



Pesticide Education Program
Ohio State University Extension

County-Based Training Strengthens Local Industry

OSU Extension provides the **vital training** to enable local citizens to **obtain and create jobs** in agribusiness, the greens industry, public agencies or to start their own businesses.

- Local and regional training helps farmers, small businesses and public employees maintain their licensing requirements and reduce liability.
- Training provided by OSU Extension is a lower-cost option compared to the price of commercially-produced training programs. The training is also non-biased and research based to benefit the applicator, the community and the environment.
- The training goal is to help Ohio citizens maintain their business income, jobs and family farms as well as increase environmental quality while ensuring employee and public safety.
- Locally accessible and efficient training reduces travel and lost production costs.

OSU Extension county educators provide:

- Compliance training for licensed applicators about state laws and regulations that affect their businesses. The majority of these applicators are small businesses, farmers and public employees.
- Technical training to educate licensed applicators on environmental stewardship and integrated pest management. Technical information on protecting state resources, crops and citizens from pest threats. A survey done in 2009 indicated that 84% of the participants have improved practices to protect the environment after attending OSU Extension training.
- Safety training for occupational situations. OSU Extension county educators train applicators on proper safety equipment usage for personal protection.
- Training groups include: farmers, schools, hospitals, lawn care services, golf courses, pest control operators, right-of-way managers, public employees, small businesses and many more.

OSU Extension is the primary training provider for licensed commercial and private pesticide applicators in Ohio. **Annually 9,000 applicators** receive continuing education training to meet requirements for their license through OSU Extension. There are **30,000 licensed applicators in Ohio** who are required to receive training every three years to keep their license active.