



# The MDA Pesticide Program Newsletter

## How to Find Trainings

In-person training opportunities and online courses are approved for continuing education credits each year for Montana applicators and dealers. You can search for these events by using the *MTPlants Course Locator* at

<https://mtplants.mt.gov/PesticideApplicator/MeetingSearch.aspx>

## MDA Fall Pesticide Training Schedule

Recertification training is for licensed applicators, dealers, and operators. Training covers a variety of topics related to Core Standards of Competency and Specific Classifications. Specific categories TBD as agendas are finalized. Check the MDA website for details.

- Pre-registration is required for **ALL** MDA trainings.
- Class sizes are limited for each training. Registration closes 7 days before training or when full, whichever is first.
- Registration and fee must be received by the deadline.
- Classes may be cancelled if minimum registrations are not met.
- Lunch is provided for those who register for both sessions on the same day.
- **Bring a photo ID and pesticide license to ALL MDA trainings to receive credit.**

To register online or download a registration form, go to: <https://agr.mt.gov/Pesticide-Training-Recertification-Program> or contact Lisa Dorrington at [lisdorrington@mt.gov](mailto:lisdorrington@mt.gov)

### Glasgow: Cottonwood Inn

September 14, 2021 (deadline 9/7)

**AM Session:** 8:00am-12:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

**PM Session:** 12:30pm-4:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

### Great Falls: MSU Great Falls Heritage Hall

September 16, 2021 (deadline 9/9)

**AM Session:** 8:00am-12:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

**PM Session:** 12:30pm-4:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

### Kalispell: Hilton Garden Inn

October 5, 2021 (deadline 9/28)

**AM Session:** 8:00am-12:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

**PM Session:** 12:30pm-4:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

### Missoula: Best Western Plus

October 7, 2021 (deadline 9/30)

**AM Session:** 8:00am-12:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

**PM Session:** 12:30pm-4:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

### Bozeman: Homewood Suites

October 14, 2021 (deadline 10/7)

**AM Session:** 8:00am-12:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

**PM Session:** 12:30pm-4:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

### Billings: Hampton Inn

October 19, 2021 (deadline 10/12)

**AM Session:** 8:00am-12:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

**PM Session:** 12:30pm-4:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

### Polson: Kwataqnuk Resort

October 26, 2021 (deadline 10/19)

**AM Session:** 8:00am-12:00pm

All categories—1 CEU

*Specific categories: TBD*

**PM Session:** 12:30pm-4:00pm

All categories—1 CEU

*Specific categories: TBD*

### Helena: Great Northern Hotel

October 28, 2021 (deadline 10/20)

**AM Session:** 8:00am-12:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*

**PM Session:** 12:30pm-4:00pm

All categories—2 CEUs

*Specific categories: TBD*



## 2022 Initial National Core Training for New Applicators or Dealers

The Initial National Core training helps prepare applicators & dealers for the National Core Exam. Training consists of review of the manual material as well as hands-on exercises and extra help sessions. Testing is conducted at the end of training. Manuals must be purchased and reviewed in advance.

Check the MDA website for upcoming dates, times, and locations. **\$75 per attendee**

- ♦ [February](#) - ROW/Reg Weed
- ♦ [March](#) - Ag Plant Pest
- ♦ [April](#) - O&T
- ♦ [May](#) - ROW/Reg Weed



## Do you have containers to recycle?

For locations and information, contact Brett Heitshusen at 406-444-3271

## ONLINE TRAINING

MDA has approved vendors to provide online training opportunities for almost all categories.



For a complete list: <http://agr.mt.gov/Pesticide-Applicators> click on "Pesticide Course Locator".

All Applicators and Dealers can earn up to 6 credits of online training per recertification cycle.



## Computer Based Testing Available

MDA has authorized the Metro Institute Centers to host computer based exams. Currently, testing facilities are available in Great Falls, Missoula, Bozeman, Butte, Helena, and Glendive.

The exams allow for instant results and analysis. Computer based exams taken through Metro Institute cost \$58 each.

MDA will continue to proctor tests in person, but encourages computer based exams for convenience and flexibility.

## \*\*Categories Expiring in 2021\*\*

- Agricultural Vertebrate Pest (32)
- M-44 Sodium Cyanide (43)
- Regulatory Predator (51)
- Regulatory Rodent (54)
- Regulatory Weed (55)
- Right of Way Pest (37)

<https://agr.mt.gov/Pesticide-Training-Recertification-Program>

- This newsletter is for information purposes only. All dates and locations are subject to change. Check the current listing on our website to confirm dates before registering.
- Pre-registration and pre-payment is required for all MDA trainings and seating is limited. Please note the registration deadline for each training.
- Trainings may be cancelled due to low registration.
- Full agendas and registration information can be found on the MDA website when available.
- No refunds or payment credits are available for no-shows or cancellations after the registration deadline.

## CONTACTS:

Pesticide Licensing Examiner Specialist:  
Pesticide Education Specialist:  
Pesticide Training & Development:  
Pesticide Product Registration:  
Vertebrate Pest Specialist:  
Program Manager:

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## Bushy-tailed Woodrats

Bushy-tailed woodrats (*Neotoma cinerea*) are native to Montana occurring throughout the state except for the extreme northeastern corner. Their grayish or ashen colored fur with white feet and, of course a fully-furred tail easily distinguish them from the invasive Norway rat (*Rattus norvegicus*).

Normally, woodrats are not a concern. However, when they invade structures, the damage they cause can be substantial. In times past, Pest Management Professionals (PMPs) had to rely on exclusion and trapping to manage the species because no rodenticide was registered for the control of bushy-tailed woodrats. Thankfully, PMPs have another tool in their toolbox for the control of bushy-tailed woodrats causing damage around structures.

Following a request by the MDA's Vertebrate Pest Specialist, the EPA allowed rodenticide manufacturers to add bushy-tailed woodrats to their structural-based labels without requiring manufacturers to perform efficacy studies. This concession by the EPA was significant as it eliminated research costs which would have made adding packrats to labels cost prohibitive.

### Montana rodenticide labels that have bushy-tailed woodrats listed include:

- Renegade Mini Blocks (EPA Reg. 7173-288)
- FastDraw40 Soft Bait (EPA Reg. 7173-258)
- Revolver40 Soft Bait (EPA Reg. 7173-297).

All three products are general use, second generation anticoagulant rodenticides and must be used within 100 ft of a permanent agricultural structure.

Keep reading your labels. We anticipate more structural rodenticide labels to include bushy-tailed woodrats in the coming months.

**Stephen M. Vantassel, CWCP, ACE**  
**Vertebrate Pest Specialist**

## The Montana State University (MSU) Pesticide Education Program (PEP)

MSU PEP is pleased to announce the 2021 Pest Management Tour on **October 4-8, 2021**. This program is designed as a last chance opportunity for **Private Applicators** to obtain recertification credits before the January 1st deadline in PAT region 4 (Eastern MT).

MSU and MDA staff will deliver a variety of critical pest management topics. The agenda will be finalized soon, but check periodically at [www.pesticides.montana.edu](http://www.pesticides.montana.edu) or contact the MSU County Agent sponsor at the location you wish to attend (see locations below). Contact Dr. Cecil Tharp with additional questions [ctharp@montana.edu](mailto:ctharp@montana.edu); (406) 994-5067.

### Day 1: Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup>

Scobey, MT	Inga Hawbaker	phone: 406-487-2861	email: <a href="mailto:inga.hawbaker@montana.edu">inga.hawbaker@montana.edu</a>
Plentywood, MT	Amy Bowser	phone: 406-994-5067	email: <a href="mailto:amy.bowser@montana.edu">amy.bowser@montana.edu</a>

### Day 2: Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>

Glasgow, MT	Shelley Mills	phone: 406-228-6241	email: <a href="mailto:smills@montana.edu">smills@montana.edu</a>
Malta, MT	Marko Manoukian	phone: 406-654-2543	email: <a href="mailto:acxmm@montana.edu">acxmm@montana.edu</a>

### Day 3: Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

Sidney, MT	Tim Fine	phone: 406-433-1206	email: <a href="mailto:tfine@montana.edu">tfine@montana.edu</a>
Circle, MT	Ken Nelson	phone: 406-485-2605	email: <a href="mailto:kennelson@montana.edu">kennelson@montana.edu</a>

### Day 4: Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>

Terry, MT	Sharla Sackman	phone: 406-635-2121	email: <a href="mailto:sackman@montana.edu">sackman@montana.edu</a>
Wibaux, MT	Danielle Harper	phone: 406-796-2486	email: <a href="mailto:danielle.harper1@montana.edu">danielle.harper1@montana.edu</a>

### Day 5: Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>

Miles City, MT	Mike Schuldt	phone: 406-852-3462	email: <a href="mailto:acxms@montana.edu">acxms@montana.edu</a>
Forsyth, MT	Marley Manoukian	phone: 406-346-7320	email: <a href="mailto:marley.manoukian@montana.edu">marley.manoukian@montana.edu</a>