



West Virginia Department of Agriculture Pesticide & Environmental Services Division

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 one 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 PowerPoint presentations containing the required topics should be submitted for review. The training program may include more information than the required topics but must include at least these topics for approval to be granted.

- B. The **West Virginia Department of Agriculture** has a PowerPoint presentation that can be requested and used by a pesticide application business for training registered technicians.
- C. **Pennsylvania State University** has a Registered Technician Training Package available for purchase. It can be accessed at <https://extension.psu.edu/pesticide-registered-technician-training-package>. This package can be used online or purchased on a flash drive.
- D. 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 any of these programs, the West Virginia certified applicator acting as trainer must complete a form notifying WVDA 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 the registered technician application. This application must be used for submitting registered technician information to the WVDA Pesticide & Environmental Services Division.

If you have questions about registered technician training contact:

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Rev. 06/2026