

## News Article

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## Private Applicators Can Attend End-of-Year Programs

The end of 2018 is fast approaching, and for private applicators with expiring licenses, it also means that some producers may find that they need to attend an approved program or two by year's end.

Private applicators are typically individuals who spray restricted use pesticides and/or apply manure from a confined feeding operation (CFO) to their own land. Individuals may possess a private pesticide applicator license, a private fertilizer applicator license, or a license with both endorsements.

A private applicator license is active for a period of five years. Private applicators must attend three private applicator recertification programs (PARPs) within that five year period to keep their license active and avoid the need to re-test. Any approved recertification program qualifies as credit toward your private applicator license. However, no more than two programs may be attended for credit in any one calendar year.

One implication of that requirement is that private applicators cannot wait until the final year of their active license and attend all three required programs. For those producers whose license expires Dec. 31, 2019 (next year), you should check to see that you have at least one program attended for credit by the end of this year.

An on-line program is available, but it may only be taken once for credit (one of the three required programs). Go to <https://ppp.purdue.edu/private-applicators/recertification-parp/online-recertification-program/> for information.

Producers may also check periodically for updated listings of in-person programs available in the region at: <https://ppp.purdue.edu/private-applicators/recertification-parp/parp-events/>. This website is updated often. Approved programs may be attended anywhere in the state for credit; programs do not need to be exclusively within your county of residence.

Website listings include all important details, such as contact person, specific times, locations and registration information. Programs listed as of the date of this writing in northeast Indiana counties include:

- Dec. 4 – Noble County
- Dec. 4 – Whitley County
- Dec. 10 – Elkhart County

- Dec. 13 – Madison County
- Dec. 15 – Jay County
- Dec. 17 – Steuben/DeKalb Counties

Purdue Extension in Whitley County will host a PARP for private fertilizer and/or pesticide applicators Dec. 4, 2018 at the Whitley County 4-H Center, 680 West Squawbuck Road, Columbia City, IN. Registration will begin at 6:00 p.m., and the program will run 6:30-8:30 p.m. Dr. Keith Johnson, Purdue forage specialist, will speak on problem weeds and weed control in pastures, and on understanding potato leafhopper and leafhopper-resistant alfalfa: can I reduce insecticide use? John Woodmansee, Extension Educator, will speak on avoiding well contamination. Reservations are required: call 260-244-7615 with your name and phone number by Nov. 30. Attendees should bring their private applicator license with them, along with the standard \$10 PARP program fee.

Additionally, northeast Indiana producers will have an opportunity to obtain PARP credits by attending a program at the Fort Wayne Farm Show Jan. 15 from 1:30-3:30 p.m., and at field days at Northeast Purdue Agricultural Center near Columbia City in June and August of 2019. Feel free to call your county's Purdue Extension office for additional information on upcoming programs.