

# CHLORPYRIFOS HARMS PEOPLE

Chlorpyrifos is linked to infertility, diabetes, respiratory diseases, developmental disorders and more.

Children are especially susceptible to exposure, resulting in brain damage and developmental disabilities.

Farmworkers and rural communities are at highest risk of exposure from drift.

Communities are exposed to drift from nearby fields and golf courses in their homes, schools and outdoor areas.

Chlorpyrifos is highly toxic to birds, fish and beneficial insects such as bees.<sup>5</sup>

There is no safe level of chlorpyrifos in drinking water.<sup>5</sup>

Chlorpyrifos are particularly dangerous for pregnant women because of their toxicity to the developing infant.



## FARMWORKERS AND CHILDREN ARE AT RISK

Chlorpyrifos is very harmful to farmworkers and are linked to developmental disabilities in children.<sup>1</sup> These are highly toxic nerve agent pesticides that can damage the developing brains of babies and children, leading to lower birth weight, reduced IQ, loss of memory, and delayed motor development.<sup>2</sup> It is also toxic to farmworkers – regularly sickening them and sending them to the hospital. Many farmworkers are afraid to report pesticide exposure because they're afraid of being fired or reprimanded.<sup>3</sup>

## WILDLIFE AND WATER

The National Pesticide Information Center (NPIC) lists chlorpyrifos as "highly toxic" to fish, aquatic invertebrates and bees. It may build up in the tissues of fish and aquatic insects, poisoning animals up the food chain. The half-life of chlorpyrifos in soil is between 60 and 120 days, but can span over 1 year depending on the soil type and weather conditions.<sup>4,5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Children's Exposure to Chlorpyrifos and Parathion in an Agricultural Community in Central Washington State." National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, [ehp.niehs.nih.gov/doi/abs/10.1289/ehp.02110549](http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/doi/abs/10.1289/ehp.02110549).

<sup>2</sup> Rotenberg, Joshua S., and Jonathan Newmark. "Nerve Agent Attacks on Children: Diagnosis and Management." *Pediatrics*, American Academy of Pediatrics, 1 Sept. 2003, [pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/112/3/648.short](http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/112/3/648.short).

<sup>3</sup> Morones, Alyssa, and Alyssa Morones. "Pesticide Continues to Put Farmworkers and Fetuses in Harm's Way." *California Health Report*, California Health Report, 8 Sept. 2017, [www.calhealthreport.org/2017/08/31/pesticide-continues-put-farmworkers-fetuses-harms-way/](http://www.calhealthreport.org/2017/08/31/pesticide-continues-put-farmworkers-fetuses-harms-way/).

<sup>4</sup> "Chlorpyrifos." National Pesticide Information Center, [npic.orst.edu/factsheets/chlorpgen.html](http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/chlorpgen.html).

<sup>5</sup> "Chlorpyrifos." National Pesticide Information Center, [npic.orst.edu/factsheets/archive/chlorptech.html](http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/archive/chlorptech.html)