YOUTH SERVICES
POLICY

Title: EPA Worker Protection Standard **Next Annual Review Date:** 03/08/2017	**Type:** C. Field Operations **Sub Type:** 1. General **Number:** C.1.9
	Page 1 **of** 3
References: EPA Worker Protection Standard for Agricultural Pesticides (EPA 735-B-05-002, Revised 2005) and EPA Worker Protection Part 170 - Pesticides: Health and Safety	
STATUS: Approved	
Approved By: *Mary L. Livers, Deputy Secretary*	**Date of Approval:** 03/08/2016

I. AUTHORITY:

Deputy Secretary of Youth Services (YS) as contained in La. R.S. 36:405. Deviation from this policy must be approved by the Deputy Secretary.

II. PURPOSE:

To establish and maintain policies and procedures to ensure ongoing compliance with “EPA Worker Protection Standards for Agricultural Pesticides”, and to provide the required training for both pesticide handlers and workers who may be exposed to treated areas.

III. APPLICABILITY:

Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Undersecretary, Regional Directors and Facility Directors.

Facility Directors are responsible for implementing this policy and advising all employees whose duties require them to work in and/or around any agricultural operation that utilizes pesticides, and all youth performing work in areas which have been (or will be) treated with agricultural pesticides of its contents.

IV. POLICY:

It is the Deputy Secretary's policy that all agricultural operations comply with the certification and training requirements contained in the “EPA Worker Protection Standard for Agricultural Pesticides”.

V. DEFINITIONS:

Handler - An individual who, in connection with an agricultural operation, is performing any of the following tasks: mixing, loading or applying pesticides; handling opened containers of pesticides; cleaning, adjusting or repairing equipment used to apply pesticides, or entering a treated area prior to expiration of the restricted-entry time interval for the pesticide.

Trainer - An individual who meets the qualifications set forth in the WPS Manual for either worker training or handler training or who has completed a pesticide safety train-the-trainer program.

Worker - An individual (employee, contractor, or youth) performing tasks such as harvesting, weeding or any other duties relating to the production of plants at any agricultural operation.

WPS Manual - The publication of the United States Government entitled "The Worker Protection Standard for Agricultural Pesticides - How to Comply" (EPA 735-B-93-001), revised September 2005.

Youth - Refers to anyone committed to the custody or supervision of YS.

VI. PROCEDURES:

A. All staff whose job includes mixing, dispensing or using pesticides is responsible for familiarizing themselves with the provisions of the WPS Manual.

B. The Facility Director shall ensure the following:

1. That a copy of the WPS Manual is maintained in designated area of the facility and is accessible to all employees;
2. That subordinate supervisors and/or pesticide handlers are trained and certified in accordance with the requirements of the WPS Manual; and
3. That all handlers/trainers under his supervision maintain valid EPA-approved WPS handler training cards.

C. Any time an area is scheduled for pesticide application, the Facility Director/designee shall supply pertinent information to the staff supervisor, as required by the WPS Manual, regarding the location of the treatment area, name of the product, time and date of application, and the restricted-entry time interval.

D. The Facility Director/designee is responsible for conducting the worker training for youth who have occasion to perform jobs in areas where pesticides have been or will be applied. Facility staff shall ensure that youth training is documented and updated as necessary.

E. The ranking staff supervisor shall ensure that staff responsible for the training of youth workers maintains a valid EPA approved WPS worker or handler training card.

F. Staff is responsible for posting a "WPS Safety Notice" or other notice that complies with the requirements of the WPS Manual on a bulletin board accessible to youth prior to the application of pesticide. Additionally, workers shall be verbally notified of the pesticide application.

Previous Regulation/Policy Number: C.1.9
Previous Effective Date: 03/11/2013
Attachments/References:
Reference: Worker Protection Standard Manual