

Environmental Monitoring for Pesticide Residues

For 30 years, the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, DPR, has served a vital role: Protect human health and the environment for all Californians.

Critical to DPR's mission is monitoring for pesticide residues in the environment.

Even at low levels, pesticides can harm plants and wildlife critical to the ecosystem.

DPR monitors and collects samples from surface water, groundwater and air.

Scientists analyze these samples and, if necessary, recommend measures that reduce potential risk from pesticide residues such as outreach or training, changing product label instructions, or adopting regulations.

Monitoring results can be viewed on DPR's website.

DPR's Surface Water Monitoring Program tests creeks, rivers and other water bodies throughout California for traces of pesticides.

In the last 30 years, DPR's Surface Water team monitored 136 pesticides in 380 locations!

DPR's air monitoring team operates monitoring stations to test air quality in agricultural communities.

They test for the presence of pesticides that could be harmful to human health.

Over the last 30 years, DPR has operated air monitoring stations in 25 counties across the state.

Groundwater Protection Program scientists routinely test dozens of wells statewide, with a focus on domestic wells.

In the last 30 years, 4,067 unique wells have been sampled in 45 counties across California!

These programs help DPR identify potential health or environmental risks.

They also provide the scientific foundation to inform future actions.

Visit DPR's website or social media to view more videos about how our work protects human health and the environment for ALL Californians.