



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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### What Commercial Applicators Need to Know About Structural Pest Inspections

This fact sheet is intended for Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) Commercial Applicators who hold or are considering adding the Structural Pest Inspector license. It provides information on licensing, the different types of inspections, and the criteria to follow when performing inspections.

The Structural Pest Inspector (SPI) license is required to perform inspections for wood destroying organisms (carpenter ants, termites, rot fungus or wood infesting beetles), their damage or conditions conducive to their development. The SPI license is required for conducting **both** specific and complete wood destroying organism (WDO) inspections.

Commercial PCO companies usually perform **specific WDO inspections**. These are inspections done for the purpose of identifying or verifying evidence of an infestation of WDOs prior to pest management activities. Individuals performing only specific WDO inspections must hold the SPI license with either the E or PI category. If you are **only** doing specific inspections, you do not need additional financial coverage beyond what you have for your Commercial Applicator license. Just be sure that WSDA always has evidence of your current coverage on file.

Commercial PCO companies sometimes perform **complete WDO inspections**. These types of inspections are done for the purpose of determining evidence of infestation, damage, or conducive conditions as part of the transfer, exchange, or refinancing of any structure. Individuals performing complete WDO inspections must hold the SPI license with the PI category. If you need information on obtaining the PI category, go to <http://agr.wa.gov/PestFert/LicensingEd/CaSpiInfo.htm#spi>.

If you or any of your employees perform **complete WDO inspections**:

- Your company must hold the Structural Pest Inspector Company license, you must notify WSDA of your employees who perform complete WDO inspections and you must notify WSDA within 30 days of any changes to this information. There is no fee for this company license. An application to apply for the company license or report any changes is available at <http://agr.wa.gov/PestFert/docs/4175-SPICompanyLicenseApp.pdf>.
- You must meet the SPI financial coverage requirement. For information on your coverage options, go to <http://agr.wa.gov/PestFert/LicensingEd/CaSpiInfo.htm#spi>.
- You must use Inspection Control Numbers (ICNs) on your inspection reports. Realtors, mortgage lenders, and WSDA routinely look for the ICNs. (See the reverse side for additional information on ICNs.)

Regardless of whether you conduct specific or complete inspections, you must complete a report that meets the criteria established in the Rules Relating to Wood Destroying Organisms, WAC 16-228-2005 - 2060. These are available at <http://agr.wa.gov/PestFert/Pesticides/docs/WdoRules.pdf> or by calling WSDA toll free at 877.301.4555.