

PESTICIDE REGULATION IN MARYLAND

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In Maryland the nursery is located in the middle of a highly urbanized area just outside of Baltimore. People in this area of the state are very vocal concerning the use of pesticides. A housing development backs up to the nursery fence along one of our boundaries. The state regulation says that when spraying near an adjacent property, the adjacent owner shall be notified 48 hours before spraying. We do not spray at all near this boundary of the nursery. Fortunately, there is a wooded strip between this boundary and the main production part of the nursery. We are to post signs for 48 hours on areas sprayed.

The "Right to Know" legislation has also made a major impact on our nursery. We have always been concerned for the safety of our employees. The employee training under the "Right to Know" that just went into effect has the potential of opening a whole new can of worms by raising concerns where there are no major problems at the present. It may have a major impact on the ability to get nursery workers and keep them.