

Train-the-Trainer events in Oregon for the Revised Worker Protection Standard

Starting January 2, 2017, agricultural workers and pesticide handlers that work on [agricultural establishments](#) must be trained *annually* about pesticide safety and the Worker Protection Standard ([WPS](#)). If they're just getting started, workers and handlers must be trained before they begin worker/handler tasks. EPA-approved training materials must be used, and trainers must be used.

Training Workers

Any applicator or agricultural employer that is a licensed pesticide applicator (certified) is qualified to train [workers](#). Unlicensed handlers will no longer be qualified to train workers. EPA-approved training materials for workers are available [online](#).

Training Pesticide Handlers

Only individuals that are licensed pesticide applicators, or have completed an EPA-approved "Train-the-Trainer" course are qualified to train **handlers**. Although not required, licensed applicators are encouraged to complete an EPA-approved train-the-trainer course before the end of 2018. EPA-approved training materials for handlers may be ordered from Gempler's.

"[Handlers](#)" are mixers, loaders, applicators, flaggers, application helpers, early-entry workers, and anyone who disposes of pesticides or unrinsed containers, and/or anyone who works on application equipment that may contain pesticide residues.

Oregon State University is planning eight (8) Train-the-Trainer events in the coming months, at various locations around the state. The full-day course is free-of-charge, and trainers will receive reference materials. Completing this course may also qualify the attendee(s) to deliver Train-the-Trainer courses in the future.

Apply [here](#) to attend a Train-the-Trainer course led by OSU: bit.ly/TTToregonWPS

In the meantime, consider delivering WPS training to workers and handlers before the end of 2016. This will afford employers 12 months from the date of training before those workers and handlers will require training again in compliance with the revised regulation. However, newly hired untrained workers or handlers in 2017 will require training before beginning worker/handler tasks. Training is transferrable from one establishment/employer to another with appropriate record-keeping.

Read all about the newly revised Worker Protection Standard in the "[How to Comply](#)" manual. For questions about compliance with the new regulation, contact Grant Jackson at 503-986-4553.

For questions about OSU Train-the-Trainer events, contact Cameron Hughes at 541-737-6123.