

SPRING 2025

# PCO PRESS

Gila River Indian Community

Department of Environmental Quality

Pesticide Control Office

124 Skill Center Road, Sacaton, AZ 85147



## Quarterly WPS Worker/Handler Training

The Pesticide Control Office will continue to offer Quarterly WPS Worker and WPS Handler certification trainings to support your own training programs.

Topics covered include:

- Pesticides encountered during work activities
- Hazards of pesticides
- Routes that pesticides can enter the body
- Pesticide poisoning
- First aid
- Emergency medical care
- Decontamination procedures
- Heat related illness
- Pesticide residues on clothing
- Taking pesticide containers home
- WPS requirements
- Hauling, transporting, storing, and disposing of pesticides
- Environmental concerns

In partnership with the Intertribal Council of Arizona and the Arizona Department of Agriculture we are pleased to provide training in both the English and Spanish languages.

## PCO Contact Information

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### **Announcement:**

Effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, the Pesticide Control Office will no longer be accepting documents submitted via fax to 520-562-3198.

Please continue to use our office's general email box for all document submittals:

[GRIC.Pesticide.Office@gric.nsn.us](mailto:GRIC.Pesticide.Office@gric.nsn.us)



# Homeowner Tips on Integrated Pest Management for Mosquitoes & Ticks

**Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** is comprised of the Community, homeowners, and GRIC departments working together to offer the most effective results to protect yourself and the community from diseases, such as West Nile Virus (WNV) and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF). IPM's main goal is long-term pest prevention by using a combination of methods at the same time.

**Identification** of the pest, along with surveillance, helps ensure control measures are applicable to that particular pest and resources spent are best utilized.

**Cultural control** involves changing behaviors and/or habits. Through education, outreach, and a greater awareness of pest's life cycles, homeowners can better choose the control measures needed and what behaviors maybe be contributing to the pest problem. For example, infrequent emptying of trash receptacles, which attract pests, can be emptied more often.

**Physical control** is to control pests with physical actions. For example, removing tires from your yard, maintaining your pet's water bowl or livestock's water trough, and dumping out water in buckets to eliminate mosquito larva and reducing the number of pests around your home.

**Mechanical control** is the use of machines, equipment, or traps to remove pests and their habitats. For example, using a mower to cut the grass and using traps to remove pests.

**Chemical control** is the use of chemicals, or pesticides, to reduce pests. This is the last option used in combination with the other IPM elements. All pesticides must be approved by the Environmental Protection Agency. Pest Management Businesses, GRIC Departments and entities must obtain a GRIC Pesticide Use Permit with the Pesticide Control Office. Applicators must be authorized to apply pesticides within the GRIC boundaries.

For more information from GRIC Department of Environmental Quality on IPM [click here](#).



## GRIC DEQ Smartphone App

Receive Aerial Pesticide and  
Fertilizer Application updated  
by text message, email, or  
both!



[Click here](#)  
(Google Play)



[Click here](#)  
(Apple Store)



[Click here](#)  
(Web Based App/No Phone)

## Online Payment Portal

The Gila River Indian Community has recently brought on board an online payment portal. You can now pay permit, registration or certification fees by CCARD through the internet.

[www.GRICDEQ.org](http://www.GRICDEQ.org) or  
[www.GRICDEQ.org/Pesticide-Control-Office](http://www.GRICDEQ.org/Pesticide-Control-Office)

Alternatively, payments can be made over the telephone using a CCARD. Please contact our cashier's office at 520-562-9676 for this option.

You'll need to inform the cashier that you are paying an authorization fee with the Pesticide Control Office and reference accounting code: DEQ 35.

Lastly, payments can still be made via check or money order to the following address:

Department of Environmental Quality  
PO Box 2139  
Sacaton, AZ 85147

Payment should be made out to "GRIC Pesticide Fund".





# Compliance Assistance Corner

Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs) are those pesticides that are classified by the Environmental Protection Agency under FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a(d) and identified as such or required to be identified as such by the pesticide product label. There are a number of additional tribal and federal certification and training, use, recordkeeping and disposal requirements when RUPs are involved.

On November 16, 2022, when the Community adopted a revised Pesticide Code, one of the changes which took place was regarding the certification credentials required for applicators of RUPs:

In accordance with GR-004-22 Pesticide Code, Section 18.306(D)(1). Pesticide Use Requirements, Restricted Use Pesticide Applications:

1. Any person who uses a restricted use pesticide shall possess a valid Community Certified Applicator authorization prior to the use of a restricted use pesticide.

Note that this requirement no longer allows for an applicator to apply RUPs when working under the supervision of a certified applicator; as was the case in previous versions of the Community’s Pesticide Code.

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## PCO Links

- [GRIC DEQ PCO](#)
- [FIFRA](#)
- [WPS](#)
- [Certification & Training](#)
- [Arizona Dept. of Ag](#)
- [Licenses](#)
- [GRIC DEQ Aerial Notifications](#)
- [EPA Pesticide Product and Label System](#)
- [Pesticide Educational Resources](#)
- [Collaborative](#)
- [Western IPM Center](#)
- [Arizona Pest Management Center](#)



For an applicator to obtain a GRIC Community Certified Applicator authorization:

- Apply for a Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) private or commercial Pesticide Applicator Certification in Indian Country credential.
  - <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-applicator-certification-indian-country/applicator-certification-form-under-epa-plan>
  - Submit that completed form along with your supporting credentials DIRECTLY to the EPA contact listed for EPA Region 9.
- Once you have received your EPA federal credential, submit to the Pesticide Control Office your:
- Completed GRIC Authorization Application (Individual)
  - [https://www.gricdeq.org/view/download.php/pesticide-control-office/training/user\\_file\\_43](https://www.gricdeq.org/view/download.php/pesticide-control-office/training/user_file_43)
- EPA issued Pesticide Applicator Certification in Indian Country credential
- Supporting credentials (typically State)
- Payment or receipt of payment

We understand that this can be a bit of a process. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions or require further compliance assistance.

# Upcoming Training

GRIC Pesticide Control Office

WPS Training

Community Applicator Training

Register for the eLearning version of the CA Training  
[Click here](#)

Contact Tison Gill  
Education & Outreach Specialist

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