

# APPLICATION FOR PROFESSIONAL FERTILIZER APPLICATOR (PFA) CERTIFICATION EXAM

The Fertilizer Use Act of 2011 requires individuals who, as part of their job, apply fertilizer to turf on non-agricultural land, be certified or work under the direct supervision of someone who is certified, and that businesses that employ certified fertilizer applicators must be licensed. The requirements for certification, licensing and other program criteria are explained in detail at <a href="http://mda.maryland.gov/resource">http://mda.maryland.gov/resource</a> conservation/Documents/Fertilizer Law.pdf

#### **Certification Exam Application Requirements:**

To apply for the certification exam, an applicant shall file the following with the Department of Agriculture before any announced examination:

- a) A Professional Fertilizer Applicator (PFA) certification application on a form provided by the Department; the certification fee is \$100.
- b) Provide a Fertilizer Application Business License (MDA-F) number, or a completed business license application on the form provided by the Department. The fee for a Business License is \$50.
- c) Fees are payable to the *Maryland Department of Agriculture* in the form of check or money order. NOTE: Employees of government agencies and government agencies are not charged a certification or licensing fee.
- 2) Mail the completed application(s) and fee(s) to:

Maryland Department of Agriculture Nutrient Management Program 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Room 201 Annapolis, MD 21401

Applications must be **completely** filled out and accompanied by the fee. Incomplete applications will be put on hold. A business FEIN or individual SSN are required. **Certification and business licenses expire December 31 of each year.** 

#### **Testing Information**

- A government-issued photo ID is required to enter the building and to sit for the exam.
- This is not an open-book exam. Before the review session or the exam, study the *Maryland Professional Lawn Care Manual*. It is available for viewing or download from the link on <u>mda.maryland.gov/fertilizer</u>. The test consists of 50 multiple choice questions.
- Please Bring a Calculator (that is not on your cell phone) and two #2 pencils for the exam
- No cell phones are allowed in the testing room, but regular calculators are allowed.
- A score of 70% or better is required to pass. You may try to pass the exam a total of three times, or within 3 months, whichever comes first, from the date of your first attempt to pass the exam. After this point you must register as a Trained Employee (TE) with your company or agency in order to apply fertilizer to turfgrass. In addition, your company or agency is prohibited from applying fertilizer to turfgrass without having a PFA on staff.

A review session offered before the exam. Attendance at the review session is encouraged but not mandatory.

Exam Locations

Maryland Department of Agriculture

50 Harry S. Truman Parkway Annapolis, MD 21401

Washington County Extension Office 7303 Sharpsburg Pike Boonsboro, MD 21713

Review session begins at 9:00. Exam is at noon. See dates on page 2.

Exam and review dates and locations are subject to change

**Montgomery County Extension Office** 

18410 Muncaster Road Derwood, MD 20855

**Wicomico County Extension Office** 28647 Old Quantico Road Salisbury, MD 21802



## Application For Professional Fertilizer Applicator (PFA) Certification Exam 2024

EXAM FEE OF \$100 IS REQUIRED WITH APPLICATION.

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO "MDA."

Mail to:

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
50 HARRY S. TRUMAN PARKWAY, ROOM 201
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

### APPLICANT'S NAME & HOME ADDRESS (all information is required; blank lines will cause delays in application processing)

Name				Soc. Sec. No.		
	Last	Firs	st	MI		
Mailing address				Phone		
				Email		
	City	State	Zip			
BUSINESS INFORMA Agency/Firm	ATION (all information is re	quired; blank lines w	vill cause dela	ys in application proce	essing)	
Name				Self Employed?	Yes	
Street address				Federal Employer ID No		
				 Phone		
County	City	State	Zip	MDA-F Business Lic. No.*		
Mailing address					ave a MDA-F Business , you must also complete	
				the application a	and submit the fee for a	
	City	State	Zip	Business License	<ul> <li>Business License with this form.</li> </ul>	
Select <i>One</i> Exam Da	nte					
Annapolis – February 6, 2024				Salisbury – August	13, 2024	
Derwood – April 16, 2024				Annapolis – Decen	nber 3, 2024	
Boonshoro – lun	ne 11 2024		_			