Chatham Landscape Conference

Chatham County Center of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service will sponsor the annual Chatham Landscape Conference on Tuesday, March 10, 2009. Registration begins at 7:45 a.m. with the program ending at 12:30 p.m. The Conference will be held in the auditorium of the Agriculture Building, 45 South Street, Pittsboro, NC. Please call 919.542.8202 to register. There is no charge.

The program includes the following topics and speakers:

- Developing Insecticide Rotations – Dr. Steven Frank, Department of Entomology (Ornamental Pests), NC State University
- Managing Fire Ants and other Beasties of the Soil – Dr. Rick Brandenburg, Department of Entomology (Commercial Turf Pests), NC State University
- Defining the Sustainable Landscape – Dr. Barbara Fair, Department of Horticultural Science (Extension Landscape Specialist), NC State University
- Using Herbicides in and around Water – Dr. Rob Richardson, Department of Crop Science (Aquatic and Non-crop Weed Specialist), NC State University

Application for Pesticide Recertification Credit will be processed. We will send notice by email when that process is complete. Those who are not on our email list for landscapers and grounds managers may be added by sending an email request to al_cooke@ncsu.edu.

Those attending the conference who need recertification credit are encouraged to bring their bar-coded license card. Cards will be scanned prior to the beginning of the program. Those still present at the end of the program will receive credit.

Please call 919.542.8202 to register.
Pesticide Licensing School

The Chatham County Center of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service will conduct a pesticide licensing school on February 10 and 11, 2009, in the downstairs auditorium of the Agriculture Building, Chatham County Center in Pittsboro, NC. Registration on Tuesday, February 10th, is from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. with program beginning at 9:00 am. Program on Wednesday will begin at 9:00 am also. Sessions will be complete by 5:00 pm on both days. The program will prepare attendants to take the exam for initial pesticide licensing or private applicator certification.

Those wishing to earn commercial licenses to apply pesticides will attend both days; those wishing to earn private applicator certification (farmers, nursery or greenhouse operators) will attend only on February 11th. Exams will be given at the end of the second day.

Cost will be $25.00 for both days plus cost of the manuals; $10.00 for private applicators attending one day only. Registration includes refreshments and workshop materials.

Study manuals will not be available at the school. Participants should order the manuals and study before attending the school. To order manuals, print the order form available at http://ipm.ncsu.edu/pesticidesafety/orderform.PDF or call the Extension office for a copy of the form.

Most people should order the first two manuals (Applying Pesticides Correctly and N.C. Pesticide Laws and Regulations) plus the manual for the license category. Those needing manuals for the Ornamental and Turf category should not rely on manuals dated prior to 2004. The 160 page manual published at that time supersedes previous editions. Private applicators may order the Instruction Workbook at the bottom of the order form.

The School will include training and testing for licensing in Ornamentals and Turf and Private Applicators. Participants that need licensing in another category should contact the Chatham County Center, 919.542.8202 to indicate your needs. We cannot offer specialized training in every category, but may be able to arrange for testing. With sufficient demand, we may be able to add training in another category if an instructor can be found.

It is important for persons interested in this school and exam to pre-register. Otherwise, there may not be an exam available at the end of the training. For more information or to register contact the Chatham County Center, 919.542.8202.

Irrigation Contractors Licensing Requirements

In 2008 the N.C. General Assembly enacted a law, effective January 1, 2009, requiring all irrigation contractors to become licensed prior to June 29, 2009. The North Carolina Irrigation Contractors Licensing Board (NCICLB or Board) has begun meeting to provide all interested parties with the appropriate information necessary to apply for licensure as an Irrigation Contractor by the NCICLB. Any person wishing to become licensed should make application.

The board is presently in the process of implementing the necessary infrastructure to accommodate applications. The Board anticipates having applications available for prospective licensees by March 15, 2009. The Board also anticipates being able to release contact information, website information and various other information at that time.

There have been numerous questions related to the new law requiring licensure of irrigation contractors. Following are some highlights:

Exemptions – Exemptions from irrigation licensing requirements include registered landscape architects; licensed professional engineers; licensed general contractors; work done for less than $2,500; irrigation for crop production, golf courses, or systems
Irrigation Contractors Licensing Requirements

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owned by a homeowners association; and other exempted classes.

Grandfathering – Three sections of the law provide for irrigation licensing based on prior credentials or experience. Those individuals include Certified Irrigation Contractors or Certified Irrigation Designers certified through the Irrigation Association; registered landscape contractors; any person who can document 10 years in business as an irrigation contractor and competency in the practice of irrigation. The newly established Board points out that these individuals may be (not will be) issued an irrigation contractor’s license. That language is consistent with the law. Those who qualify for grandfathering must submit application for an irrigation license no later than June 29, 2009.

Application – The process for applying for licensing by June 29 is not yet in place. The Board anticipates having applications available by March 15, 2009 and expects to release more information at that time.


NORTH CAROLINA IRRIGATION CONTRACTORS LICENSING BOARD
For Immediate Release January 7, 2009

The NC General Assembly enacted a law (see below), effective 1/1/09, requiring all irrigation contractors to become licensed prior to June 29, 2009. The NCICLB, or Board, has been meeting frequently and is determined to provide all interested parties with the appropriate information necessary to apply for licensure as an Irrigation Contractor by the NCICLB. Any person wishing to become licensed should make application.

As such, the board is presently in the process of implementing the necessary infrastructure to accommodate applications. The Board anticipates having applications available for prospective licensees by March 15, 2009. The Board also anticipates being able to release contact information, website information and various other information at that time.

There have been numerous questions related to the new law requiring licensure of irrigation contractors. This information is intended to answer some of these questions.

There are several options for licensure under the current law. **Option #1** is to be “Grandfathered” (only applies until June 29, 2009), **Option #2** is to Apply for license by **exam** and **Option #3** is to apply for licensure by **reciprocity**. You may view the law in its entirety at http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/Sessions/2007/Bills/House/HTML/H2353v6.html. Licensure by exam and its requirements are listed under § 89G-6. Application; qualifications; examination; issuance. Licensure by reciprocity and its requirements are listed under § 89G-8. Reciprocity.

“Grandfathering”

The NCICLB is required, by law, to accept and evaluate applications for 180 days from the date the law is enacted as it relates to Grandfathering. Therefore, all applications must be submitted no later than *June 29, 2009*. This is the final date that applications for “grandfathering” will be accepted. All applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible to allow the appropriate amount of time for approval or denial (and appeal of denial if requested).

This is addressed in three (3) sections of the new law. § 89G-13. Sections 2, 3 & 4 are listed below. This is only a partial portion of the law enacted and only covers the “grandfathering” portion of the law.

“SECTION 2. Any person who has obtained Certified Irrigation Contractor (CIC) or Certified Irrigation Designer (CID) status through The Irrigation Association may be issued an irrigation contractor's license under Chapter 89G of the General Statutes, as enacted by Section 1 of this act, without the requirement of examination after successfully applying for and meeting all other requirements and qualifications for licensure, provided the person submits a valid application for licensure to the Board within 180 days of the date this act becomes effective.

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Irrigation Contractors Licensing Requirements

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SECTION 3. Any person who is a registered landscape contractor under Chapter 89D of the General Statutes or a licensed plumbing contractor under Article 2 of Chapter 87 of the General Statutes on the date this act becomes effective may be issued an irrigation contractor's license under Chapter 89G of the General Statutes, as enacted by Section 1 of this act, without the requirement of examination after successfully applying for and meeting all other requirements and qualifications for licensure, provided the person submits a valid application for licensure to the Board within 180 days of the date this act becomes effective.

SECTION 4. Any person who can document 10 years in business as an irrigation contractor as of the date this act becomes effective, can document competency in the practice of irrigation contracting, as determined by the Board, and meets all other requirements and qualifications for licensure may be issued an irrigation contractor's license under Chapter 89G of the General Statutes, as enacted by Section 1 of this act, without the requirement of examination, provided that the person submits an application for licensure to the Board within 180 days of the date this act becomes effective.

***CONTACT YOUR TRADE ASSOCIATION, SUPPLIER OR DISTRIBUTER FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – MANY OF THESE WILL HAVE THE LATEST PRESS RELEASES OR UP TO DATE INFORMATION AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE***