

**2009 Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP)  
Executive Summary Report  
April 7, 2010**

Last year, the IPM-CC administered a mini-grant program for the PSEP funds to stimulate and support Extension education on pesticide safety throughout Arizona. The program was well received by clientele, especially those attending trainings in underserved areas.

**2009 Awards Summary - \$24,700, distributed as minigrants**

- Baker, P. Travel Grant Request. \$1,500.
- Fournier, A. Establishment of an APMC Budget to Support Pesticide Safety Education Throughout Arizona. \$5,000.
- Gouge, D. IPM training for Urban Pest Management Professionals. \$5,000.
- Grumbles, R. 2009 Arizona Strip Invasive Weed Workshop and Training and 2009 Tri-State Pest Management Workshop and Update. \$3,050.
- Umeda K. & J. Schalau. Pesticide Applicator Training / Testing for Arizona Weed Management Personnel. \$10,150.

The Baker grant was to support travel to the national PSEP annual meeting. Paul decided not to attend and funds were returned. The Fournier grant created a general pool of funds that anyone could apply to support travel or other expenses related to delivering pesticide education training or CEUs. Only one person applied for funds.

**Highlighted Outcomes from remaining 3 grants:**

- **Dawn Gouge** is developing a training program for pest management professionals with the Arizona Office of Pest Management (OPM), AZ Pest Professionals Organization (AZ PPO), and the city of Phoenix. The program includes a partnership with local pest management service companies to prepare jobless or underemployed Phoenix residents to become highly trained IPM professionals. City of Phoenix staff from the OEP and Community and Economic Development Departments will coordinate the training using EPA Brownfield Development grant funds. The EPA has approved the IPM job training course with a minimum job placement goal of 75%. The initial (pilot) course will train no more than 20 individuals. The course will be repeated twice in the first year. Phoenix Workforce Connection (which is part of the Community and Economic Development Department) will advertise the program, run background checks, and screen all applicants. Applicant requirements will follow requirements necessary for OEP's Brownfield job training grant and will be combined with the requirements of OPM and AZPPO. Training program participants will complete the following training components:
  - OSHA's 40-Hr. HAZWOPER training
  - Conflict Resolution Class
  - OPM Core training and certification
  - 40-Hr. IPM training
  - 2-Wk. On-the-job training with a sponsoring pest management company
  - IPM proficiency exam and graduation

- We are working with the Sustainable Cities Network in order to consider transferring the program to other cities.
- **Rob Grumbles** used funds to develop and deliver 2 workshops in different locations of in Northern AZ and in St. George, UT.
- About 170 people were trained.
- 10 AZ ADA CEUs, 9 AZ OPM CEUs, 6 Utah Dept. of Ag CEUs, and 6.75 CEUs from the Western Chapter International Society of Aboriculture were delivered.
- Program evaluations were very positive, indicating a high level of satisfaction with the program material. 98% at one workshop indicated they would implement information presented as part of their daily professional practices.
- From report: “Because of these funds, 169 clientele received education. 55 were able to gain CEU’s needed to maintain licenses necessary to keep jobs and comply with Federal and State laws. A safer public gained from education presented that keeps professionals on the cutting edge of their industry and new science. Outstanding educators and scientists were made available to present programs and research that due to current budget cuts would not have been able to be available or present.
- **Kai Umeda & Jeff Schalau** organized an effort to deliver coordinated initial certification trainings in collaboration with ADA and tribal educators at Dine College, and Southwest Vegetation Management Association and other collaborators. Ed Northam served as program coordinator.
- 4 trainings were provided in Northern and Central Arizona, reaching 50 individuals.
- 39 of 50 trainees (78%) passed the core exam after attending the six-hour training workshop and received their agricultural applicators license. 13 passed exams for commercial categories (11 forestry and 2 aquatic).
- 10 certified applicators attended the workshops to obtain CEU’s to maintain licensing. Their participation indicated a need for delivery of advanced pesticide applicator safety training beyond core training.
- Underserved communities, tribes, local, state and federal agency clientele that sent trainees to the workshops included the Navaho and Hopi Tribes, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, Arizona Game and Fish Department, U.S. a National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. National Park Service, U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, private sector pest control applicator companies, environmental consultants, and an agricultural crop producer.
- Arizona adopted the National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual as standard training materials. Additional course materials were developed by collaborating experts.
- Evaluations indicated an average 61% increase in knowledge before and after workshop trainings.

Overall, comments about the minigrant program have been very positive.

For 2010, PSEP funds available are \$23,276.