



Pesticide Training Newsletter

302 North Roberts St. Helena, MT 59601

406-444-5400

<https://agr.mt.gov/Pesticide-Applicators>

How to Find Trainings

Nearly 400 in-person training opportunities and 250 online courses are approved for continuing education credits each year for Montana applicators and dealers. You can search for these events by using the **MTPlants Course Locator** at: <https://mtplants.mt.gov/PesticideApplicator/MeetingSearch.aspx>

Online Training

Commercial and Government Applicators and Dealers can earn up to 6 credits each recertification cycle through approved online training for each category. There are over 200 courses available through outside vendors, some of which have been developed by MDA's own Training Specialist, Jolene Hendrix, and Vertebrate Pest Specialist, Stephen Vantassel. Online training should be completed by December 1 if you need credits to post by December 31. All courses can be found at the Course Locator link above.

Recertification Cycles

What is recertification? Recertification is professional development. Every pesticide license category has a 4-year cycle known as the recertification cycle. During that time, applicators and dealers are expected to attend approved pesticide training to obtain continuing education credits. Applicators and dealers must obtain 12 credits, known as CEs, before the end of the 4-year cycle expiration date or they will be required to reexam before renewing their license. During the 4-year cycle, credits will accumulate as you attend training so spreading out your opportunities makes it easier to meet this requirement.

If you are in the following categories, you will need 12 credits by 12/31/19 or you will need to reexam to renew your license in 2020.

- Demonstration & Research
- Industrial, Structural and Institutional
- School IPM
- Seed Treatment

All other categories have different recertification cycles and should continue to attend training to meet the 12-credit requirement. Be sure the trainings you attend offer credits for your categories or you cannot receive credits. Use the link above for the Course Locator to find available trainings.

Pesticide Collection Programs

Waste Pesticide Collection

This year, the waste pesticide collection will occur in Region 3. To participate, you must pre-register. For more information and to register, go to: <http://agr.mt.gov/agr/Programs/Pesticides/DisposalandRecycling/PesticideDisposal/>

2019 Waste Pesticide Collection Sites

September 17, 2019– Wolf Point

September 18, 2019– Sidney

September 19, 2019– Miles City

September 20, 2019– Billings

Pesticide Container Recycling

While MDA cannot take shuttles, we still collect all other size containers. For information on how to properly prepare the containers and for collection locations, go to: <http://agr.mt.gov/Pesticide-Container-Recycling-Program>

Financial Responsibility Change

The financial responsibility requirements for commercial applicators has changed. Commercial applicators required to hold financial responsibility must meet the new requirements by January 1, 2021. Specific information will be available at upcoming MDA trainings and sent in the license renewal packets in November. Surety bonds and CDs will no longer be acceptable forms of financial responsibility beginning 1/1/2021. For information on how to be compliant with the new requirements contact Tari Nyland listed below.

Pesticide Product Registration Update

Montana state law requires all pesticides used or sold in the state to be registered with the state. Use our website's "Brand Search" option to ensure that you are using registered pesticide products.

<https://mtplants.mt.gov/ProductRegFSA/BrandSearch.aspx>

Pesticide Program Contacts:

Licensing:	Tari Nyland	406-444-4900	Tari.Nyland@mt.gov
Training & Certification:	Jenn Bergner	406-444-5512	Jennifer.Bergner@mt.gov
Pesticide Product Registration:	Jerin Borrego	406-444-5471	Jborrego@mt.gov
Vertebrate Pest Specialist:	Stephen Vantassel	406-538-3004	Svantassel@mt.gov
Pesticide Disposal & Recycling:	Carli Davis	406-465-0531	Carli.Davis@mt.gov
Program Manager:	Rory Ruffner	406-444-3676	Rory.ruffner@mt.gov
Enforcement:	Leonard Berry	406-444-6982	Lberry@mt.gov

Initial Certification Trainings

For new applicators and dealers or those wishing to add a new category to their license.

Initial certification trainings cover an extensive amount of material and practical exercises to prepare students for the certification exams. Testing is offered at the end of each training. Training fees do not include hotel accommodations or study manuals. Study manuals need to be purchased and reviewed prior to coming to training. Room blocks have been established at each training location as a courtesy to participants.

Pre-registration is required for ALL MDA trainings. Class size is limited for each training. Registration closes 7 days before training or when full, whichever is first, and registrations and fees must be received by that date. Classes may be cancelled if minimum registrations are not met. Bring a photo ID to ALL trainings.

To Register online, download a registration packet, or purchase study manuals, go to: <https://agr.mt.gov/Pesticide-Applicators> or contact Jolene Hendrix at Jennifer.bergner@mt.gov or 406-444-5512.

BOZEMAN Holiday Inn Express 2305 Catron St. 406-582-4995	BILLINGS Hampton Inn 5110 Southgate Dr. 406-248-4949	MISSOULA Best Western Plus Grant Creek Inn 5280 Grant Creek Rd. 406-543-0700
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sep. 24-26, 2019 National Core Initial Certification Short Course ➤ Sep. 26-27, 2019 Initial Certification Ornamental and Turf <p>National Core Only: \$75 Ornamental and Turf Only \$30 Core/O&T Combo: \$105</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Feb. 11-13, 2020 National Core Initial Certification Full Course ➤ Feb. 13-14, 2020 Initial Certification Agricultural Plant Pest <p>National Core Only: \$75 Ag Plant Pest Only: \$30 Core/Ag Plant Combo: \$105</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mar. 17-19, 2020 National Core Initial Certification Full Course ➤ Mar. 19-20, 2020 Initial Certification Ornamental and Turf <p>National Core Only: \$75 Ornamental and Turf Only: \$30 Core/O&T Combo: \$105</p>
HELENA* MACO Building 2715 Skyway Dr.	GLENDIVE Holiday Inn Express 1919 N. Merrill Ave. 406-377-3300	INITIAL CERTIFICATION ONLINE TRAINING (Training only; testing must be completed in person at an MDA office)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ April 14-16, 2020 National Core Initial Certification Full Course ➤ Apr. 16-17, 2020 Initial Certification Right of Way and Regulatory Weed <p>National Core Only: \$75 Right of Way/Reg Weed Only: \$30 Core/ROW/Reg Weed Combo: \$105</p> <p><small>*Hotel room block available at the Comfort Suites Airport, 3180 Washington St, Helena. 406-513-1140</small></p>	<div style="text-align: center; color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: 2em; opacity: 0.5;">CANCELLED</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ May 6-7, 2020 National Core Initial Certification Short Course ➤ May 7-8, 2020 Initial Certification Right of Way and Regulatory Weed <p>National Core Only: \$75 ROW/Regulatory Weed Only \$30 Core/ROW/Reg Weed Combo: \$105</p>	<p>Currently Available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Core Initial Certification <p>Coming in 2020!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial Certification for Ornamental and Turf • Initial Certification for Right of Way • Initial Certification for Aquatic Plant Pest <p>Visit: https://www.certifiedtraininginstitute.com/ to purchase online training modules.</p>

Vertebrate Pest Specialist Update

New Vertebrate Pest Bulletins are available. Both of these publications will help you respond to concerns about these vertebrates effectively and responsibly. Download your copy today by visiting <https://agr.mt.gov/Topics/Vertebrate-Pests>

- a. Living with Montana's Snakes
- b. Living with Starlings

Other bulletins have been updated. Check the edition date, on the last page of the bulletin, to see if you have the latest version.

Do you provide control services for wildlife and other vertebrates? If so, Vertebrate Pest Specialist, Stephen Vantassel, is compiling a list of wildlife control operators in the state to help residents in need of services find professional help. If you would like your company/service to be added to the list, provide your name, company name, phone number, full address, e-mail, along with information about how far you will travel and a brief listing of services you provide or don't provide (whichever is easier) and send it to svantassel@mt.gov

Pesticide Licensing Update

All pesticide licenses will expire on 12/31/19. Late fees are applied if renewals are received after March 1st. Renewals for 2020 will be mailed after November 1st or you can log in to your MTPlants account to renew online.

Remember, it is your responsibility to make sure the information on your license is correct. Please review your license for completeness and accuracy.

GO PAPERLESS! The Department's MTPlants online application allows you to renew, pay for, and print your licenses at any time. You will have access to all account information, meetings attended and credit status. Payments can be made by credit card, debit card or eCheck. Go to <https://mtplants.mt.gov> and Logon with your ePass account, or create and register a new account. Instructions are available at <https://agr.mt.gov/Pesticide-License>