

## Pesticide Applicator Training

### Background

The Texas Structural Pest Control Board licenses over 10,000 urban pesticide applicators and regulates over 3,000 pest control-related businesses. The Texas Department of Agriculture licenses all certified commercial and noncommercial pesticide applicators as well as licensed pesticide technicians are required to participate in continuing education programs annually. Texas Cooperative Extension is the major provider of continuing education units for pesticide applicators in the state.

Urban Solutions Center staff is actively involved in providing up-to-date information and training for all categories of pesticide applicator license holders. In addition to serving as trainers for county Extension programs and other CEU providers, several training courses are offered every year at the Dallas Campus. The Fall and Spring Pest Management courses are popular with north Texas pest control professionals, landscape maintenance professionals, school districts, parks employees and golf course superintendents.

Agricultural producers are a major audience for pesticide applicator training.

### Objectives

- To provide the highest quality training and updated information for pesticide applicators and managers.
- To encourage the safer selection and use of pest control techniques to reduce the need for pesticides, when such products pose risks to human health or the environment.
- To help pesticide applicators obtain the licenses and CEU credits they need to maintain their certification.

### Benefits

- Well-educated pesticide applicators are better equipped to control pest problems safer and more effectively.
- Pesticide safety education helps reduce the incidence of pesticide misuse, spills and undesirable damage to non-target organisms.

### For Additional Information

- To learn about upcoming technician training programs and how to order pesticide applicator training manuals, visit the Agricultural and Environmental Safety Web site.
- To find out about upcoming school IPM coordinator training programs see the School IPM Web site.

### Team Members

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