

WHAT EMPLOYERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE AEZ

The Application Exclusion Zone (AEZ) is the area immediately around the pesticide application equipment, which must be free of people during applications. The AEZ provision of the Agricultural Worker Protection Standard (WPS); Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 40, Part 170 became effective on December 3, 2024.

HOW BIG IS THE AEZ RADIUS AROUND THE APPLICATION EQUIPMENT?

100 FEET	25 FEET	NO AEZ
When a pesticide is sprayed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• By air (fixed wing or helicopter)• By air blast or air-propelled application method• As a fumigant, smoke, mist, or fog• With fine, very fine, or extra fine droplet size, as defined by ASABE (S572)	When a pesticide is sprayed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• From over 12 inches above the ground with medium or larger droplet sizes (as defined by ASABE S572), and• Not in a manner that would require a 100-foot AEZ	All other application types have no AEZ

DO NOT CONTACT

Pesticide handlers may not apply pesticides in a manner that contacts people whether they are on or off the agricultural establishment. Pesticide handlers must exercise caution in all situations to prevent people from being sprayed.

SUSPEND

Pesticide handlers must suspend pesticide applications if anyone is in the AEZ, even if the AEZ extends beyond the agricultural establishment.

RESUME

Pesticide applications that were suspended because people were in the AEZ may be resumed once there is no one in the AEZ.



WHAT IS THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY EXEMPTION?

Owners of the agricultural establishment and their immediate family can choose to remain in their homes, closed buildings, shelters, or other structures in an AEZ if **all** of the following are met:

- The owner has expressly instructed the pesticide handlers that only the owner's immediate family are inside the building or structure,
- The owner has expressly instructed the pesticide handler the application should proceed despite their presence in the AEZ, and
- Pesticide handlers have received this information from the owner of the establishment prior to application.

Immediate family is limited to the spouse, parents, stepparents, foster parents, father-in-law, mother-in-law, children, stepchildren, foster children, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandparents, grandchildren, brothers, sisters, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and first cousins. "First cousin" means the child of a parent's sibling, i.e., the child of an aunt or uncle.