

ATTENTION: LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE COMPANIES

- » **Do you maintain residential or commercial lawns and/or landscape beds for clients?**
- » **As part of this work, do you apply any pesticide* for any purpose (including spot treatments) to your customers' properties?**

If you answered "yes" to both of these questions, your company must have a Commercial Applicator pesticide license from the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA). You must be licensed, even if:

- Your company performs moss control to roofs or lawns, even once to a client's property.
- You only use a backpack or apply by hand or spreaders.
- You only operate this business part-time.

Also, any employees who apply pesticides must be licensed as Commercial Operators. If you or your employees apply pesticides commercially without these licenses, you are violating Washington State pesticide law (17.21.RCW). Each application you make can be considered an incident.

If you apply pesticides and are unlicensed, you have three options:

1. Obtain the appropriate license before making any more applications.
2. Subcontract your pesticide work to an appropriately licensed company.
3. Stop offering service that includes pesticide applications.

Commercial Applicators must be licensed in all categories that the business operates and supply WSDA with proof of financial coverage. This coverage must be in the form of either a liability insurance policy or surety bond that provides \$50,000 public liability and \$50,000 property damage coverage.

Commercial Operators must be licensed in all categories in which they work. Commercial Operators must work for a Commercial Applicator.

To become licensed, you must pass exams. Some exams are available in Spanish. Study material for the exams is available through Washington State University at pep.wsu.edu/studymaterials/. (A study manual for "Ornamental and Turf Weed Management and Law and Safety" is available in Spanish, publication number EM023S).

WSDA offers pesticide exams every Tuesday at the Olympia and Yakima offices. Exams are also offered regularly at other WSDA locations. For more information or to take an exam, contact WSDA toll free at 1-877-301-4555 or License@agr.wa.gov. Information is also available at agr.wa.gov.

***Pesticides include herbicides (such as Roundup, Casoron, Crossbow, and Weed & Feed), insecticides (such as granular rose food with insect control), fungicides, moss control agents (fertilizers with moss control) and any other product that prevents, destroys, controls, repels or mitigates any pest.**