



Steve Troxler
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services
Structural Pest Control and Pesticides Division

James W. Burnette, Jr.
Director

January 28, 2016

Dear State Lead Agency, Tribal, and Territory Representative:

This email will be your only opportunity to register for this 2016 Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Pesticide Inspector Regulatory Training (PIRT) course.

Your agency is invited to participate in the **2016 PIRT program focusing on the revisions to the WPS** hosted by North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) in conjunction with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The program will be held at the Crown Plaza Resort in Asheville, North Carolina from May 2-5, 2016.

The target audience of this program will be new or experienced pesticide inspectors who have not attended PIRT training in the last two years. The objective of the course will be to present the many facets of the WPS revisions including the definition changes, exemptions, exceptions, protection from application drift, worker and handler training, respirator requirements, HAZCOM, and mitigation measures. We will also cover special topics including droplet size determinations, OSHA 1910.134 requirements and other related topics.

Class will begin on **May 2nd** at 8:00 am and end on **May 5th** by 12:30 pm. **May 1st** and the afternoon of the **5th** will be used as travel days to and from the meeting site. The first day of class will be a plenary session with the co-located Compliance and Enforcement Pesticide Regulatory Education Program (PREP) course. We are looking forward to this first ever opportunity to combine the expertise of managers and field staff from across the country for discussions and input on the WPS revisions. Additionally, we will require PIRT participants to attend a 2 hour webinar on scope, definitions, exceptions, and exemptions prior to attending the PIRT course. PIRT participants may attend the webinar either on **April 7th or 14th** from 1:00 – 3:00 pm EST. A recording of these webinars will also be made available to those participants who cannot attend the live webinars. See the attached draft agenda for more information.

This program is fully funded through a grant provided by the EPA. Hotel stay (up to five nights if needed), airline, and group meal expenses will be paid for by NCDA&CS.

Participants will be reimbursed for other expenses including airline baggage fees, airport parking, and other meals that are not provided in accordance with NCDA&CS per diem rates. Participants will be responsible for any incidental expenses, such as car rentals, hotel telephone charges, room service, movies, etc.

We are looking forward to having your nominee attend this training opportunity. We realize that this represents a substantial commitment of time. However, NCDA&CS and the EPA feel the curriculum will enhance the ability of your inspector to address pesticide misuse incidences and related investigations in your State, Tribe or Territory. Therefore, we request a full commitment from the participants to attend and participate in the entire program.

Supervisors of inspectors, please submit the online [nomination form](#) for your Agency's representative and alternate by February 15, 2016. Please select individuals who can benefit most from the program. Preference will be given to individuals who have not attended a PIRT Course in the last two years. Once the nomination form has been received, participants will be notified of their confirmation and additional information will be sent regarding travel, lodging, North Carolina per diem rates, and an updated agenda by March 1, 2016.

If you have any questions pertaining to this program, please feel free to contact me at (919) 733-3556 or Patrick.Jones@ncagr.gov .

For information regarding logistics (deadlines, reimbursements, travel, accommodations, and special diet restrictions), please contact Jamie Frye at (919)733-3556 or by email at jamie.frye@ncagr.gov.

Sincerely,

J. Patrick Jones
Deputy Director of Pesticide Programs
Structural Pest Control & Pesticides Division
N.C. Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services