



Cornell University

Cornell Cooperative Extension  
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2026

## 30-HOUR PESTICIDE TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION COURSE

In-person classes will be held at  
Community Center

450 Skyview Centre Parkway, Suite 200, Rochester, NY 14622

A few classes will be held online via Zoom. Please note the days and times

*Professional training for Arborists, Garden Retail, Lawn, Landscape, Nursery Professionals, and Farmer Owners.*

**Morning Classes:** 9 AM - 12:15 PM (A 15-minute break will be taken partway through morning and afternoon sessions)

**NOTE:** Most days with both morning and afternoon sessions will be scheduled from 9:00 AM to 2:15 PM & 1:00 PM to 4:15 PM

Lunch break - 12:00 PM - 12:50 PM (Except Monday, Feb 9)

Session	Date/Time	Topic	Credits
1	Monday 1/26 9:00 AM-12:00 PM	<b>Turfgrass Pests</b> – <i>Kyle Wickings, Cornell University</i> . Participants will gain knowledge of turf insects, scouting and monitoring techniques, and traditional and alternative control options will be discussed.	3a – 3 3b – 3 25 – 3
	1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	<b>An In-Depth Look at IPM</b> – <i>Marci Muller, CCE-Monroe Horticulture Team Leader</i> . Understand the six steps of IPM and techniques for monitoring, identification of the pest, the biology, thresholds, control options, and evaluation	Core 1
2	Wednesday 1/28 9:00 AM-12:00 PM	<b>Pesticide CORE Competency I</b> – <i>Mike Helms, Pesticide Safety Education Program, Cornell University</i> . Pesticide types, formulations, toxicity, and environmental considerations of pesticide use, calibration, mixing calculations, and application equipment.	Core - 3
	1:00 PM – 4:15 PM	<b>Personal Protective Equipment, Pesticide Exposure Risk and Toxicity &amp; Interpreting Pesticide Labels</b> – <i>Mike Helms, Pesticide Safety Education Program, Cornell University</i> . Personal safety is key when using	Core - 3

*Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities*

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.

		pesticides. This session describes what is and what is not appropriate for use. Reading a label correctly is critical both to making an effective application and to protecting people and the environment by preventing misuse of the product.	
3	<b>Friday 1/30</b> 9:00 AM-12:00 PM	<b>Critters in the Landscape – Lynn Brabant, NYS IPM Program, Cornell University (retired).</b> Covers the legal framework and management of damage caused by wildlife in lawns and landscapes. Cultural practices, pesticide use, and other management techniques will be discussed.	3a - 3 3b - 3 25 - 3
	1:00 PM – 4:15 PM	<b>Weeds of the Landscape – Marci Muller, CCE-Monroe Horticulture Team Leader (retired).</b> Weed identification is key to creating a management plan. Attendees will be instructed on how to identify common and invasive weeds. Pesticide resistance, cultural, and pesticide management will be covered.	3a - 3 3b - 3 25 - 3
4	<b>Wednesday 2/4</b> 9:00 AM-12:00 PM	<b>Ornamental Plant Pathology – Karen L. Snower-Clift, Plant Diagnostic Clinic, Cornell University.</b> This session covers the types of plant diseases seen in our landscapes and gardens. Focuses on understanding the fungal, bacterial, and viral pathogens causing diseases. Various methods will be discussed for the management of plant diseases. Spotted Lantern Fly will also be discussed.	3a - 3 3b - 3 25 - 3
	1:00 PM – 4:15 PM	<b>Pesticide Core Competency II – Mike Helms, Pesticide Safety Education Program, Cornell University.</b> Covers pesticide security, including proper transportation, storage, and disposal, safety precaution issues, including poisoning symptoms, residue, and tolerance. Fundamental concepts of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) will be presented.	Core - 3
5	<b>Friday 2/6</b> 9:00 AM-12:00 PM	<b>DEC Rules and Regulations, Updates – Chris Wainwright, NYS DEC.</b> Rules and regulations required to become a certified pesticide applicator, detailed look at the requirements for record keeping and reporting. Questions asked and information required at the on-site inspection will be explained.	Core - 3
6	<b>Monday 2/9</b> 9:00-11:00 AM	<b>Intro to Turfgrass and Its Diseases – Carl Salvatore Schimenti, School of Integrative Plant Science, Cornell University.</b> How to grow healthy turf and linking expectations about lawn quality, combined with learning about various turf diseases, will be discussed. Covers the IPM approach to managing diseases and keeping turf healthy.	Core – 2

	12:00 PM – 3:15 PM	<b>Applied Ornamental Entomology – Brian Eshenaur, Associate Director, Invasive Species IPM Coordinator, Cornell Integrated Pest Management.</b> Correct identification of insect pests is a prerequisite to developing a management plan. Participants will gain an understanding of insect identification, life cycles, feeding patterns, and damage to landscape ornamental plants, along with cultural, alternative, and traditional management options.	3a - 3 3b - 3 25 - 3
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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Read through carefully and be prepared to receive credit

### STEPS FOR ENROLLMENT:

1. **Register online:** [https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event\\_registration/main/events\\_landing.cfm?event=30-Hour-2026-2\\_226](https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events_landing.cfm?event=30-Hour-2026-2_226)
2. **Submit payment:** When you fill out the online registration, it will automatically generate a Purchase Order form, check form, or PayPal payment
  - Pay by credit/debit card through PayPal (no account needed). **We cannot accept payment over the phone or on the day of class!**
  - Check (made out to CCE Monroe County) and/or purchase order should include the form generated by the event system and be mailed to:

CCE Monroe County, 2449 St. Paul Blvd, Rochester, NY 14617

3. **Order your own core and category manuals:** <https://www.cornellstore.com/books/cornell-cooperative-ext-pmep-manuals?page=1>  
[Core Manual](#) ; [Category 3](#)
4. **Check your email inbox for:**
  - Registration confirmation email.
  - An email containing Zoom links to access your session(s) will be sent a couple of days before the course date.
5. **Prepare for online learning (see TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS below):**
  - [Download Zoom](#) and test it before class begins. Test your video and audio as well.
6. **Day of class ID Submission:**
  - If you are taking the course for the first time, you must upload a picture of your photo ID to [this secure Qualtrics Survey](#). We would prefer you upload the ID a couple of days before the class, or you can do it when you register.
  - If you are getting recertification credits, you must upload a picture of your NYS Pesticide Applicator ID to [this secure Qualtrics Survey](#). We would prefer you to upload the ID a couple of days before the class, or you can do it when you register.

## DEC REQUIREMENTS FOR DISTANCE PROGRAMS:

- To take the exam, attendees of the 30 Hour Technicians Course are **required** to attend all classes. No makeup classes are available.
- Latecomers (10 or more minutes) for any class will not receive credit for that class.
- Certificates of completion will be emailed to you.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- Desktop PC, laptop, or tablet with audio and video capability. If you must join by phone, that is acceptable but not advised.
- A good internet connection. Audio headphones if needed.
- Have your device charged and a charger nearby, as Zoom tends to use extra battery.

## DEC PESTICIDE TECHNICIANS' EXAM NYS

- **For those attendees** who live out of the Rochester area, call the DEC office that is nearest to your location to set up a date to take the exam.
- **For those attendees** who are local to the Rochester area, you can take the exam on 3/1 at Wegman Loge in Seneca Park, or call the DEC office in Avon, NY to set up a date to take the exam.
- **Date of exam: Friday, February 13, 2025, 9:00 AM**, door opens at 8:30 AM
- **Location:** 450 Skyview Centre Parkway, Suite 200, Rochester, NY 14622
- **Note:** You **must** bring your 30-hour course certificate, NYS driver's license & a **check made out to NYS DEC** for \$100.00. ***Cash will not be accepted***

**CONTACT: Questions about classes & credits, contact: Haseler, [jh954@cornell.edu](mailto:jh954@cornell.edu), 585-753-2565**

Accommodation for people with disabilities may be requested by calling Jarmila Haseler at 585-753-2565 by January 15, 2026. Requests received after this date will be met only if possible.