



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

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Invitation sent from WSDA instead of US EPA due to the government shutdown.
WSDA has already secured the PIRT funding.

January 14, 2019

Dear State Lead Agency, Tribal, Territory, or EPA Representative:

It is our pleasure to invite your agency to participate in the **2019 Pesticide Drift Issues "Pesticide Inspector Regulatory Training" (PIRT)** hosted by the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) in conjunction with Washington State University (WSU) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The course will be held at the SpringHill Suites by Marriott in Kennewick, Washington from May 14-17, 2019.

The target audience is pesticide inspectors who are involved in investigating drift related complaints, have a minimum of one year experience, and have not attended a PIRT training in the last two years. We anticipate having 40 available spots so, depending on interest and availability, we could possibly accept more than one applicant from your agency.

If selected, **before March 12** WSU must receive an email that the participant's agency has approved travel or participation will be forfeited.

This course will provide an opportunity to learn, discuss, and improve the knowledge and skills of inspectors when dealing with drift related issues. Some highlights of the training include:

- Understanding drift label language
- Volatility and the movement of herbicides
- Understanding temperature inversions and their influence on off-target movement of pesticides
- Understanding of plant symptomology caused by various herbicides and modes of action
- Lessons learned from dicamba issues
- Lessons from spray drift measurements
- Evidence collection for drift complaints

The draft agenda is available for review at the WSU 2019 Pesticide Drift Issues PIRT [website](#).

Class begins at 8:00 am on Tuesday, May 14 and ends on Friday, May 17 at 3:00 pm. The official travel dates are Monday, May 13 and Saturday, May 18. Travel outside of those dates either must be covered by the attendee or pre-

approved by WSU with a reasonable justification.

State, tribe, and territory participants: Hotel, airfare, and meals associated with the training (breakfast/lunch) will be coordinated and paid by WSU. WSU will reimburse the agency or individuals for airline baggage fees (one only), airport parking, transport to/from airports, dinners in Kennewick (\$30), and meals during travel status. Participants are responsible for any incidental expenses, such as car rental, hotel telephone charges, room service, movies, tips, etc. WSU will book hotel rooms and flights.

EPA or other federal inspector participants: WSU will book your hotel room, but you will be responsible to pay for it at the government rate of \$97 per night (excluding taxes). You need to make all your other travel arrangements; destination airport is PSC (Pasco, WA). Federal employees also must pay WSU a registration fee of \$100 to cover expenses associated with the training.

We are looking forward to having your nominee attend this training opportunity. We realize that this represents a substantial commitment of time. However, WSDA, WSU and the EPA feel the curriculum will enhance the ability of your inspector to address pesticide drift issues in your state, tribe, territory or EPA region. Therefore, we request a full commitment from the participants to attend and participate in the entire program.

Nominate up to two people

Note which nominee is primary and which is secondary.

Prepare application materials before going to the website to process the nomination. The following information is needed: nominee name, job title, email, phone, airline travel details (full legal name, date of birth, cell phone, preferred airports), emergency family contact name/phone, dietary restrictions, special notes, and home address if nominee is to be personally reimbursed for travel expenses.

- **Supervisors submit each individual's nomination online:** Click [here](#) or the entire link

- **Nomination closes:** COB January 31

Nominate individuals who can benefit most from the course with the understanding that they must be able to attend the training in its entirety. Preference will be given to individuals who have a minimum of one year experience investigating drift related complaints and who have not attended a PIRT course in the last two years. The emphasis for this PIRT course is mostly on agricultural related incidents.

On or before February 8, WSDA will notify the nominating supervisor regarding selection status.

If you have any questions, pertaining to this program, contact Gary Buckner, WSDA at 509-949-9370 or by email at gbuckner@agr.wa.gov.

For Information regarding logistics (nomination, deadlines, airline ticketing, reimbursements, travel, accommodations, and special diet restrictions), contact Kristi Boone, WSU at 509-335-2952 or by email at kristi.boone@wsu.edu.

Sincerely,

Joel Kangiser
Compliance Program Manager
Pesticide Management Division
WA State Dept. of Agriculture