



Safety Tips

A five-minute training Series for Pest Management Professionals.



Chemical Hazard Right-To-Know



The Occupational Safety & Health Administration created a requirement that all employees be notified when they have the potential of becoming exposed to a chemical hazard while working on the job. These include any health, fire, reactive or other special hazards. The Department of Transportation also requires the presence of MSDS when transporting hazardous materials. It is imperative that you know your hazardous products, have the MSDS for those products, make sure you have the appropriate personal protective equipment and know what the emergency first aid treatment is in the event of overexposure.

Because of this requirement, we must notify each of our customers and present them with an MSDS (material safety data sheet) when applying a product that presents one of these exposures.

It is important that you are aware of each chemical (pesticide or otherwise) you use and are exposed to at the office, in your vehicle or at your place of work. Your place of work is often someone else's work site. Each site you work at is also required to present you with any MSDS for chemical hazards at that location which you may become exposed to while providing services. If they are not readily available, ask to see them. Often you may see one of the signs below or another type of chemical hazard notification. If you see one, know what the exposure is, the personal protective equipment needed, what the emergency treatment is for overexposure and where to find it.

Be careful of cross contamination when applying a treatment. Mixing of chemicals can be dangerous. An example would be applying a water base pesticide in an area where there is a potential for acid spills or open acid containers.

