

AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS & MEASURES



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

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TO: SAN MATEO COUNTY GROWERS AND NURSERYMEN

SUBJECT: 2022 RESTRICTED MATERIAL PERMIT/OPERATOR IDENTIFICATION NUMBER RENEWAL

Our Department will begin issuing 2022 Restricted Material Permits and Operator Identification Numbers on December 1, 2021. **All businesses growing an agricultural commodity must obtain an Operator ID or Restricted Materials Permit annually prior to applying pesticides.**

To obtain or renew your restricted materials permit or operator identification number you will need to do the following.

1. Set up an appointment with a District Biologist at (650) 363-4700.
2. Provide a copy via text, or email, or live chat:
 - a. Brown wallet-sized private applicator certification card (if applicable).
 - b. Proof of continuing education hours earned (if your private applicator certification is due for renewal). In order to renew your Private Applicator card without taking the exam again, you will need to have obtained six hours of continuing education credit and renew within 90 days of expiration. If you do not have six hours or do not have proof that you obtained six hours of credit, you will be required to take and pass a recertification exam again with a score of 70% or higher. If you do not pass the exam, you must wait **seven days** before retaking the exam.
3. Permits will be reviewed in detail, including the site maps. Any necessary changes will be made on the computer prior to the permit being printed. Growers who use only non-restricted materials must renew their annual Operator Identification Number and review their site information with staff as well.
4. The biologist will provide a copy of your Restricted Materials Permit/ Operator Identification Number for you to sign and return to the biologist. The biologist will review and provide you with a signed copy.
5. You will be contacted by your District Biologist for your required annual headquarters/records inspection.

Private Applicator certification will expire on December 31, 2021 for those with last names beginning with A through H. If you do not renew your private applicator card within 90 days of expiration, you must take and pass a recertification exam. Those with last names beginning I through Q and R through Z will **not** need to renew their Private Applicator certification for 2022 but **will** still need to renew their Restricted Materials Permit or Operator Identification Number **prior** to using pesticides in 2022.

Pesticide Use Near Schools: All production agriculture operations located within ¼ mile of a public K-12 school or a licensed daycare facility are required to notify schools/daycare facilities by **April 2022** of all pesticides expected to be used July 2022-June 2023. Exempt materials that do not require EPA registration such as rosemary oil, cinnamon oil, etc. must be included in the notification to the schools. Regulations prohibit certain application methods and the application of certain materials Monday- Friday from 6am-6pm. The required notification can be provided to the schools beginning Jan. 1 through CalAgPermits if you have an account. **Pesticide use reports** may now be submitted on-line in CalAgPermits. Send an email requesting a username and password to smateoag@smcgov.org or contact our office at (650) 363-4700.

Please visit our Department website to complete a short one minute online survey at www.smcgov.org/agwm. Thank you for your ongoing cooperation and best wishes for the New Year!