



SW Area Commercial/Private Applicator Training

February 6, 2018, 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Butte Silver Bow Emergency Operations Center

3615 Wynne Ave Butte Mt 59701 South Entrance.

Costs: \$20.00 MWCA members/\$30.00 non-members

Register at: www.mtweed.org or call: (406)225-4165 or (406) 498-3052

8:00-8:30 AM *Registration Welcome & Introductions.*

8:30 – 9:30 AM *Common turf/grass diseases, and management including cultural and chemical control.*

Toby Day is the Extension Horticulture Associate Specialist and state-wide Master Gardener Coordinator through Montana State University Extension. He earned both his degrees, a Bachelor of Science in Horticulture and Master of Science in Plant Sciences from MSU. Previous to being the Extension Horticulture Associate Specialist for MSU, he was an Extension Agent in Silver Bow County in Butte, Montana for 2 years. Toby has also worked as a landscape project manager, assistant farm manager, owned his own business and is an avid gardener. Extension Horticulture Specialist, Montana State University, P.O. Box 173140, Bozeman, Montana 59717-3140 (406) 994-6523.

9:30 -10:15 AM *Cheatgrass and other annual grasses in rangeland. Understanding these invasive grasses and ways that may help in minimizing their impacts.*

Noelle Orloff is an Associate Extension Specialist at Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana, where she works in the Schutter Diagnostic Lab. One of her responsibilities in the lab is identifying plants submitted by growers, ranchers and homeowners and providing management recommendations if needed. Another is diagnosing herbicide injury of crops and ornamental plants. Current and past research pursuits have included investigating perennial weed control in organic and diversified cropping systems, and exploring rangeland plant community response to weed control measures. She received her master's degree in Land Resources and Environmental Sciences from Montana State University.
noelleorloff@montana.edu 406-994-6297

10:15– 10:30 AM *Break*

10:30-11:15 AM: *Pesticide Laws & Worker Protection Standards (WPS) updates:*

Tonda Moon with the Montana Dept. of Agriculture Ag. Sciences Division will present on changes in the Pesticide Laws and Workers Protection Standards that may impact your weed management activities. Reviewing these laws will help you avoid potential problems down the road. tmooon@mt.gov (406)329-1346

11:15-11:45AM : *Integrating Biological Control with Other Control Measures*

This presentation will cover how to tie biological weed control into an integrated weed control strategy. Items covered will include: Pros and cons of biological control, when to use and not use bio-control, knowing “the label” of a bio-control agent, insect economy, some specific information on the insects for spotted/diffuse knapweed, leafy spurge, and a bit about the new/potential agents for Russian knapweed, whitetop, and Canada thistle.

Todd has taught 6-12 science at Whitehall High School for 30+ years and newly retired. He has a B.S. in Forestry with an emphasis in recreation from the U of M. He earned an M.S. in Entomology from Montana State University studying *Calophasia lunula*, a biological control agent for Dalmatian toadflax. He has been the Whitehall Biological Weed Control Project Coordinator since 1993. This project educates the public about bio-control of noxious weeds, mass rears, collects and redistributes thousands of bio-control insects every year with high school aged workers. Todd has taught numerous summer classes for teachers and others about how to start similar programs in Montana, Idaho, Utah and Nevada. He is the co-author of “Biological Weed Control Using Insects, A Field Guide for Montana” and is the site supervisor of the mtwow.org web site. Todd Breitenfeldt, Whitehall Project, P.O. Box 883, Whitehall MT. 59759, Cell: (406)498-5236

11:45-12:30 Noon *LUNCH ON US*

12:30-1:30 PM : Forest Pest Identification and Control

This presentation will address some of the most common forest insects impacting conifers in Montana and will include identification and management options, with emphasis on proper chemical control. Non-target impacts of herbicides on conifers will be presented as well. Time will be given for questions and discussion.

Amy Gannon is an entomologist for the MT DNRC Forest Pest Management Program. The program assists forest owners/managers with forest insect and disease issues by providing technical assistance, workshops, grant support, and invasive species surveillance. She received a Masters in Entomology at Michigan State University with a concentration in forestry. Amy Gannon can be reached at 406-542-4283 or agannon@mt.gov.

1:30 – 2:30 PM Control Techniques for Richardson’s Ground Squirrels : MDAs Vertebrate Pest Specialist, Stephen M. Vantassel, will be presenting information on the control of Richardson’s ground squirrels. His presentation will review basic life history, damage identification and impacts, and cover the pros and cons of control techniques on the market today, including habitat modification, trapping, shooting, chemical and biological controls. In addition, Stephen will provide some reasons why control methods fail to meet expectations and give you tactics to improve your control efforts.

Stephen M. Vantassel, CWCP, Vertebrate Pest Specialist, Montana Department of Agriculture, 625 NE Main St. Ste 3, Lewistown, MT 59457, svantassel@mt.gov Office 406-538-3004 Cell 406-431-7720

2:30 – 3:15 PM Herbicide Updates and recommendations Treat more acres with less complaints using new Choline formulation in 2,4-D (FreeLexx) and Vastlan for brush control. Also new methods with using Milestone for winter annual controls and new pre-mix, Cleantraxx, to offer a new tool in the toolbox for weed control in total vegetation control that will offer resistant management benefits in weed control.

Trent Brusseau has been in the chemical industry since last century 25 years. He is Pasture/Land Management Specialist for Dow AgroSciences which has merged last September with Dupont managing Montana & Idaho. (208)-318-8877 tabrusseau@dow.com

3:15 – 4:15 PM Implementing EDDMapS West : Early Detection Distribution Mapping System) is a fast, free, and simple way of reporting and mapping noxious weed infestations in Montana. This tool also serves as a mechanism for alerting appropriate individuals to new invaders, noxious weed identification, tracking management efficiency, and generating distribution maps on the state and county level. The reports are verified by your county weed coordinator, and can be submitted from any smartphone, tablet device, or from your home computer. EDDMapS West can help Montanan’s stay ahead of new invaders before control becomes too technically and financially impossible.

Jasmine Reimer attended the University of Montana, where she pursued a bachelor’s degree in sustainable agriculture and business. She has a background in secondary education teaching environmental studies for Boston University, and has worked in both the pesticide licensing and apiary programs with Montana’s Department of Agriculture (MDA). Jasmine is currently the Noxious Weed Trust Fund coordinator for MDA, and says her favorite part of the job is getting to visit landowners and project coordinators across the state to see all the hard work that is being done to combat noxious weeds and improve native habitat. Website: <http://agr.mt.gov/Noxious-Weed-Trust-Fund-Grants>, Phone: 444-7882, jreimer@mt.gov

4:15 PM Wrap up and credit signup.

Applying for credits in: Right of Way, Ag. Plant Pest, Forestry, Ornamental Turf, Demonstration Research, Utility School IPM and Rodent