

Agricultural & Environmental Safety Unit
Agrilife.org/AES

December
2015

TDA Licenses

Effective December 1, 2015, all new TDA pesticide licenses and renewals are now being printed with the scanner bar code on the back side of the license. The bar codes on TDA Agricultural and Structural pest control Applicator licenses use the same software the Agrilife Extension scanner systems use. This should further streamline recertification activities and allow applicators to be scanned in a timely manner.

EPA Certification and Recertification Proposed Changes

The US EPA announced major changes to licensed applicators in August. Changes include establishing minimum age requirements, changing recertification cycle to a maximum of three years, and establishing significant changes to CEU requirements. The deadline for the comment period is December 23, 2015. For more information and to comment click [here](#). The WebEx which was broadcast to AgriLife Extension CEA's can also be viewed to further assist producers submit substantive comments or get background information on the proposed changes.

CEU Rosters

As has been the case since 2013, TDA no longer accepts paper rosters from CEU activities. All CEU rosters must be submitted using the PA-411E (excel spreadsheet) and submitted electronically to TDA within 14 days of the activity. Extension personnel who submit the incorrect paper rosters will have their rosters returned for correction and resubmission. Those who continue submitting the wrong electronic rosters may have their 3 hour CEU privilege revoked.

TDA License Fees

The TDA announced increases in all license fees that will take effect in January 2016. New license fees are as follows:

- Private - \$100
- Certified Private - \$0
- Commercial AG - \$200
- Non-Commercial Ag - \$140
- Non-Comm Pol Sub- \$75
- Structural Applicator (all) - \$125
- Structural Business License - \$300

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Structural Pest Control Service

The Structural Pest Control Service has updated and changed several of their regulations. These regulations will take effect on 21 December 2015. For a complete overview of the new regulations, click [here](#).

One of the changes now requires structural applicators to carry their license or registration card while performing structural pest control activities. Additionally, the applicator must present the card when requested by TDA, Texas DHS, law enforcement, or the EPA. The applicator may be asked to show government issued identification as well. Business licenses must be also available for inspection upon request.

Regulations were added to enforce the pesticide label and labeling for application as well as disposal of pesticides. These changes included language on tank mixing, application sites and rates, unidentifiable pesticides, and proper disposal of pesticides and containers.

The most major revisions occurred in the section of the regulations that cover Integrated Pest Management for School Districts. The regulations have been changed to section 7.201, 7.202, 7.203, 7.204, and 7.205. Significant changes include the following: IPM Coordinators must obtain 6 hours of CEU credit every 3 years with a minimum of one CEU be specific to IPM in schools. The SPCS has set up a number of ways the coordinator can obtain these CEUs. Wording was added that reinforced the need for keeping records of pesticide use and incidental use fact sheets for 2 years. Finally, changes were made that enforce incidental pesticide uses are limited to Green and Yellow category pesticides.

Worker Protection Standard (WPS)

November 2, 2015 – EPA published the final regulations for the Worker Protection Standard. Originally passed in 1992, with revisions in 1996, the 2015 revisions change many requirements. Applicators nationwide will now have to comply with numerous new regulatory stipulations.

Summarized below you will find specific changes, as well as timelines, that EPA has published covering the new regulations which entities must comply with.

Revised rule

Training must be done annually instead of every 5 years

Eliminate training grace period

Certified applicator can now train workers

Minimum age increases to 18

Application Exclusion Zone

Eyewash water for handlers at all mix/load sites

Hazard communication: only application information and SDS

Central location retained for hazard communication

Immediate family: add in-laws, grandparents & grandchildren also add aunts, uncles, nephews, nieces & first cousins

Designated representative identified in writing; other requirements

Equivalency option for states and tribes

WORKER PROTECTION STANDARD IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

Date	Compliance
January 2, 2016	Revised WPS final rule is effective. Compliance of existing WPS rules is required (Subparts A, B and C of 40 CFR Part 170)
January 2, 2017	Compliance is required with MOST of the revised WPS regulation (Subparts D, E, F and G of 40 CFR Part 170)
January 2, 2018	Compliance is required with ALL of the revised WPS requirements (Subparts D, E, F and G of 40 CFR Part 170) Including new content on pesticide safety information display (170.311(a)(3)) Covering new content in worker and handler training (170.401(c)(3) and 170.501(c)(3)) Suspension of applications by handlers if anyone is in the application exclusion zone (170.505(c)(3))