

Montana Rodent Academy

Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds

September 25, 2025



MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

This six-hour event will provide applicator-centered training for the successful management of commensal rodents in and around structures. Instruction will cover understanding rodenticide active ingredients, selection and use of tamper-resistant bait stations, decontamination of rodent infested areas to reduce disease risk, and control of Montana's most common structural rodent, the deer mouse. The hands-on portion of the Academy, metal bending, will consist of step-by-step instructions to create repairs that will resist rodent entry, while being aesthetically pleasing. This content will be provided by instructors representing manufacturers, distributors, regulators, and service providers who will be available to answer your questions.

<u>AGENDA</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>SPEAKER</u>
8:00	Registration	
8:20	Welcome, Introductions, & Housekeeping	Stephen Vantassel
8:30-9:20	Beyond Building Blocks: Understanding Rodenticide <i>The evolving chemistry of rodenticides and active ingredients used, basic biology and feeding habits of mice, understanding bait placements and applications.</i>	Jon Paulsen
9:20-10:10	Bait Stations, Traps, and Devices: Understanding the Options <i>Tamper-resistant bait plays an important role in protecting clients, pets, and non-target animals from rodenticide exposure. Attendees will be shown various brands of tamper-resistant bait stations so that applicators can gain a better understanding of their features and improve their use of stations in the field.</i>	Casey Johnson
10:10-10:20	BREAK	
10:20-11:10	Control of Peromyscus Spp. <i>Information on the biology and control of deer mice (Peromyscus maniculatus) and white-footed mice (Peromyscus leucopus) will be described. The session will review identification, range, reproduction, sign and delve into tips on using exclusion, trapping and rodenticides to control these native species. Lastly, the class will provide tips on reducing the risk of contracting the deadly hantavirus infection.</i>	Stephen Vantassel
11:10-12:10	LUNCH on your own	
12:10-1:00	Pest Disinfection & Sanitation <i>Transmission and diseases in public health settings will be summarized as well as describing and differentiating between IPM strategies such as cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, sterilization and bio-sanitation/bioremediation. Formulations and application types will also be explained.</i>	Sanya L. Brandow-Kettler
1:00-3:00	Fundamentals of Metal Bending for Structural Repairs (10 minute break during this session) <i>Known for his innovative thinking and commitment to quality craftsmanship, Christian brings real-world experience to the classroom—breaking down the fundamentals of bending and installing sheet metal in a way that's easy to understand, especially for those with little to no background in the trade. His goal with this class is simple: to equip fellow pest and wildlife professionals with practical skills they can immediately apply in the field to perform cleaner, more durable exclusion work.</i>	Christian Allan
3:00-3:10	Questions, Evaluation and Wrap-up	Stephen Vantassel

AVAILABLE CREDITS PER PESTICIDE CATEGORY:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Credits</u>
10 – Dealer	6
32 – Agricultural Vertebrate Pest Control	6
38 – Public Health Pest Control	6
39 – Demonstration and Research Pest Control	6
40 – Ind Inst Struct & Health Related	6
45 – School IPM	6
60 – Private Agricultural Pest Control	6