – 250
Medium	M	Yellow	250 – 350
Coarse	C	Blue	350 – 450
Very Coarse	VC	Green	450 – 550
Extremely Coarse	XC	White	> 550

100  
foot  
AEZ

25 foot  
AEZ



# Updates to Rules Meant to Protect Application Exclusion Zones in Outdoor Production



# Updates to Rules Meant to Protect Application Exclusion Zones On Field Borders

Neighboring Field

Your Field

**WARNING Application.**

Is this field on the AEZ? If so, you must stay away from the field until you have been notified by the AEZ. The application?



# Updates to Rules Meant to Protect Application Exclusion Zones Field Borders

WIND

Neighboring Field

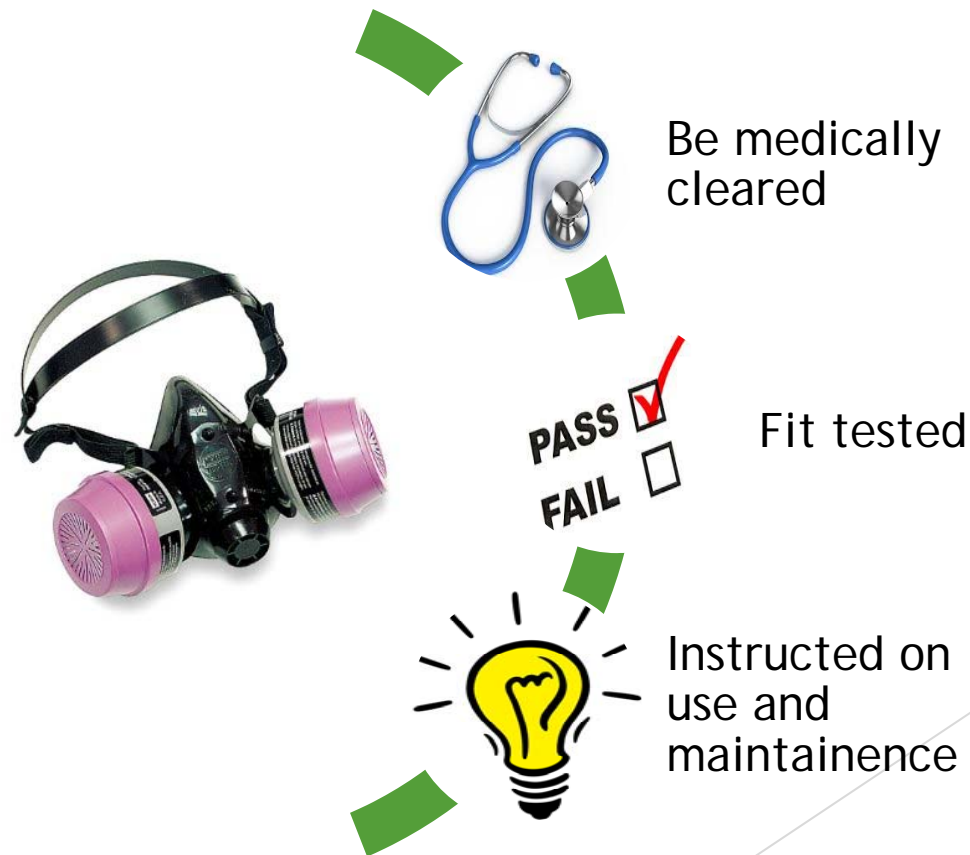
Your Field

**WIND Application.**  
Yes, the wind is blowing away from the workers  
Is anyone sure these workers  
and I can ensure that my application will not  
be dispersed through drift  
contact the workers in the other field.  
they refuse to move!





# Updates to Rules Meant to Protect Respiratory Protection



# Rules Meant to Mitigate

Decontamination  
supplies

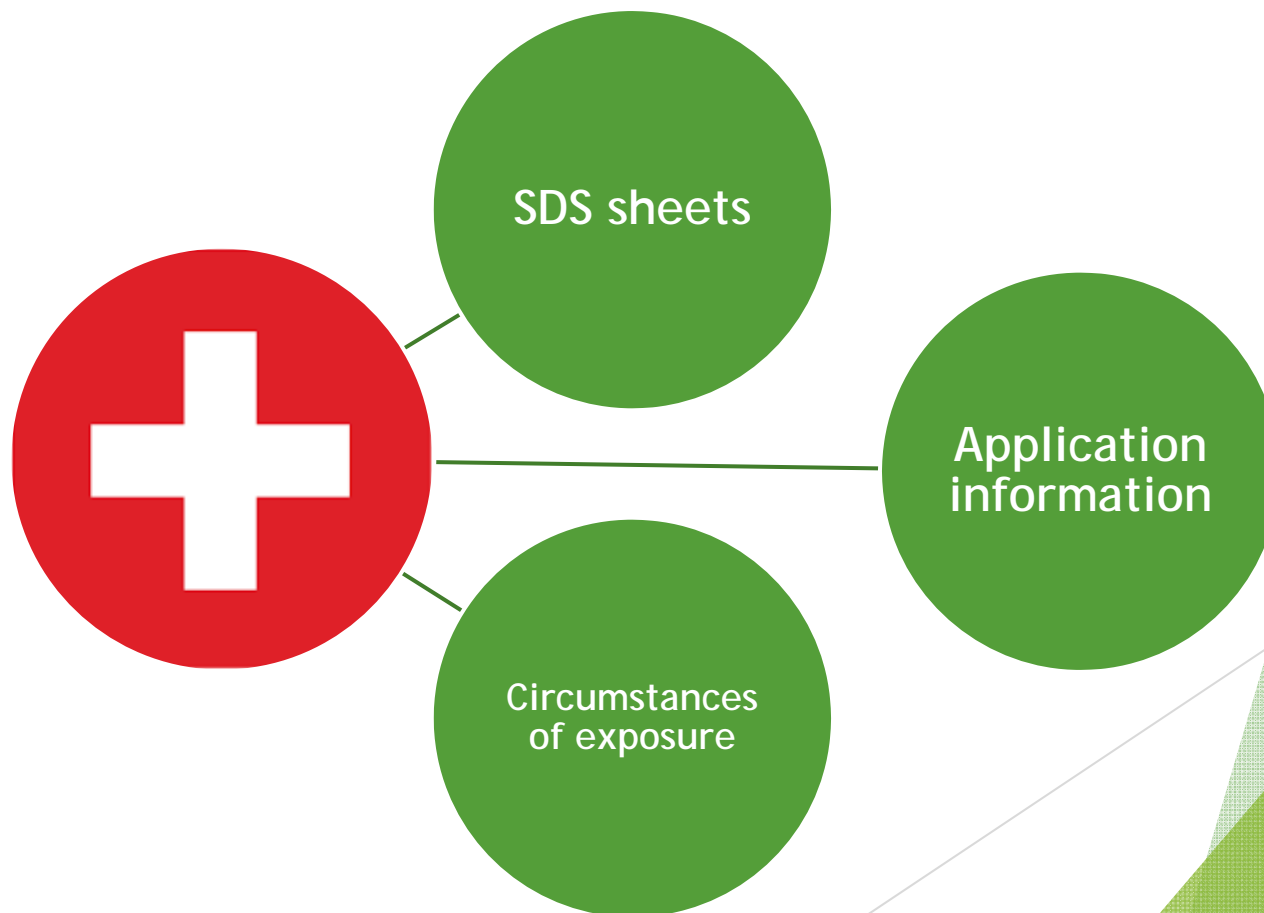
Information for  
medical  
personnel

# Updates to Rules Meant to Mitigate Decontamination Supplies

- ▶ Specific requirements for Water for Decontamination:
  - ▶ 1 gallons per worker
  - ▶ 3 gallons per handler or early-entry worker;
  - ▶ Measured at the beginning of the work period
- ▶ If handler is mixing/loading a product that requires eye protection, eyeflush water must be immediately available at the mix/load site for handler eye flushing
- ▶ If applicator is using a product that requires eye protection, one pint of water must be immediately available to each applicator



# Updates to Rules Meant to Mitigate Information to Medical Personnel



# Implementation Timeline

9/28/2015  
Revised WPS  
final rule  
signed

11/2/2015  
Revised WPS final  
rule published in  
the Federal  
Register.

1/2/2017  
Compliance  
Required with  
Most Revised  
WPS  
Requirements  
Except:

- New content in Worker and Handler Training
- New content in Pesticide Safety Information Display
- Responsibility for Handlers related to the Application Exclusion Zone

1/1/2018  
Compliance  
Required with  
All WPS  
Requirements

# Questions?

Annie Macmillan WPS Coordinator

828-3479

[Anne.macmillan@Vermont.gov](mailto:Anne.macmillan@Vermont.gov)

## Field Staff:

Beth Creaser NE 793-1628

Dominique Golliot SW 793-2167

Doug Johnstone SE 793-2547

Matt Wood NW 318-1383