

Sponsor Update

A PUBLICATION OF THE PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

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Welcome to the Sponsor Update—Issue 3

You are receiving the third annual edition of the *Sponsor Update* because you have submitted a request to WSDA in the past year to have a course approved for Pesticide/Structural Pest Inspector License recertification credits.

As with the previous two editions, this one is being distributed entirely via email and is available [on-line](#).

In this edition, you will learn about a change in the way recertification courses will be submitted and approved in the future, a WSDA project to collect attendance records at large

courses via the barcode on license cards, on-line features soon to be implemented (license renewals and PMD News website) a review of past articles that contain valuable information to help you successfully request course accreditation and stay in good standing as a sponsor, and topics that may be of interest to your recertification customers.

We hope the information in this issue of the *Sponsor Update* is useful. Any feedback or ideas for next year's newsletter can be directed to [Margaret Tucker](#), (360) 902-2015.

On-line features in the works

Recertification Course Requests

WSDA is in the process of developing an on-line request for recertification course accreditation (ORRCA). Once this system is fully implemented, all courses will be submitted electronically via the Internet. Sponsors will set up accounts that they and their assistants can access at any time and use for all courses they submit. When a sponsor is ready to submit a course, they will access their account, input information about the current course and submit it along with an electronic agenda. Any correspondence with WSDA will occur electronically as well.

This new system will streamline the accreditation process by making it easier for sponsors to submit courses. No more paper forms and repetitive entry of contact information since this information will be saved to each sponsors on-line account. Because the course data will be entered by sponsors, there will be less data-entry by our recertification accreditation staff, which should speed up the accreditation process for all.

Full implementation of ORRCA is expected by June of 2011. If you are interested in helping WSDA test this new system, please

contact [Margaret Tucker](#) at or (360) 902-2015.

On-line Renewals

Beginning in the spring of 2011, individuals will be able to renew one or more pesticide and/or Structural Pest Inspector (SPI) licenses on-line using an electronic check payment. Phase 1 of the project will include general licenses while Phase 2 will add Commercial Applicators. The latter group will be able to renew all their equipment and employees at one time.

PMD News Website

Some of you may remember the annual newsletter, *Pesticide Notes*, which WSDA mailed to all pesticide and SPI license holders. Unfortunately, after the 2005 edition, the division lost the federal funding used to produce the newsletter and the cost was too high for the division to absorb. Fortunately, the Internet is providing the outlet to once again provide our licensees with important news. By summer 2011, the Pesticide Management Division will launch PMD News. Suggestions for content can be directed to pmdnews@agr.wa.gov.

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CONTACT

INFORMATION

- **Toll free (877) 301-4555**
Step 1: Press 1 for English
Step 2: Press 1 for Licensing/Recertification
Step 3: Press 3 for Recertification
- **Recertification Sponsors**
ibeckman@agr.wa.gov
- **Licensee Credit Status**
hpingol@agr.wa.gov
- **Spanish Inquiries**
(509) 249-6925 or
vhsegura@agr.wa.gov
- **Recertification email**
recertification@agr.wa.gov
- [Recertification Website](#)
- [Search for a course](#)

Inquiries regarding availability of this publication in alternative forms should be directed to WSDA at (360) 902-1976 or Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (360) 902-1996.

Collecting attendance records electronically

Beginning in the second half of 2011, WSDA will start using the barcode on plastic license cards to collect attendance records at selected courses. The focus will be on courses where **certificate** rosters are used. While these are only a fraction of the courses WSDA accredits, they are among those with the highest attendance and where a WSDA staff presence can be guaranteed. Besides the annual WSU Pesticide Education Program Shortcourses that are held throughout Washington, these include meetings such as the WA State Weed Conference, that had over 300 attendees at the 2010 meeting, and a large grower meeting sponsored by an agrichemical dealer with 700 attendees.

The initial implementation phase will involve on-site testing that will collect attendance records through both the traditional certificate method as well as the new electronic collection method using the license card barcode. This testing will ensure that the new program and equipment is accurately capturing attendance records. A component of the program accounts for licensees who do not bring their barcode-containing plastic license card to

the recertification courses. The WSDA monitor will be able to look up and accredit the licensee and, if necessary, flag them for a replacement card.

Once fully implemented, this new process will benefit licensees, sponsors and WSDA. Credits captured electronically will be uploaded to the database as soon as the WSDA monitor returns to the office. As a result, licensees will see their attendance documented on the WSDA website within a matter of days and can better plan their training needs. Sponsors will receive fewer questions from their customers regarding when credits will be reflected on the WSDA website. WSDA will be able to more efficiently enter attendance records for those courses where records continue to be collected manually because the large, time-consuming courses no longer require staff attention.

This new feature will be fully implemented by the fall of 2011. For questions, or to volunteer as a test sponsor, please contact Margaret Tucker at mtucker@agr.wa.gov or (360) 902-2015.

Confusion continues with equivalent/concurrent sessions

WSDA continues to encounter licensees who believe they have qualified for more credit than they actually have. This often results from attending sessions that have been designated as equivalent or concurrent.

Equivalent sessions are those that have identical content while concurrent courses are those held at the same time. When two sessions are designated as either equivalent or concurrent, a licensee may only receive credit for one of the sessions.

Whenever a session is equivalent or concurrent with another session, it will be noted as such on the sign-in roster. In order to ensure that licensees understand the number of credits they will earn at your course, please make an announcement that the session they are attending is equivalent/concurrent with the other session and that they will only receive credit once even if they sign both rosters. Be extra careful that you use the correct roster for each session. The session information is printed at the top of each roster.

Past editions full of useful information

The past two editions of the [Sponsor Update](#) have included many articles to help recertification sponsors easily navigate the course accreditation process. Please visit our website to locate any of the following articles:

2009 Edition

- Avoiding an accreditation slowdown
- Successfully communicating with WSDA Recertification Staff
- Finding course and license records on-line
- New delinquent roster notification process
- Changes to the annual recertification credit report

2008 Edition

- Ensuring a smooth accreditation process
- Understanding how credits are assigned
- Web resources
- Roster do's and don'ts
- Understanding equivalent & concurrent courses
- Know your responsibilities as a sponsor

To continue to receive important recertification course information, be sure to [notify WSDA](#) of any changes to your email address. Any feedback or ideas for next year's newsletter can be directed to [Margaret Tucker](#), (360) 902-2015.

Topics of interest to licensees

WSDA recommendations for recertification topics in the coming year:

Major Changes Coming to Soil Fumigant Labels

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) implemented new risk-mitigation measures for soil fumigants to protect pesticide handlers, reentry workers, and bystanders from risks resulting from exposure to these pesticides. The new labeling requirements were a result of EPA's Reregistration Eligibility Decision process.

The soil fumigants methyl bromide, chloropicrin, dazomet, metam sodium, metam potassium, and chloropicrin-containing 1,3-dichloropropene (Telone) are all subject to the new requirements. The first set of risk-mitigation measures will appear on labels beginning Dec. 31, 2010; a second set Dec. 1, 2011.

Key 2010 label changes include: (1) restricted use classification for metam sodium and dazomet, bringing them in line with the licensing requirements for the other fumigants; (2) detailed fumigation management plans for all applications; (3) employer-provided fumigant training and respiratory protections for handler employees involved in fumigations; and, (4) mandatory good agricultural practices, many of which were previously voluntary. Key 2011 label changes require that registrants provide fumigant-specific training to applicators and applicators adhere to established buffers. The buffer distances will be variable, depending on site conditions, size of the area treated, application rate and equipment used. Buffer zone tables will be included on labels. Buffer zones may be reduced by using buffer "credits" for practices and site conditions that reduce emissions.

For additional information, go to the [EPA website](#) or contact WSDA toll free at (877) 301-4555.

Course and credit information available on-line

Recertification Course Search Page

Whether you want to confirm that your accredited course has been posted on-line or want to help a customer (or yourself) find relevant recertification courses to attend, the [WSDA Recertification Course Search Page](#) is an excellent resource. You can search on individual courses or pull a list by location, date, language and one or more topics. The listing, which only includes courses the sponsor has designated as "open," is constantly updated as additional courses are approved.

ESA and Pesticide Use in Agriculture

WSDA's Natural Resources Assessment Section (NRAS) has published a white paper, [The Endangered Species Act and the Impacts to Pesticide Registration and Use](#). This report details the effects of Endangered Species Act-related litigation aimed at protecting threatened or endangered salmon on EPA's pesticide registration process. Without intervention into the probable results, WSDA predicts that growers will be unable to use affected pesticides on approximately 75% of Washington farmland. Continued litigation by environmental groups could widen the scope of pesticide restrictions nationwide. For further information, contact NRAS at (360) 725-5768.

Review of WSDA Pesticide Violations

Each quarter, WSDA [posts information](#) on its website of fines issued and license actions taken for violations of pesticide law. In providing this information, WSDA hopes to help those involved with pesticide use avoid similar problems in the future. When developing recertification course content, it can be helpful for sponsors to review this on-line information in order to target topics for their particular audience. For questions on any of the actions taken, you may contact Joel Kangiser, WSDA Case Review Officer, at jkangiser@agr.wa.gov or (360) 902-2013.

Fact Sheets Available for Sponsors

Looking for hand-outs? Visit the [WSDA website](#) for a number of topic-specific publications for sponsors. Publication categories include licensing, the landscape and structural pest inspector industries, schools and daycares, worker safety, chemigation & fertigation, and compliance.

Licensee records including credit reports

Licensees can view their current recertification status through the [license search page](#). They simply enter their name or license number and hit the "Submit" key. Once on their license record, they click on the license type to view its corresponding credit report. The report lists all courses the licensee has attended during their current recertification cycle up through the credit guarantee date listed in the top left corner of the report. The credit guarantee date constantly changes as course attendance records are entered into the WSDA database.

Recertification Sponsors: Please consider distributing or discussing the following information about WSDA's Waste Pesticide Program with pesticide license holders.

WSDA Waste Pesticide Program

The WSDA Waste Pesticide Program collects and properly disposes of canceled, suspended, unusable or otherwise unwanted pesticides and helps minimize further accumulation by improving product stewardship through education and outreach.

Most pesticides are collected at regional collection events held around Washington State during the spring and fall. WSDA also provides technical assistance at customer's locations to help with stewardship issues, determine unusable products, assist with inventory recording, package leaking or poor condition containers and in some cases may provide direct on-site pick-up service. This is a free service provided by WSDA.

Regional events are scheduled at locations largely based upon customer interest.

If you have pesticides in need of disposal, do not wait for an event to be scheduled near you. Contact WSDA when you need disposal or stewardship assistance. Collection events will be scheduled sooner in areas where customer interest is higher. The squeaky wheel truly gets the grease!

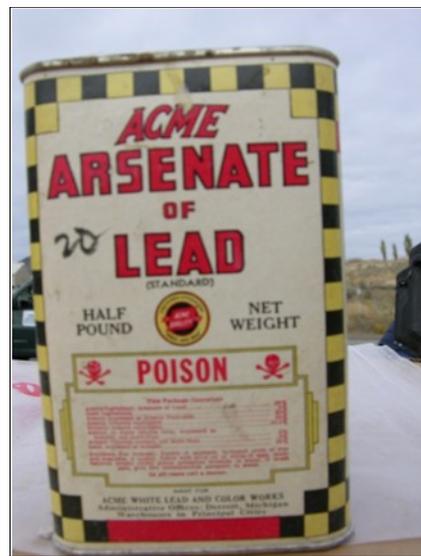
WSDA expects to resume collection events in the next budget cycle that begins July, 2011. Events are on a temporary hold due to higher than expected customer disposal volumes during the current cycle. However, all other program services including customer site technical assistance are currently available. We will post the collection event schedule for the latter half of 2011 on the program's website in early 2011.

For further information or to request service, please contact:

WSDA Waste Pesticide Program
PO Box 42560
Olympia, WA 98504-2560

Telephone: 360-902-2056
Toll free: 1-877-301-4555

E-mail: wastepesticide@agr.wa.gov
Internet: <http://agr.wa.gov/pestfert/pesticides/wastepesticide.aspx>



An example of an unusable pesticide collected by the Waste Pesticide Program in 2003. It was over 50 years old when collected. To date, the program has collected 2,525,142 pounds of canceled, suspended, unusable or otherwise unwanted pesticides and served 7,144 customers.

Additional Links of Interest:

- Empty Plastic Pesticide Container Recycling: NW Ag Plastics, Inc. — <http://www.nwagplastics.com/>
- Prevent Flood Damage: King County has developed a website on Flood Preparedness — <http://www.kingcounty.gov/safety/FloodPlan.aspx>