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. **Developing your own program** is the primary method of training for registered technicians. 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)

Lesson plans and video or PowerPoint presentations containing the required topics should be submitted for review. A sample PowerPoint presentation that includes the required topics is available upon request.

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 West Virginia certified applicator acting as trainer verifying that this training program will be used to train all non-certified employees within 30 days of hire.

B. The West Virginia Department of Agriculture has a PowerPoint presentation that can be requested and adapted for use by a pesticide application business for training registered technicians.

C. The West Virginia Golf Course Superintendent’s Association has a registered technician training program available for use by golf courses that are members of the association.

To use one of these programs, you must notify the WVDA in a letter from the West Virginia certified applicator acting as trainer that the specified training program will be used to train 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

Rev. 7/2018