

2025 WINTER SYMPOSIUM
56TH CVNLA SHORT COURSE
PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION
HOMES AND HABITATS

FEBRUARY 12, 13, 14, 2025



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025

8:30 AM

REGISTRATION OPENS

8:45 AM

WELCOME

9:00 AM

LEGAL ASPECTS OF PESTICIDE USE

Hannah Bonyak, Pesticide Investigator with the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Office of Plant Industry Services

This presentation will remind applicators of the legal issues surrounding pesticide use. Topics to be discussed include types of certification and associated fees, how to keep certification current, purchase and use of restricted-use pesticides, record keeping and the penalties for law violations. Recent changes in relevant product registrations and/or labeling will be included.

10:00 AM

PEST MANAGEMENT UPDATES

Dr. Alejandro Del Pozo-Valdivia, Entomology, Virginia Tech

During this presentation, Dr. Del Pozo will provide the latest information on the biology and ecology of both current and invasive pests attacking ornamentals and turfgrass. He will also discuss information on IPM and available control tactics for selected key pests.

10:45 AM

BREAK

11:00 AM

NEW PRODUCTS FOR TURF & ORNAMENTALS / SAFE & EFFECTIVE APPLICATIONS

Scott J. Thomas, SiteOne Landscape Supply, Landscape Department Manager & Matt Herrmann, Agronomic Department Manager

Scott will provide a review of the key concepts that govern the effectiveness and safety of pesticide applications that must be taken into account for every application, not just occasionally. His discussion will include, but will not be limited to, the critical decisions surrounding proper PPE selection, equipment calibration. Matt will cover new products.



12:00 PM

LUNCH & NETWORKING BREAK

1:00 PM

INVASIVE PLANTS & TREE SELECTION

Caleb Rivera, Virginia Department of Forestry, Community Forest Specialist – Capital District

This session will give applicators an update on invasive species and woody plants in the Capital Region. In addition, it will cover how to make good tree selections that offer benefits for conservation and cultural control of pest issues.

2:00 PM

PESTICIDE SAFETY STATIONS

Sierra Seekford, Scot Ferguson, Quinn Bracken, Virginia Cooperative Extension

Stations focusing on the following topics: (1) LD50 – demonstrating the toxicity of pesticides based on their LD50; (2) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) demonstration and (3) Spray Nozzle Drift Demonstration. Participants will rotate to each of the 3 stations so that each participant reviews each topic.

3:00 PM

QUICK TOPICS

Sierra Seekford, Scot Ferguson, Quinn Bracken, Virginia Cooperative Extension,

A Round Robin type presentation Red Imported Fire Ants (RIFA); Invasive Plants Update; and Fall Army Worm.

3:45 PM

FINAL COMMENTS & PAPERWORK

4:00 PM

ADJOURN

Updated Garden Smoking Policy:

Our Garden is now a smoke and tobacco free zone, prohibiting smoking, vaping or tobacco use. This decision protects the health and well-being of our guests, staff, and plants and keeps our air and our Gardens cleaner for all. The only place guests may smoke, vape or use tobacco is inside their personal vehicles. Thank you for keeping the Garden safe and clean for all!

