

Initial Private Applicator Trainings Offered Across Montana in 2020

Cecil Tharp (MSU Pesticide Education Specialist)



(Photo by C. Tharp, MSU, Bozeman, 2011)

The Montana State University (MSU) Extension Pesticide Education Program and MSU Hill, Chouteau, Liberty, Cascade, Daniels, Madison and Deer Lodge County Extension programs are coordinating Initial Private Pesticide Applicator Trainings across Montana. These seven-hour training opportunities are designed for individuals desiring to learn more about pesticides, while simultaneously qualifying for a Montana private applicator license. A private applicator license allows individuals to apply restricted use pesticides on land an individual owns, rents or leases. Training opportunities are available in Hill County (Hingham) on January 22nd, Chouteau County (Fort Benton) on February 24th, Liberty County (Chester) on February 25th, Cascade County (Great Falls) on March 11th, Daniels County (Scobey) on March 17th, Madison County (Ennis) on April 8th, and Deer Lodge County (Anaconda) on April 9th.

Each program will cover many subject areas of interest including integrated pest management, pesticide movement in the environment, pesticide safety and toxicity, pesticide law, calibrating ground sprayer equipment, understanding the private applicator license, and reading and understanding the pesticide product label. Trainers speaking at these events, although variable by location, include county MSU County and Tribal Extension agents, Dr. Cecil Tharp (MSU Pesticide Education Specialist), Amy Bowser (MSU Pesticide Education Technician), Dr. Kevin Wanner (MSU Cropland Entomologist) and multiple MDA District Officers.

Cost and Private Applicator Credit Opportunities

Training fees range from free to \$35 depending on location. This variance is due to certain locations catering snacks and lunches as well as variable program costs. See program agendas for more information (Table 1). By attending an Initial Training, applicators meet the qualifications to obtain a private applicator license. After the program, individuals will need to mail in the application along with a licensing fee to the MDA (Table 1). Recertifying applicators may attend the entire event for six private applicator credits. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged as space is limited. See program details on the following page.

Table 1. Initial Training Details and Registration.

Date	Host	Location	Info	Training Fee	License Fee	Registration
01/22/2020	MSU Hill County Extension	Hingham Hiway Bar US Highway 2	Agenda	No Fee	\$12	By January 21 st : (406) 365-5481 allen@montana.edu
02/24/2020	MSU Chouteau County Extension	Fort Benton Agricultural Center 1205 20 th Street	Agenda	No Fee	\$12	Registration encouraged: (406) 622-3751
02/25/2020	MSU Liberty County Extension	Chester St Mary's Catholic Youth Center 11 W. Quincy Ave	Agenda	No Fee	\$12	Registration encouraged: (406) 759-5625
03/11/2020	MSU Cascade County Extension	Great Falls Montana ExpoPark's Paddock Club 400 3 rd St. NW	Agenda	\$35	\$12	By March 4 th : Mail in Registration Form (406) 454-6980
03/17/2020	MSU Daniels County Extension	Scobey 106 Railroad Ave. E	Agenda	\$20	\$24	Registration encouraged: (406) 487-2821
04/08/2020	MSU Pesticide Education Program	Ennis Fire Hall 5035 US Highway 287 N	Agenda	\$30	\$60	By April 5 th : (406) 994-5178 Online
04/09/2020	MSU Pesticide Education Program	Fairmont Fairmont Hot Springs 1500 Fairmont Road	Agenda	\$30	\$60	By April 5 th : (406) 994-5178 Online

For more information visit the Initial Private Applicator Training page at:
<http://www.pesticides.montana.edu/pat/initial.html>