



The Spray Safe industry initiative is a program developed by farmers to encourage increased communication and prevent incidents of pesticide drift, particularly those which impact farm workers and field crews. At the heart of the program is a commitment to: make all farmers aware of the need to take every safety precaution when applying pesticides; to communicate often with neighboring farms, workers and applicators; and to be vigilant in watching for potential problems in the field.

Spray Safe program components include the following:

- An annual meeting with growers, pest control advisors, applicators and county Ag Commissioners to review the rules and regulations governing pesticide use and to share experiences and discuss concerns.
- Regular education on improving existing practices or policies that will further enhance public safety.
- Broad dissemination of a checklist to remind farmers and applicators about precautions that must be taken when applying pesticides.
- A concerted effort to get to know neighboring farmers and to share phone numbers or contact information for owners, foremen and labor contractors who work and farm nearby.
- Distribution of Spray Safe signage and informational materials to help spread the word throughout Kern County agriculture about the need for vigilance and safety.

Spray Safe was developed by a group of farmers and farm interests in Kern County, California and launched in April of 2006. It has received praise from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, elected officials, numerous agriculture associations and activist groups. Spray Safe can be adopted in any county by any group of interested farmers. Please contact the Alliance for Food and Farming for more information by calling (831) 786-1666 or visiting their website at www.foodandfarming.info.

