

Complaint Overview CY 2023

Topic	Complaint Details
Drift	Caller states that they could smell and taste pesticides being applied to potato field across the street on the morning of July 10, 2023. The wind was blowing in the direction from field to their home. Concerned about chickens that may have been exposed and general off target deposition of pesticides.
Drift	Caller observed applicator spraying without regard to the property line. Caller stated that pesticide drifted onto their property and has likely contaminated their vegetable garden.
Drift	Caller witnessed an individual making a mosquito control application with tractor mounted spray equipment at neighboring property. Caller is concerned that the spray material drifted onto their organic vegetable garden.
Drift	Rebecca Gray was working in her gardens and watched a Tick & Mosquito Offense employee making tick applications with a powered backpack sprayer. According to Gray, she watched a cloud drift onto her property. Gray has both chickens and pigs. She confronted the applicator, who stopped spraying near her property. According to Gray, the wind was gusting at 16 to 23 mph.
Drift	Caller is an apiarist that maintains 18 seasonal bee yards each containing 32 hives in various locations across Hancock, Washington and Aroostook Counties. Approximately 2 weeks ago caller witnessed a boom sprayer operating in a potato field within 500 ft. of their bee yard in Fort Fairfield. Caller stated they felt the mist hit their face while standing in the bee yard. Caller believed winds were above 15 miles an hour and the application was being made without regard to the bees or presence of humans. Caller has experienced nearly 40% loss in bees this year and is concerned that poor pesticide use practices may be part of the issue.
Drift	Ms. Braddick called the BPC about an application from Mainely Grass that went onto her property. The property being treated is located at 21 Ocean View Drive, Kennebunk, Maine.
Drift	Caller is concerned about drift onto their property during a mosquito/tick spray application at a neighboring property on May 17, 2023. Caller was alarmed about dangers of the pesticide as the applicators was wearing a respirator.
Drift	Caller is concerned about drift of pesticide onto their property during an application made at the neighbor's property to control ticks and mosquitoes on 5/23/2023. Caller stated wind was blowing from neighbor's property towards their property. Caller believes pesticide drifted into their chicken coop and exposed chickens and eggs. Caller is experiencing symptoms of burning lips and tongue and severe headache.
Human Exposure / Health Effects	Caller believes they were exposed to herbicide while an application was being made to a corn field across Milo Rd. from their property on Saturday morning, July 1, 2023. Caller was mowing lawn when they when they could taste the chemical, then had a headache for about an hour.
Human Exposure / Health Effects	Caller is concerned that residents at 13 Evergreen Lane in Industry are applying pesticides multiple times a day, everyday. Caller believes these applications are causing adverse health effects to his family. See attachment.
Human Exposure / Health Effects	Caller is concerned that there is a bed bug infestation in their apartment unit and complex. They believe other tenants may be using pesticides and the fumes are entering their apartment overnight and in early morning hours causing nausea, dizziness and discoordination among other symptoms. After inspection of their unit concluded there was not a bed bug infestation (one bed bug casing found), they are still getting bitten.
Human Exposure / Health Effects	Caller is concerned that he and his dogs are being exposed to harmful pesticides when applications are made to an agricultural field adjacent to his property. Caller is concerned about spray activity within 10 feet the property line.
Human Exposure / Health Effects	Caller was concerned about pesticide application made at a neighboring property in Topsham. Caller is concerned about application made on a windy day and effects on the environment.
Human Exposure / Health Effects	Caller believes they have been exposed to pesticides from the neighbor's fire pit. Caller is concerned that the neighbor may be using old pesticide barrels as burn barrels and the smoke contains fumes that are chemical in nature and causing adverse health effects and inability to enjoy their property.
Human Exposure / Health Effects	Caller is concerned about possible pesticide use on medical marijuana.
Human Exposure / Health Effects	Caller is concerned about effects on human health and the environment following a brown tail moth application at a neighboring property. Caller described the use of a truck mounted mist blower.
Human Exposure / Health Effects	Caller expressed concern that an applicator for a tick control company wanted to apply pesticides for mosquito control at a property where an arborist crew was working. Caller is concerned that the applicator told the work crew that the product was safe and they didn't have anything to worry. The work crew which included licensed pesticide applicators requested information about the product to be applied. The applicator told them he was using bifenthrin and they were totally safe. No additional information was provided. Ultimately the application did not happen.
Human Exposure / Health Effects	Caller stated they experienced watery eyes and metallic taste following an application to an agricultural field that is adjacent to their property on 8/23/2023.
Laws/Policies	Email received on 12/22/2023 raises concern about herbicide applications being made to GMO corn for wildlife feedplots. Facebook states the individual is doing weed control on GMO corn for themselves and customers. Email questions if this practice is legal.
Laws/Policies	Caller has Bedbug infestation in their apartment. Caller moved into apartment on January 1, 2023. They notified the landlord on Friday, January 13, 2023. that there were bedbugs in their apartment. Caller reports the landlord claimed that an ozone generator was used to kill any organisms between tenants. Caller believes bedbugs migrated to their apartment from the apartment upstairs. Certified pest control company arrived on January 31, 2023 to begin mitigating the bedbug infestation.
Laws/Policies	Caller reports that their apartment complex is under new management. The new management company is requesting that all units be treated for bedbugs. Caller says they do not have bedbugs and do not want pesticides applied in their apartment. Caller is concerned that they will be evicted for not allowing their unit to be treated for bedbugs.
License Issue	Correspondence received indicates that a Lawn Service is making pesticide applications without proper licensing. Applicator may have an active license with another company.
License Issue	Caller witnessed a spray application to turf while an employee was mowing a lawn in Bangor. The lawn mower had a small tank with liquid that operate was using to spray broadleaf weeds. Operator did not have any PPE, shorts and t-shirt, no gloves while applying.
License Issue	Caller is concerned that a lawncare is operating without proper commercial applicator licensing while performing lawn care pesticide applications.
License Issue	Caller is concerned about a facebook post showing a man using a granular spreader to apply an organic tick control product to the public dog park in Standish. Caller believes the individual is not a licensed applicator.
License Issue	Store is offering pesticides for sale without a general use pesticide dealers license.
License Issue	Caller is concerned this company is applying antimicrobial pesticides for mold and mildew remediation without proper applicator licensing.
License Issue	Maine CDC Health Inspection Program was following up on a complaint regarding fly activity at the restaurant. During the inspection a bottle of Harris Fruit Fly Treatment was observed. The inspector also observed a restaurant employee use Hot Spot Foam Treatment in a drain where fruit fly activity was occurring.
License Issue	Email received by BPC on 6/19/2023 was to report a tree injection pesticide application to control brown tail moth made by an unlicensed applicator in Boothbay Harbor during the week of June 4, 2023.
License Issue	Large box stores have renewed GUPD Licenses for 2023.
License Issue	Caller believes company that conducted mold and mildew remediation services at their rental is not properly licensed. After remaining away for 24 hours as told to do so, caller states that their home still has strong chlorine smell. Application company did not provide all labels and SDS's for products applied as requested by caller.
License Issue	Caller is a treasurer of a condo association in South Portland. The property management firm has hired a cleaning company to conduct mold and mildew remediation work. Caller is concerned that company may not have the proper licensing to perform mold and mildew remediation work.
License Issue	Inspector from the Health Inspection Program observed insecticides in the kitchen at the restaurant for use by employees.
License Issue	Caller is concerned that the owner and applicator for this company has a Spray Contracting Firm License, but is not a Certified Master Applicator. Caller has seen the this company operating in the Sebago Lake Region throughout 2023.
License Issue	On 1/10/2023 it came to the attention of BPC Staff that a tree care company had an unlicensed applicator make tree injections to control browntail moth in the fall of 2022. The company had a CMA on staff. The applicator had passed their core and 3A exams but had not submitted a license application and payment. License application and payment were received by the applicator in-person on 1/10/2023.
License Issue	Caller is concerned that an applicator with a lawn care company is making pesticide applications without proper commercial applicator licensing.
Non-Target Effects	Caller is concerned that neighboring tenant is using a rodenticide outside of their apartment complex to control squirrels and chipmunks.
Non-Target Effects	Caller witnessed a mosquito control application on June 7, 2023. Caller stated that rain occurred within 2 hours of the application. They are worried about environmental impacts of pesticides applied during rainy conditions.
Non-Target Effects	Caller left a message for the BPC stating they witnessed dead crows at a Golf Club. Caller believes dead crows are a result of an improper grub control application.
Non-Target Effects	Caller is concerned that growers at a farm may be using rodent bait in around the crops to combat woodchucks and other wildlife.
Non-Target Effects	Caller states that neighboring property is having Japanese knotweed controlled with herbicides. Caller believes that 2 arborvitae and 2 lilacs on their property have died and that their vegetable garden is now being affected as well. Caller believes it is herbicide damage from the knotweed control at the neighbor's property.
Notification / Posting	Caller is a member of the 2023 Pesticide Notification Registry. Caller was not notified prior to pesticide application at an abutting property on 4/20/2023.
Notification / Posting	Caller emailed on 6/14/2023 about lack of notification. Caller is a member of the 2023 Pesticide Notification Registry.
Notification / Posting	Caller witnessed spray application being made at neighboring property on the morning of Friday, July 21, 2023. Caller is member of the 2023 Pesticide Notification Registry and was not notified prior to the application. Application company is unknown.
Notification / Posting	Caller is a member of the 2023 Pesticide Notification Registry. Caller witnessed a pesticide spray application occur at a neighbor's property on 7/27/2023 and was notified prior.
Notification / Posting	Caller is a member of the 2023 Pesticide Notification Registry. Caller was not notified prior to a commercial outdoor pesticide application made at a neighboring property.
Notification / Posting	Caller is a member of the 2023 Pesticide Notification Registry. Caller was not notified prior to pesticide application made at neighbor's property on August 9, 2023

Notification / Posting	Tenant lives in an apartment building that was treated for cockroaches. They did not receive any type of notification.
Notification / Posting	Caller observed an unknown individual spraying what he thinks is an herbicide to the perimeter of a park in Augusta on August 16, 2023 at 12:30 pm. The applicator sprayed too close to him and his dog and didn't post the application site.
Notification / Posting	Email received on 7/14/2023 was to self-report the failure to notify a member of the 2023 Pesticide Notification Registry prior to an application that occurred on 7/13/2023 in Scarborough.
Occupational Exposure / Worker Protection Standard	Correspondence received by the BPC on 7/7/2023 states that farm workers were witnessed using the banned pesticide active ingredient, chlorpyrifos. Farm workers were observed using bare hands to transfer a granular substance from bags to boxes believed to be chlorpyrifos.
Other	Caller is looking for information about antimicrobial product used during clean up of water damage at their home in March 2023. Caller states that the company refuses to tell them what was applied.
Pollinators	Caller is concerned that the collapse of their three beehives occurred from pesticides being sprayed for tick control at a neighbors home. They believe that hives were fine until neighbor began tick control applications 2 years ago.
Registration of Pesticides	Caller identified Longview Estate Worm Farm as advertising worm casting fertilizer as having pesticide properties.
Restricted Use Pesticide Dealer	Caller observed Bonide systemic insecticide with the active ingredient, imidacloprid, for sale at a garden center in Rockport. Caller is aware of new restrictions on sale of these products to individuals that aren't licensed pesticide applicators.
Restricted Use Pesticide Dealer	Caller is concerned that a company is offering State Restricted Use Pesticides for sale as General Use Pesticides to unlicensed end users.
Schools	On 1/19/2023, a Maine CDC Public Health Inspector was conducting an inspection at a school. During the inspection several dead mice in traps were observed as well as an abundance of mouse droppings throughout the cafeteria kitchen. The infestation was large enough to declare an Imminent Health Hazard (IHH) forcing the closure of the schools kitchen. The public health inspector became concerned when they the kitchen staff had set the traps on their own following guidance from from a pest service technician. This guidance included suggesting that kitchen staff bait traps with pancakes and/ or beef jerky. The Public Health Department is concerned about inadequate pest control services being conducted at this location and contacted the BPC.
Unauthorized Application	Caller from Maine DEP sent photos that appear to show an application of herbicide to control vegetation in a cove on Salmon Lake (Ellis Pond) in Belgrade. The application is believed to have been conducted without a permit and by an unlicensed applicator to waters of the State.
Unauthorized Application	Caller does not want pesticides applied to lawn and foundation of the their condo unit in Kennebunk. Pest control company honored their request. Property Management told caller that they can't deny applications.
Unauthorized Application	Caller witnessed an applicator making pesticide application on their property with a powered backpack on July 13, 2023. Caller does not contract with this company for application services and uses another company. Applicator apologized for spraying their property and was supposed to apply at a neighboring property.
Unauthorized Application	Caller is concerned that a neighbor may be applying herbicides to trees on the caller's property to improve water views.
Unauthorized Application	Caller used to contract with a company for tick control services in 2022. Caller now has a contract with another application company for 2023. Caller has received an invoice from the previous company for an application of cedarwood oil to their property that was believed to have occurred on may 26, 2023.
Unauthorized Application	Caller is concerned that mosquito spray occurring at neighbor's property is being applied over the property lines and onto other properties.
Unauthorized Application	Caller stated that someone may be applying herbicide to her property without authorization. For the last month and half they have observed dying flowers and trees including raspberries and apple trees. They have observed yellow and white powdery substances around the base of trees. They believe this activity is occurring at night as they have not observed the applications occurring.
Unauthorized Application	Sales and service coordinator for a company self reported an unauthorized application for grub control in Westbrook. The previous owner of the property had signed a renewal contract for services for this location on 2/3/2023.
Use Inconsistent with the Label	Caller is concerned about pesticide application they witnessed on Thursday, August 10 around 4p. Caller observed power spray application herbicide/pesticide into a ditch with standing water that connects to a stream and wetland. Caller was concerned that thunderstorms were in the area and rain occurred in the evening following the application. allowing for runoff. Caller also believes the applicator was not wearing the proper PPE while making the application.
Use Inconsistent with the Label	Email received raises concern about improper use, storage and unlicensed application of Hot Shot Liquid Roach Bait Traps, Combat Gel Bait, Hot Shot Fogger and Ortho Home Defense Max Indoor Insect Barrier in their apartment by property management to mitigate a cockroach infestation.
Use Inconsistent with the Label	Caller witnessed pesticide application being conducted during rainy conditions on September 12, 2023 in Westbrook.
Use Inconsistent with the Label	Caller is concerned that there is still a rodent problem in their home after a new pest control company took over the services. Caller is also concerned that the new company has been applying insecticides at their home, and they only contract for rodent control services.
Use Inconsistent with the Label	Witnessed pesticide application for mosquito/tick control being made during wet/rainy conditions.
Use Inconsistent with the Label	Caller had hired a pest control company to perform structural pest control services. Caller believes that pesticides were incorrectly applied to their home on 9/14/2023, allowing the pesticide to enter their home. Caller states that home still smells like the chemical applied one week after the application.
Use Inconsistent with the Label	Public Health Inspector responded to a rat complaint at a Restaurant in Wiscasset. The inspector observed rodent bait exposed on the ground around the perimeter of the restaurant and provided pictures. Health Inspection Program is concerned about exposed rodenticide harming humans and/or wildlife.
Water Quality	Email forwarded from DEP raises concern about herbicide being applied to a streambed that feeds into Bauneg Beg Pond. Application was made in area adjacent to new construction.
Water Quality	Caller is concerned that someone is applying pesticides near their well intentionally. There are patches of turf near the well head that died off a couple year ago and have not come back. They believe that their vegetable garden was poisoned with herbicide a few years ago and they can no longer grow a garden.