

# THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



## Department of Agricultural Resources

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### BULLETIN 2020-07

To: Massachusetts License Pesticide Applicators  
From: The Department of Agricultural Resources, Pesticide Program  
Date: March 24, 2020  
Re: CY 2020 Pesticide License Recertification Processes and Related Impacts from COVID-19

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On March 10, 2020, the Baker-Polito Administration declared a state of emergency. The Administration most recently has advised that gatherings of 10 or more people be discouraged to prevent and mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The Department recognizes that many pesticide training and recertification workshops are canceled or offered remotely. Therefore, the Department will be extending the time permitted to earn credits and the number of computer-based or online credits that are acceptable for those specific individuals whose current three-year retraining or recertification cycle ends in Calendar Year (CY) 2020.

For the individuals with a three-year retraining or recertification cycle ending on 07/01/2020, the Department will not only extend the time permitted to earn credits from June 30, 2020, to December 31, 2020, but will also waive the limit on the number of accepted computer-based or online credits or contact hours. This means that individuals with a three-year retraining cycle ending on 07/01/2020 may obtain any portion or all of the needed training credits from online sources.

Please note that the Department is also working to develop a process whereby pesticide license holders will submit their recertification certificates (credits) via the EEA ePLACE Portal. This online process will deploy in late summer / early fall of CY 2020. The Department will use this online process to collect the retraining or recertification training certificates. Individuals whose three-year retraining cycle ends on July 1, 2020, or later will be required to upload their retraining or recertification certificates (credits) into their EEA ePLACE Portal Accounts as part of their CY 2021 license renewal process.

While this is a very challenging time, please know that the Department is committed to serving its constituents and stakeholders and will continue to work in the most helpful and supportive manner possible. We appreciate your patience and understanding, as together, we navigate this rapidly evolving situation.

If you have any questions about this Bulletin, please contact Steve Kenyon, Pesticide Operations Coordinator, Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, at [steve.kenyon2@mass.gov](mailto:steve.kenyon2@mass.gov)

