

Recertification Training

Thursday, January 29, 2026

Boone County Extension Enrichment Center
1824 Patrick Drive Burlington KY 41005



AGENDA

8:30am	Eric Ham (AmGuard)	IPM & Spider Control...Make it Work for You
9:30am	Mike Leahy (ENVU)	Mosquito Management
		BREAK
10:45am	Bandana Shrestha (UK Entomology)	Cockroaches
		LUNCH
12:30pm	Ben Grady (UK Entomology)	Bed Bugs
1:30pm	Brad Smith (KY Dept of Ag)	Regulatory Update—Record Keeping, New Laws & Regulations

CEU's: Pending Approval for IN, KY and OH

\$85 for KPMA members

\$110 for non-members

After January 20, 2026: \$110 for KPMA members

\$135 for non-members

The cost includes all course materials, lunch and snacks.

Registration Deadline/Cancellation Policy:

Registration is due by Friday, January 23, 2026. No refunds will be issued after this deadline.

Substitutions may be made at any time.

Questions or for more information, contact Tracy: (502) 208-6363 kpmacoordinator@gmail.com

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REGISTRATION

Online registration available at www.kpmaonline.org

Company Name: _____ KPM A Member: Yes No

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Contact Person: _____

Attendee Name: _____ Certification # _____ State of Certification: _____

Certification # and State of Certification are required for CEU's to be awarded.

Attach a 2nd page with additional attendees, if needed.

Total # of Attendees: _____ = \$ _____

Payment Method: Check Credit Card
Card #: _____ Exp Date: _____ CVV Code: _____

Cardholder's Name: _____

Signature: _____

Checks Payable to: Kentucky Pest Management Association
Return form to: PO Box 32454 Louisville, KY 40232 or kpmaordinator@gmail.com

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Detailed Agenda



IPM and Spider Control...Make it Work for You!

8:30am Eric Ham (AmGuard)

Eric Ham is a Paducah, KY native who holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture (Entomology) from the University of Kentucky (1980) and has been involved in the pest management industry for over 40 years. He currently holds a pest control license for the state of Kentucky and is a certified applicator for the states of Kentucky and Ohio with categories to include General Pest and Termite, IPM, and Wood Destroying Insect Diagnostic Inspection (WDI). He has been a regular speaker and trainer for state and local pest control associations in the Midwest and Southeast states along with numerous presentations for in-house training to Pest Management companies. His current position with AMGUARD Environmental Technologies is Technical Sales Manager in the Midwest area of the country.

In this presentation we will focus on spider control utilizing an IPM approach in conjunction with conventional control measures for spiders encountered in the urban environment including . Just what is IPM? General Spider Biology and Characteristics, Commonly Encountered Spiders, Active Hunters including Identification, Reproduction and Behavior/Habitat. Passive Hunters including Identification, Reproduction, Behavior/Habitat. Web Builders including Identification, Reproduction, Behavior/Habitat. Spiders of Medical Importance, Identification, Reproduction, Behavior/Habitat, IPM Components and Spider Control, Inspection, Identification, Formulate a Control Plan.

Mosquito Management

9:30am Mike Leahy (ENVU)

Mike Leahy received his BA from University of Illinois in 1985. In early 2021, he joined the team at Bayer Crop Science as the Area Sales Manager throughout the Midwest. Mr. Leahy has over 30 years of experience in the vector control industry. He has served as director, vice president and president of state associations in Georgia and Alabama as well as being a member of several state/national associations. Mr. Leahy has produced and presented training classes that lead to licensure and/or CEU's in the following states: MN, IA, MO, WI, IL, MI, IN, OH, KY, TN, GA, AL, FL, NC, SC, CT, MA, VA.

In recent years disease carrying Mosquitos have received much attention in the media. Mr. Leahy will discuss options for Pest Management Companies to control these blood sucking arthropods including descriptions of the Diseases they transmit. Integrated Pest Management Principles utilizing biological, environmental and chemical controls will be addressed in the presentation as well as delivery methods and application techniques for Mosquito Management. The crucial aspects to a prosperous IPM program will be addressed to include inspection, identification, habits and biology which are critical to the success of managing populations and protecting public health for consumers.

Break 10:30am – 10:45am

Cockroaches

10:45am Bandana Shrestha (UK Entomology)

Bandana Shrestha is a Ph.D. student and Graduate Research Assistant in the Department of Entomology at the University of Kentucky. She is part of the DeVries Lab, which specializes in urban entomology. Her current Ph.D. research focuses on the management of German cockroaches, including the evaluation of baiting strategies and the effectiveness of gel baits under different environmental conditions. As a master's student at Louisiana State University, she studied the combined effects of temperature, humidity, and insecticides on bed bug populations. Her research has been published in journals such as the *Journal of Economic Entomology*. Her work is also listed on her Google Scholar profile. In November 2025, she won 2nd place in a graduate student presentation competition at the Entomological Society of America Meeting.

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Cockroaches (Continued)

10:45am Bandana Shrestha (UK Entomology)

This presentation will focus on cockroach pest species, their life habits, health effects, and structural pest management including interior and exterior turf and ornamental control. Cockroaches have been associated with humans since the time of cave dwellers. These omnivorous scavengers are found worldwide and have features that allow them to live amongst humans. With high reproductive rates and available shelter in any human dwelling, it is no surprise that cockroaches are still considered a major pest despite all the advances in technology and pesticides. As we continue our efforts to manage these pests, we have seen high increases in resistance to many indoor products. In this session, attendees will learn about the cockroach species they are likely to encounter in this region including identification, inspection, resistance and the products available to help perform safer and more sustainable cockroach control.

Lunch 11:45am – 12:30pm

Bed Bugs

12:30pm Ben Grady (UK Entomology)

Ben Grady is a PhD candidate in the DeVries Urban Entomology Lab at the University of Kentucky. He received his BSES in Entomology and his BS in Biology from the University of Georgia, where he primarily worked on black fly research and at the State Botanical Gardens. His current research involves investigating repellent properties of different bed bug products, and he plans to continue research in Urban Entomology throughout his graduate career.

Mr. Grady will discuss biology, distribution, and health and economic implications due to bed bug infestations. He will include aspects for the identification of bed bugs and give an overview of the most recent pest management techniques in use to control this troublesome pest.

Regulatory Update – Record Keeping, New Laws & Regulations

1:30pm Brad Smith (KY Dept of Ag)

Brad Smith currently serves as the Pesticide Licensing and Compliance Branch Manager for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and has been with the Pesticides Division for 10 years. Brad also has over 10 years' experience in the turfgrass industry serving as the Assistant Sports Turf Manager for the Louisville Bats from 2001-2005 and was a founding member of the Kentucky Sports Turf Managers Association.

Mr. Smith will explain processes of regulatory inspections and proper documentation as pertains to KDA inspections, as well as federal EPA regulations and guidelines concerning state efforts in our industry. The talk will include current laws and regulations applying to structural pesticide application in Kentucky to include licensed applicators from surrounding states working in Kentucky. The presentation will also include an update of current topics at the KDA including a website overview to receive information. He will also address current laws and regulations that affect the Pest Management Industry.

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