Toolbox Talks for Club Employees: Pesticide and Fertilizer Spraying

Pesticide and fertilizer spraying are common occurrences within the club environment from use on the golf course, inside the clubhouse or around the landscaping at a city, athletic or yacht club facility. The following are guidelines all employees should follow when involved in pesticide and fertilizer spraying:

1. Do not handle or spray pesticides if you have open cuts or scratches on exposed skin surfaces on your arms or hands.

2. Visually inspect the area to be sprayed for trip hazards, low branches, and clothes lines before beginning the job. Avoid these hazards as you spray.

3. Keep containers labeled “Pesticides” tightly closed when you have finished using them.

4. Do not transfer pesticides or fertilizers into an unmarked or unlabeled container.

5. Do not transport a pesticide container in the cab of a service vehicle.

6. Always spray downwind; do not stand downwind when others are spraying.

7. Do not smoke or carry smoking materials while handling or spraying from containers labeled “Pesticide” or “Fertilizer.”

8. Wash pesticide contaminated clothes separately from other clothing.

9. Always carry fresh water and soap in the service vehicle when you are going to a pesticide or fertilizer spraying job.

10. Remove work clothes immediately whenever clothing becomes soaked or wet with liquids from containers labeled "Pesticide."

11. Walk through areas to be sprayed before spraying, and remove or flag low branches and clothes lines before spraying. Stand clear of these trip hazards as you spray.

12. Do not use empty or washed containers labeled “Pesticide” as eating or drinking containers.

13. At the end of the workday, spray operators must remove their work clothes and take a shower in the employee locker room before going home.

14. Refill the containers labeled “Handwash,” “Soap Cleanser” and “Drinking Water” that are on the service vehicles before going to a pesticide or fertilizer spraying job.

15. Do not drink from the “Handwash” container; do not wash hands from the “Drinking Water” container.

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