

**Message from the Environment & Energy Committee:
Avoid pesticide drift and injury to yourselves and your neighbors.**

Village residents have complained that while their neighbors are spraying pesticides on their property, the pesticide drift is reaching neighboring properties which could cause exposure and injury. If you suspect this is the case, you can call the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Pesticides Regulation Section to file a pesticide misuse complaint. [<https://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Documents/complain.pdf>].

If you know there will be spraying in the area or have already experienced the spray, find out what chemical is used and obtain a copy of the label and Safety Data Sheet (SDS) which provides the possible ill effects of exposure. Determine if the contractor who performed the spraying was licensed to apply the pesticide (enter the name of the Business in the MD data bank of licensed pesticide operators to see if they are listed:
<https://egov.maryland.gov/MDA/Pesticides/?searchAgain=True>).

When spraying is conducted, document as much information as you can such as date and time and application device. Determine how far away the sprayer was from the neighboring property, what the wind and weather conditions were, and if there were any symptoms of adverse effects (e.g., smell, nausea, headache) on people or signs of impacts on beneficial insects like bees.

Other options include notifying the people who plan to spray and ask them to notify you in advance since you have certain disabilities (e.g. chemical sensitivities, allergies, asthma) that might deny you access to your own property. Advanced notice of any aerosol spraying by Village residents should be provided to neighbors in the area so they can protect their property and their family from any exposure.

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