



West Virginia Department of Agriculture
Pesticide Regulatory Programs

Developing a Registered Technician Training Program

All non-certified employees of businesses performing pesticide applications in West Virginia must be trained as **Registered Technicians**. Each business is responsible for ensuring that all such employees successfully complete a verifiable training program approved by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture within 30 days of hire. ***West Virginia does not have reciprocity with other states concerning registered technician training.***

Options for Developing a Registered Technician Training Program

- A. The series “**Using Pesticides Safely**” is available for purchase in video cassette and DVD format from the **University of Maryland**. Attached you will find a copy of an order form to purchase this series. You may also contact the University of Maryland Extension Secretary at 301-405-3913 to obtain additional order forms.

To use this series as your registered technician training program, please send proof of purchase (canceled check or receipt for purchase). Include a letter from the certified applicator acting as trainer verifying that the program will be used to train all non-certified employees within 30 days of hire.

- B. The **West Virginia Golf Course Superintendent’s Association** and the **Pest Control Operator’s Association of West Virginia** have registered technician training programs available for use by their members.

To use one of these programs, first you must obtain permission from the Association. Then, notify the WVDA in a letter from the certified applicator acting as trainer that the specified training program will be used to train non-certified employees within 30 days of hire.

- C. **Developing your own training program** is a third option. West Virginia law requires the program to include the following topics:
1. State and federal laws and regulations
 2. How to read and interpret a pesticide label
 3. The handling of emergencies and spills

4. Signs and symptoms of pesticide poisoning
5. Practical emergency treatment for pesticide injuries
6. How to obtain emergency medical care
7. Decontamination procedures
8. Proper methods of storing, mixing, loading, transporting, handling, applying, and disposing of pesticides
9. Safety and health measures including the proper use of personal protective equipment
10. Hazards of pesticide exposure, including acute and delayed reactions
11. The routes of exposure
12. Potential adverse environmental effects such as drift, runoff, or groundwater contamination
13. Pesticide application techniques
14. Pest identification and control recommendations
15. The principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

The training program may include more information than the required topics, but must include at least these topics for approval to be granted. Reference sources for each training topic must be listed and submitted along with the program. Include a cover letter from the certified applicator acting as trainer verifying that this training program will be used to train all non-certified employees within 30 days of hire.

After Registered Technician Training Program Approval

After your registered technician training program receives approval, a permanent West Virginia Registered Technician Training Program Approval Number will be assigned. This number will be sent to your business along with registered technician application forms to be kept on file and photocopied as needed. These forms must be used for submitting registered technician information to the WVDA Pesticide Regulatory Programs.

If you have questions about registered technician training contact:

**West Virginia Department of Agriculture
Pesticide Regulatory Programs
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, W.V. 25305-0190
304-558-2209
304-558-2228 fax**

Using Pesticides Safely

Order Form

Ship to:

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Quantity: Video set (\$120) _____ DVD set (\$120) _____

Total: \$ _____

To order your copies, please print and fill out this form. Send the form with a check or money order (credit card orders not accepted) payable to **University of Maryland** to:

**Extension Secretary
Entomology Department
University of Maryland
4112 Plant Sciences Building
College Park, MD 20742**

Telephone: 301-405-3913

In cooperation with U.S. EPA and the Maryland Department of Agriculture