



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Caltrans Licensing Requirements for Adopt-A-Highway Volunteers Using Herbicides

Due to safety and liability concerns, Caltrans requires Adopt-A-Highway volunteers who apply herbicides on the right of way to be licensed, even though the California Department of Pesticide Regulations (DPR) does not. Requirements vary with the location of the herbicide application and are listed below.

HERBICIDE APPLICATION ON HIGHWAY ROADSIDES

The volunteer applying the herbicide must have a Qualified Applicator License (QAL) **with** the “C. Right-of-Way” pest control category.

or

The volunteer applying the herbicide must have a Qualified Applicator Certificate (QAC) **with** the “C. Right-of-Way” pest control category.

HERBICIDE APPLICATION AT PARK AND RIDES

The volunteer applying the herbicide must have a Qualified Applicator License (QAL) **with** the “C. Right-of-Way” pest control category.

or

The volunteer applying the herbicide must have a Qualified Applicator Certificate (QAC) **with** the “C. Right-of-Way” pest control category.

or

The volunteer applying the herbicide must have a Qualified Applicator License (QAL) **with** the “B. Landscape Maintenance” pest control category.

or

The volunteer applying the herbicide must have a Qualified Applicator Certificate (QAC) **with** the “B. Landscape Maintenance” pest control category.

PEST CONTROL RECOMMENDATION

A Pest Control Recommendation is required by law.

An adopter’s plans and schedules must indicate that herbicides will be used, but the Pest Control Recommendation (detailing the type of herbicide and its application rate) is not due until shortly before the herbicides are applied.

Prior to each application, the adopter must submit a Pest Control Recommendation to the District Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator. The Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator will have the Pest Control Recommendation approved by a District Landscape Specialist. Once approved, a copy will be kept in the adopter’s file, a copy will be sent to the Maintenance Supervisor, and the original returned to the adopter. After application, a “Pesticide Usage Report” must be submitted to the Maintenance Supervisor.

Only Department-approved herbicides can be applied within the State’s right-of-way. Caltrans Districts will provide a list of approved herbicides to adopters. Caltrans’ employees will not write pest control recommendations for adopters or their contractors. Adopters must have this service provided by a DPR-licensed, Agricultural Pest Control Adviser.