

# PRESS RELEASE



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Headline:** *Organophosphate Safety*

**Example Subhead:** *Be Cautious While Treating Your Lawn This Spring*

Organophosphates are a proven and reliable pesticide used on a variety of plants, shrubs and trees. Organophosphates are commonly used in pesticides and while these chemicals are effective at controlling pests they can be fatal if an individual is overexposed.

Over exposure of organophosphates affects numerous different organs and physical processes, therefore results in a wide range of symptoms. Common symptoms include; fast heart rate, nausea, vomiting, runny nose, seizures, sweating, and shortness of breath.

It is of the utmost importance to read and understand the label of any pesticide prior to application. An applicator must wear the proper personal protective equipment to minimize their exposure to the pesticide. Common recommended personal protective equipment includes; long sleeve shirt, pants, shoes with socks, chemical resistant gloves, and chemical resistant aprons. While applying these products take care not to spray into the wind or when there are people downwind from the application area. Additionally, keep the area free from pets and others until the product has dried completely.

If you believe you or someone else is experiencing over exposure to an organophosphate call 911 immediately. Remove the exposed person from the area of the application and if their clothes are saturated irrigate with clean water. If the container is onsite remove the label and provide it to the emergency responders as it may contain important treatment information.

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