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Maine Board of Pesticides Control
28 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0028



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Maine Board of Pesticides Control

January 2026 Pesticide Applicator Training Programs

**January 13 -15, 2026
Augusta Civic Center**



Obsolete Collection Program

Each October, the BPC conducts a program to collect and properly dispose of banned and unusable pesticides from homeowners and family farms. Pre-registration is required and collections are held at four sites across the state. More information about the program may be found on the BPC website.

Pesticide Licensure Exams

For your convenience, the Board of Pesticides Control offers both commercial and private exams at four testing centers located in New Gloucester, Farmington, Bangor and Presque Isle.

Private and Ag Basic applicators may also take exams free of charge at their local University of Maine Cooperative Extension office. Contact BPC for more certification exam information!

Questions?

Contact us anytime at
pesticides@maine.gov or call 287-2731
during normal business hours.

Ag Core Training & Exam Session

Wednesday January 14, 2026 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Pre-registration is required. The link to register can be found on the BPC's landing page at thinkfirstspraylast.org.

Training and exams will be held in Jewett Hall at 46 University Drive on the UMaine Augusta Campus near the Augusta Civic Center.

If you have any other questions please contact the Board of Pesticides Control at 207-287-2731 or pesticides@maine.gov.

Annual Summary Reports

Remember to log into the MEPERLS portal and complete your annual summary reports by January 31, 2026 for the 2025 season. Dealers will want to complete the annual sales summary reports and commercial applicators will want to complete the annual use summary reports. If you have issues with the portal, please contact the Board of Pesticides Control at 207-287-2731 or pesticides@maine.gov.

Correspondence From BPC

Licenses and notices are sent via email whenever possible. If we have your current email address you will receive correspondence about training opportunities, license information and other important topics.

Please send your current email address to jan.betts@maine.gov.

Thank-you!

Annual Maine Agricultural Trades Show

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING PROGRAMS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026

UMaine Cooperative Extension/Maine Board of Pesticides Control Pesticide Applicator Recertification (*Kennebec/Penobscot Room*) (1 credit each hour)

9:00–10:00	Backpack Sprayer Calibration—George Hamilton, Ag Consultant, Hillside Meadows Ag Consulting, LLC
10:15–11:15	BPC Update—Alex Peacock, Director, BPC
11:30-12:30	Boom Sprayer Calibration —George Hamilton, Ag Consultant, Hillside Meadows Ag Consulting, LLC
1:30-2:30	How It Works: Pesticide Registration in Maine—Julia Vacchiano, Pesticides Registrar, BPC
2:45-3:45	Neonicotinoids: risks and alternatives —Doug Van Hoewyk, Pesticides Toxicologist, BPC

Maine Christmas Tree Association Winter Meeting (*Arnold Rm*) (1 credit each session)

11:00-12:00	Towards Cost-Efficient Management of Phytophthora Root Rot in Maine—Brett Johnson, Assistant Extension Professor, UMaine Ext
1:00-2:00	Biology and Management of Balsam Gall Midge in Maine—Assistant Extension Professor, University of Maine, UMaine Ext

Maine Organic Farmers' and Growers' Association (*Piscataquis/Sagadahoc Rm*) (1 credit each session)

9:00-10:00	Coffee Hour Crop Conversation, Caleb Goossen, MOFGA Crop Specialist; Jason Lilley, UMaine Ext, and others
1:00-2:00	Biological Control and IPM in Cropping Systems—Maryam Nouri Aiin, UVM
4:00-5:00	Climate Impacts on Your Farm—Dr. Rachel Schattman, UMaine Agroecology Lab; Sara Keleman, New England Soil Health Specialist, American Farmland Trust

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026

Produce Farm Food Safety Plan Workshop (*Arnold Rm*) (1 credit each)

12:00-1:00	Food Safety Plan How-to Workshop—Lindsay Werner, Consumer Protection Inspector, DACF
2:00-3:00	Agricultural Water Assessment Workshop—Lindsay Werner, Consumer Protection Inspector, DACF

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026

UMaine Cooperative Extension/Maine Board of Pesticides Control Pesticide Applicator Recertification (*Kennebec/Penobscot Rm*) (1 credit each hour)

9:00–10:00	Worms, Plants, and Bugs: Slowing the Spread of Invasive Species—Gary Fish, State Horticulturist, DACF
10:15-11:15	What is the Buzz on Bees—Jen Lund, State Apiarist, DACF
11:30-12:30	Healthy Farms, Healthy Farmers: How IPM Supports Wellness, Creativity, and Stress Reduction—Hillary Peterson, IPM Specialist, DACF

Board Meeting live streamed from (*Kennebec/ Penobscot Rm*)

1:00–1:30*	Board of Pesticides Control Meeting
1:30–2:00*	Open Forum for Growers, Applicators and the Public—BPC
2:00–4:00*	BPC Meeting, continued

****One credit for attending entire meeting and forum***

Maine Vegetable and Small Fruit Growers' Association (*Fort Western Room*) (1 credit for both talks) Fee for non-members

1:00-2:00	New Vegetable Varieties, Focus on Disease Resistance—Harris Seeds, Seedway
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Maine Woodland Owners Forestry Forum (*Augusta Rm*) (1 credit each)

1:55-2:45	Forest Pest and Disease Update—Mike Parisio, Entomologist, MFS
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THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026

UMaine Cooperative Extension/Maine Board of Pesticides Control Pesticide Applicator Recert. (1 credit each hr.) (*Kennebec/Penobscot Rm*)

9:00–11:15	Maine Wild Blueberries—Lily Calderwood, Ext. Wild Blueberry Specialist, Assoc. Prof of Horticulture, UMaine Ext; Seanna Annis, Director of SBE/Professor of Mycology; & Phillip Fanning, Asst. Professor of Agricultural Entomology, UMaine
11:30–12:30	PFAS in Pesticides: A tale of two [potential] toxicities—Doug Van Hoewyk, Pesticides Toxicologist, BPC
2:00-4:00	Farm Food Safety How-to: Risk Assessment and Cleaning & Sanitizing Workshop—Lindsay Werner, Consumer Protection Inspector, DACF