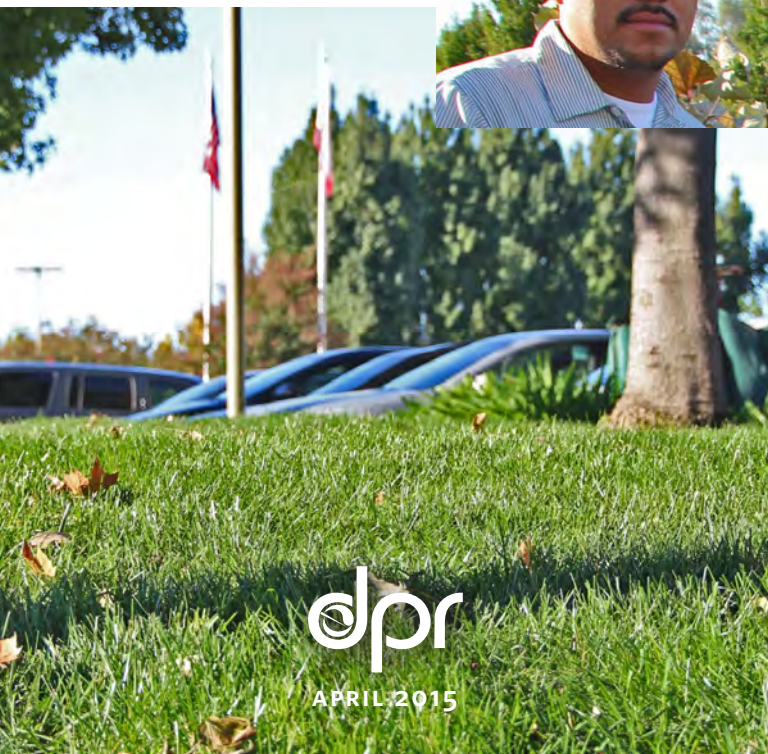


Maintenance Gardener Pest Control Certification Requirements

Pocket Guide



dpr

APRIL 2015



DEPARTMENT OF PESTICIDE REGULATION
LICENSING/CERTIFICATION PROGRAM



NO SALE/USE RESTRICT MATERIALS
QUALIFIED APPLICATOR CERTIFICATE

DATE OF ISSUE

01/01/20xx

VALID THROUGH

12/31/20xx

QAC #####
ROSEMARY BUSCHE
000 GREEN ST
GARDEN CITY CA 00000

Q



PESTICIDE APPLICATOR REQUIREMENTS

If you occasionally apply pesticides as part of a maintenance gardening business, you have three requirements:

1. A Maintenance Gardener Qualified Applicator Certificate in category Q (QAC-Q) from the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR).
2. A Maintenance Gardener Pest Control Business License from DPR.
3. Register your business in the counties where you intend to work.

1. Qualified Applicator Certificate in category Q (QAC-Q)

Download the application packet from the Maintenance Gardener (MG) Web site (www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/maintgardeners.htm). After submitting the packet, review the study material online, pass a short exam, and DPR will send your QAC-Q card by mail.

A QAC-Q only allows use of general use pesticides, NOT California Restricted Materials.

2. Maintenance Gardener Business (MGB) license

Submit an application packet to DPR. The application packet is available on the MG Web site. A MGB must have a qualified person on staff with a QAC-Q to supervise pesticide use.

A QAC-B or QAL-B also qualifies you to obtain a MGB and allows you to use restricted materials. Please refer to the Licensing and

Certification Web page for more information:

www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/liccert.htm



Photograph by: Jack Kelly Clark, courtesy UC IPM

3. County Registration

Before you conduct any pest control work, you must register the business with the county agricultural commissioner's office in each county where you intend to perform pest control. Registration is required annually and covers one calendar year.

Find County Agricultural Commissioner Resources at:

www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/county/comenu.htm

For a complete step by step guide on getting certified to use pesticides, visit DPR's Maintenance Gardener (MG) Web site:



www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/maintgardeners.htm



Renewals, Continuing Education Courses

DPR will mail your QAC renewal notice in July of the year your certificate expires. Those certified in category Q must have 8 hours of continuing education (CE) every 2 years, with a minimum of 2 hours on laws and regulations. The MG Web site has a list of DPR-approved courses in English and Spanish.



Photograph by: Michael L. Poe, courtesy UC IPM

Health/Safety Tips, Environmental Issues

The Department of Pesticide Regulation Web site has helpful links about keeping yourself and others safe while using pesticides, along with protecting waterways and the environment. You can also learn about integrated pest management (IPM) techniques, including preventative measures and non-chemical methods, to reduce the use of pesticides.

<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/>

Pesticides used around homes and businesses, if not applied correctly, can harm humans, wildlife and pollute waterways. California requires that maintenance gardeners applying pesticides are certified and trained accordingly.

The Maintenance Gardener category Q applicator certificate (QAC-Q) allows the occasional use of most common pesticides in home landscapes.

Maintenance Gardener Web site:

www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/maintgardeners.htm



Licensing and Certification Program

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