

## Sarah Aird

Please find attached a comment letter from 80 organizations, coalitions and representatives who represent hundreds of thousands of Californians, all requesting that DPR make the SprayDays pesticide notification and mapping system more effective by including exact location information.



CA-NURSES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & JUSTICE



CENTER FOR FOOD SAFETY



LYMPHOMA FOUNDATION of AMERICA

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May 1, 2026

California Department of Pesticide Regulation  
1001 I Street  
P.O. Box 4015  
Sacramento, CA 95812-4015

**Subject: Public Comment on SprayDays – Request for Exact Location Information**

Dear Director Morrison and California Department of Pesticide Regulation Staff,

The undersigned 80 organizations are writing to provide public comment on the SprayDays pesticide notification system. We strongly support DPR's efforts to improve transparency and protect public health through advance notification of pesticide applications.

**However, the current system falls short in a critical way: it does not provide exact location information for upcoming applications.**

**We respectfully urge the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to add the precise location of each planned pesticide application to SprayDays notifications.**

To our knowledge, SprayDays is the only hazard notification system that does not identify the exact source of a potential exposure. Other public safety systems—such as wildfire alerts or chemical release notifications—clearly identify where the hazard is occurring so people can take appropriate protective actions. In contrast, SprayDays provides only a one-mile-by-one-mile section, which makes it extremely difficult for residents to assess their actual risk.

DPR's First Annual Status Update identifies exact or more specific location information as a key piece of user feedback. Yet this central concern remains unaddressed in the current version of SprayDays.

This lack of specificity undermines the purpose of the system. Without exact location information, people cannot meaningfully protect themselves. If we know where a pesticide is being applied, we can avoid that area. Without that information, we cannot.

The distinction between “near” and “far” exposure matters. Some pesticides drift significant distances, while others do not. The current system does not allow residents to distinguish between an application occurring directly adjacent to their home and one occurring nearly a mile away. As a result, people are left either under-protected or overwhelmed—receiving frequent alerts without the ability to determine which ones require action.

Providing exact location information would allow individuals and families to take practical, targeted precautions—such as closing windows, bringing in laundry or children's toys, keeping vulnerable individuals indoors, or avoiding areas where active applications are occurring. This is especially important for people with asthma or other respiratory conditions, for pregnant individuals, and for families with young children.

It would also improve public health response. Medical professionals would be better equipped to recognize and treat pesticide exposure if they had clearer information about where highly hazardous pesticides—specifically restricted materials—are being applied.

Importantly, DPR already collects this information. It is available after the fact through Public Records Act requests. There is no clear justification for withholding it in advance, when it would be most useful for protecting public health.

SprayDays focuses on some of the most hazardous pesticides used in California. When residents receive a notification within a one-mile square, they cannot reasonably be expected to leave their

homes every time. But they should have the ability to take precautionary actions when an application is occurring nearby—especially when it directly borders where they live, work, or attend school.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that DPR revise the SprayDays system to include the exact location of upcoming pesticide applications. This simple change would significantly improve the system's effectiveness, reduce unnecessary alarm, and better enable Californians to protect their health.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued work to protect public health and increase transparency.

Sincerely,



Angel Garcia

Co-Director

**Californians for Pesticide Reform**

Alicia Acevedo

Creative Director

**Acevedo Media LLC - My Media Group**

Sara Grantham

Science, Regulatory, and Advocacy Manager

**Beyond Pesticides**

Malaika Bishop

Owner

**Bluebird Farm, Nevada City**

Jane Williams

Executive Director

**California Communities Against Toxics**

Nan Wishner

Board Member

**California Environmental Health Initiative**

Matt Holmes

Co-Coordinator

**California Environmental Justice Coalition**

Vanessa Forsythe MSN

Leadership Council Member

**California Nurses for Environmental Health and Justice**

Anne Katten  
Director, Pesticide and Worker Safety Project  
**California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation**

Kathleen Kilpatrick  
Founding Member  
**Campaign for Organic and Regenerative Agriculture (CORA)**

Sandra Garcia  
Director  
**Campesinas Unidas Del Valle De San Joaquin**

Teresa Gomez  
Ventura County Community Organizer  
**CAPS 805**

Jonathan Evans  
Environmental Health Legal Director and Senior Attorney  
**Center for Biological Diversity**

Thomas R. Fox  
Senior Legislative Counsel  
**Center for Environmental Health**

Dr. Ann Lopez  
Executive Director  
**Center for Farmworker Families**

Kristina Sinclair  
Staff Attorney  
**Center for Food Safety**

Gustavo Aguirre, Sr.  
Assistant Director  
**Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment**

Jenna Roper  
Senior Policy Associate  
**Central California Asthma Collaborative (CCAC)**

Nayamin Martinez, MPH  
Executive Director  
**Central California Environmental Justice Network (CCEJN)**

Lucas Zucker  
Co-Executive Director  
**Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)**

Dan Ress, JD  
Policy Manager  
**Central Valley Air Quality (CVAQ) Coalition**

Sarait Martinez, Ed.D.  
Executive Director  
**Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueño**

Cathryn Couch  
CEO  
**Ceres Community Project**

Carley Clemons  
Senior Policy Associate- Health  
**Children Now**

Andria Ventura  
Legislative and Policy Director  
**Clean Water Action**

Suzanne Hume  
Educational Director & Founder  
[CleanEarth4Kids.org](http://CleanEarth4Kids.org)

Bill Magavern  
Policy Director  
**Coalition for Clean Air**

Felipe Aguirre  
Director  
**Comité Pro Uno**

Kelsey Hinton  
Policy Director  
**Community Water Center**

Marion Silverbear  
Admin and Communications Director  
**Encampment for Citizenship**

Dan Silver  
Executive Director  
**Endangered Habitats League**

Ashley Eagle-Gibbs  
Executive Director  
**Environmental Action Committee of West Marin**

Lauren Partch  
Staff Attorney & Environmental Justice Program Outreach Coordinator  
**Environmental Defense Center**

Josefina Barrantes  
30x30 Coordinator / Del Norte Advocate  
**Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC)**

Susan Little  
California Legislative Director  
**Environmental Working Group**

Lendri Purcell  
President  
**Families Advocating for Chemical & Toxics Safety (FACTS)**

Helen Dodd  
Communications and Fundraising Manager  
**Farm2People**

Felipe Pérez  
**Firebaugh City Council Member**

Rubie Simonsen  
Founder  
**First Mother Farms**

Jennifer Grissom  
Executive Director  
**Food Access LA**

Jim Lindburg  
Legislative Consultant  
**Friends Committee on Legislation of California**

Sirine Rached  
Senior Policy Advisor  
**Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA)**

Michelle Perro, MD  
Cofounder, CEO  
[GMOScience.org](http://GMOScience.org)

Bradley Angel  
Executive Director  
**Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice**

Jennifer Kalt  
Executive Director  
[Humboldt Waterkeeper](#)

Jennifer Tanner  
Leader  
**Indivisible CA Green Team**

Rebecca Elliot  
Admin  
**Indivisible San Jose**

Adriene Couter  
Admin  
**Indivisible Ventura**

Kimberly Baker  
Executive Director  
**Klamath Forest Alliance**

Phoebe Seaton  
Co-Director and Attorney at Law  
**Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability**

Diana Welsh  
LDA-CA Vice President  
**Learning Disabilities Association of California**

Irene De Barraicua  
Director of Policy, Advocacy & Communications  
**Líderes Campesinas**

Belita Cowan  
President  
**Lymphoma Foundation of America**

Leah Segedie  
Founder  
**Mamavation**

Rika Gopinath  
Chair  
**Moms Advocating Sustainability**

Francisco Rodriguez  
Interim Executive Director  
**Monterey Bay Central Labor Council (MBCLC)**

Jenny Zimmer  
Co-Executive Director  
**Mothers Out Front**

Camille Richman  
Volunteer  
**Mothers Out Front Marin**

Linda Hutchins-Knowles  
Co-Founder  
**Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley**

Kim Konte  
Founder/Executive Director  
**Non-Toxic Neighborhoods**

Larry Glass  
Public Lands Director  
**Northcoast Environmental Center**

Margaret Reeves  
Senior Scientist  
**Pesticide Action & Agroecology Network**

Martha Dina Argüello  
Executive Director  
**Physicians for Social Responsibility Los Angeles (PSR-LA)**

Harry Wang, MD  
President  
**Physicians for Social Responsibility/Sacramento**

Gopal Shanker  
President  
**Récolte Energy**

Ruth Richardson  
Co leader  
**Rooted in Resistance**

Herman Barahona  
Executive Director  
**[The Sacramento Environmental Justice Coalition \(SacEJC\)](#)**

Yanely Martinez  
Central Coast Organizer  
**Safe Ag Safe Schools (SASS) - Monterey Bay**

Larry Glass  
Executive Director  
**SAFE Alternatives for Our Forest Environment**

Ben Eichenberg  
Senior Staff Attorney  
**San Francisco Baykeeper**

Kevin D Hamilton, RRT,ACS  
Founding Director  
**San Joaquin Valley Medical Advocates for Healthy Air (SJVMAHA)**

Omar Dieguez  
Elevate Youth Coordinator  
**Santa Cruz Barrios Unidos**

Lindsey Pratt  
Farm Institute Director  
**Sierra Harvest**

Emerald  
Network member  
**Sonoma County Climate Activist Network (SoCoCAN!)**

Neela Roy  
Founder  
**Sonoma County Youth Environmental Action Committee**

Shoshana Wechsler  
Coordinator  
**Sunflower Alliance**

Cristina Gutierrez  
San Joaquin Valley Regional Environmental Justice Coordinator  
**Tulare County Coalition Advocating for Pesticide Safety (TC - CAPS)**

Bianca Lopez  
Co-Founder/Co-Director  
**Valley Improvement Projects**

Janice Schroeder  
Core Member  
**West Berkeley Alliance for Clean Air and Safe Jobs**

Floresita Alcaraz  
Program Director (CWOP)  
**Westside Family Preservation Services Network**