

Columbia Green

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Commercial News

UF/IFAS
Columbia County Extension
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Licenses — What Do I Need?

What is required to legally provide lawn care and landscape maintenance services? Many people working in the Green Industry professions are confused these days about which certifications they need to be in business.

To perform service work on someone else's property, it is necessary to have the Occupational Permit which is obtained from the tax collectors' offices. Besides this permit, service providers also need to obtain minimum bodily and property damage Insurance.



Any employee or business owner who uses any type of pesticide on ornamental plants, trees, planting beds, edging or side walk cracks must have an applicator license.

This includes caution statement insecticides and herbicides that are purchased over-the-counter. There are several different licenses issued by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Bureau of Entomology and Pest Control.

Lawn and landscape maintenance workers must have the Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance Certification (LCLM) to legally apply any insect killer to ornamental plants and trees. This includes organic materials such as insecticidal soaps and horticultural oils. If any weed or grass killer, such as RoundUp® is used in or around plant beds, sidewalks or driveways, this LCLM license is required by Florida law.

Another science-based educational training was developed by FDEP and is offered through UF/IFAS. A Green Industry-Best Management Practices (GI-BMP) Certificate of Completion is awarded to anyone who

takes this training. The GI-BMPs teach environmentally safe landscaping practices that help conserve and protect Florida's ground and surface waters.

Until now, the GI-BMP training has been completely voluntary, except for some municipalities that have required it as a prerequisite to bid or work on certain sites. Now the law requires that an individual who applies any fertilizer to a client's property must obtain GI-BMP training **BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2014**.

Why do fertilizer applicators need this training BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2014? This GI-BMP training is the pre-requisite class for the new **URBAN FERTILIZER LICENSE**. Everyone who works with any kind of fertilizers for hire is required to have this license by January 1, 2014, even if they are licensed in another category, even pest control operators.



***LCLM Workshop
Thurs, June 6th**

***GI-BMP Workshop for
URBAN FERTILIZER
LICENSE
Thurs, Sept. 26th**

*These workshops are offered at the UF/IFAS Columbia County Extension Office. See back page.

How to get your URBAN FERTILIZER LICENSE by JANUARY 1, 2014. Sign up for the all-day GI-BMP training and take the short test the day of the class. If you pass, you will receive the required credentials to apply for your Limited Urban Fertilizer License through the State of Florida.

Learn about different types of licenses here:
<http://www.safepesticideuse.com/aes-ent/licenseandcert.html>



License Summary

Lawn Maintenance and Landscaping Businesses should have:

Occupational Permit - by law, from tax collector's office
cctc@columbiataxcollector.com

Insurance—from your own insurance agent. Proof of minimum bodily and property damage coverage is needed to be able to obtain professional licenses.

Workers Compensation (depending on number of workers)
www.myfloridacfo.com/WC/employer/index.html

Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance License—required by law if any type of weed killer, insecticide or fungicide is used. FDACS Bureau of Entomology and Pest Control.

Green Industries Best Management Practices (GI-BMP)
 Beginning 1/1/14, any professional who fertilizes a customer's home lawn is required to have this certification under Chapter 482.1562, Florida Statutes. It is a prerequisite for the fertilizer license. UF and Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection

Limited Cert. for Urban Landscape Comm. Fertilizer—license required by law as of 1/1/14 for every individual who applies any type of fertilizer to a customer's lawn. FDACS Bureau of Entomology and Pest Control. This limited license is similar to the LCLM pesticide applicator license.

Annual Nitrogen Fertilizer Recommendations

Species/Location	Interim N Recommended lbs 1000/sqft/yr
Bahiagrass- North	2-3
Bermudagrass- North	3-5
Centipedegrass- North	1-2
St. Augustinegrass- North	2-4
Zoysiagrass- North	3-5

Homeowner preferences for lawn quality and maintenance level will vary, therefore we recommend a range of fertility rates for each grass and location.

The fertilizer should be applied in multiple (2-6) applications yearly. With each fertilizer application, 1/2 to 1 lb. of N should be applied. To find out how much of the common fertilizer types this relates to, go to <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/EP221>.

UF/IFAS recently posted videos on turfgrass research to help green industry professionals and home owners. The videos explain findings of a recently completed study on turfgrass fertilizer.

The 8-year research was funded by the Department of Environmental Protection to determine the effectiveness of current fertilizer recommendations.

The professional video can be accessed at <http://tinyurl.com/be2la7q> and the homeowner video can be accessed at <http://tinyurl.com/ajy4ytr>.

The study involved different locations, irrigation and fertilization practices, and turf varieties. Despite the differences, several basic conclusions were made:

- * Little nutrient leaching results from summer application to healthy, actively growing turfgrass
- * Summer fertilizer bans could potentially cause damage to healthy, actively growing turf.
- * Nutrient leaching can result from fertilizer application to dormant or unhealthy turf
- * Newly laid sod should not be fertilized for 30 to 60 days because roots are not developed for uptake. Nutrients from sod farm are still present.

It should not be assumed that unhealthy turf automatically needs fertilizer. If a lawn is in bad shape, figure out why before helping it out with fertilizer. The nutrients applied will most likely be leached into water resources instead.

If you apply any kind of pesticide for hire, even over the counter products with ‘caution’ statements or organic materials, please be aware that you are responsible for notifying people in the neighborhood who are on the FDACS registry of Persons Requiring Prior Notification.

1. Prior Notification of the Application of Pesticides

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) is required by Chapter 482 F.S., Florida Pest Control Law, to maintain a current registry of persons who require prior notification of the application of pesticides. FDACS is required to provide a list of these persons on a quarterly basis to all businesses and persons who have a current license or have a limited certificate issued by the FDACS Bureau of Entomology and Pest Control.

FDACS, Bureau of Entomology and Pest Control must provide all licensees and limited certificate holders the following information on a quarterly basis:

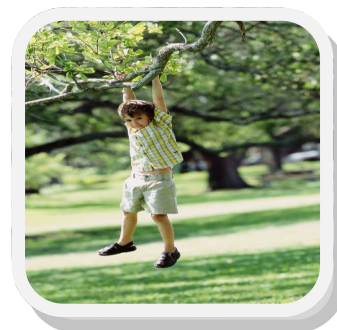
- * The names and addresses of those persons who are currently registered;
- * The pesticide or class of pesticides for which prior notification is required; and
- * The distance for which notification is required.

A licensee or limited certificate holder must notify the person at least 24 hours prior to application of pesticide. Notification may be by telephone, mail or hand delivery. The notification must include the location where the pesticide will be applied and the type of pesticide to be used

2. Posting of Lawn and Ornamental Pesticide Applications

Florida law requires pesticide applicators to post notices of pesticide applications they make to lawns and exterior foliage (ornamental plantings) when these are part of the landscape around a building.

The posting requirement applies to pesticide applications made by Commercial Pest Control (PCO), Limited Lawn and Ornamental, Limited Structural, and **Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance. (LCLM)**



Specific Posting Requirements



- *Minimum size of sign is 4”x 5”
- * rigid, durable, weatherproof material with the background and lettering in contrasting colors.
- * posted in conspicuous location at time of application
- * business name or LCLM certificate holder on notice
- * may be part of larger sign containing more information
- * example to left represents content, size of print, symbol, and conformity with comparison to size of sample

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Solutionsforyourlife.com

Let us help you
avoid costly fines...

Obtain your
**LCLM
Certification**

or

Get CEUs to
renew a
Certification



What is the University of Florida/IFAS Extension Service?

Your UF/IFAS Extension provides research-based educational programs in response to local issues affecting Florida citizens.

Through the combined efforts of state and county UF faculty, staff and volunteers, response can be made to the needs of area residents and businesses. We assist in applying the benefits of research and university expertise to solve problems.

Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance Workshop

Location: **Columbia County Extension Service**
164 SW Mary Ethel Lane
Lake City, FL 32056

Thursday, June 6, 2013

This class offers the required CEUs to obtain your LCLM Certification.

Or earn 6 total **CEUs** to renew a license. 3 each of Core, L&O, LL&O, LCLM

8:15 Registration and Pretest

Session Topics:

Pesticides and Environmental Concerns

Major Insect Groups and Feeding

Common Weed ID

Herbicides and IPM

LCLM Laws and Regulations

Pesticide Label and the Law

3:00—3:15 Application Info, CEU Distribution, Posttest

Full day class starts at 8:15 and ends at 3:15 for the required LCLM 6-hour training. The exam will be administered after the class and you may take it only if you have already purchased your books and studied for the exam. Most people decide to study for several weeks after the workshop before taking the exam. FDACS will charge you \$150 each time you retake this test, so please study and be prepared when you take this exam. You must purchase your own books through the UF/IFAS bookstore www.ifasbooks.com.

If you are prepared to take the exam on the day of the workshop, you must have an application filled out, your completed proof of insurance form, a 2" x 2" headshot photo, a check payable to FDACS, and a picture ID. Please contact Nichelle Demorest at dndemorest@ufl.edu if you plan to take the exams the same day at 3:15. * Individuals seeking re-certification may attend first 4 hours for the \$30.00 .

\$30 Registration includes Appropriate CEUs, Application Assistance, Lunch and Refreshments.

Name _____ Phone _____

Company _____ email _____

Make checks payable to Columbia County Extension 4-H . Return to Columbia County Extension address above or call **752-5384 to pre-register.** (**Pre-registration is required.**)

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