

TC-CAPS Organization (Cristina Gutiérrez)

The Tulare County Coalition Advocating for Pesticide Safety (TC-CAPS) commends you on a year of progress toward a truly transparent pesticide notification system that you have named Spray Days. The biggest missing piece toward that goal of full transparency is the exact location of the upcoming pesticide application. After a year using Spray Days, our members continue to be concerned about and frustrated with the lack of specific location information, which would allow us to take more effective precautions to keep our families safer. Our understanding is that DPR declined to include exact location information because such information has not been standardized on Notice of Intent (NOI) forms. We call on DPR to add exact application location data to Spray Days. If you are not willing to standardize location reporting, which appears to us to be a simple adjustment, then including the information in the current “Location” box on the NOI forms in future Spray Days notices is another path toward better transparency. A second issue of great concern is that most brain-harming organophosphate pesticides are not included in Spray Days, because they are not currently designated as restricted materials. As these pesticides are a threat to our children’s potential even before they are born, we call on DPR to add all organophosphates to the Spray Days system. Cristina Gutiérrez TC CAPS Organizer & San Joaquin Valley Environmental Justice Coordinator, Californians for Pesticide Reform
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