



*Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission
19 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Atlanta, GA 30334*

***Georgia Structural Pest Control
Commission Fiscal Year 2026
Report to the Governor***



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Fiscal Year 2026 Report to Governor

As required by O.C.G.A. 43-45-8 (3), the Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission submits the following annual report of the activities, expenditures, and other matters pertinent to the operation of the commission.

The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission met monthly during Fiscal Year 2026 on the following dates:

August 12	January 13
September 9	February 10
October 14	March 10
November 10	April 14
December 16	May 12
	June 9

All meetings were held at 10:00 AM online via Microsoft Teams with the exception of the January 13th meeting held at the UGA Chapel in Athens.

Expenditures for the Commission and records of attendance for each member are included.

Minutes for the Commission meetings are included. If additional information is needed regarding the report, contact Ali Ikner, Director of Structural Pest Division, at 404-656-3641 or ali.ikner@agr.georgia.gov

Tyler J. Harper
Commissioner

**STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION
DAILY EXPENSE AND MILEAGE
FISCAL YEAR 2026**

NAME	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
Chris Gorecki	(N)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	
Derrick Lastinger	(N)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	
Daily		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 1,155.00
Mileage													
Dr. Brian Forschler	(N)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(ABS)	
J Bodine Sinyard	(N)	(V)	(ABS)	(V)	(V)	(ABS)	(P)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	
Daily		\$ 105.00		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 945.00
Mileage							\$ 134.00						\$ 134.00
Greg Holley	(N)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	
Daily		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 1,155.00
Mileage							\$ 32.83						\$ 32.83
Kim Bragg	(N)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(ABS)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	
Daily		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 1,050.00
Mileage													\$ -
Tiffany Nguyen	(N)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(P)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	(V)	
Daily		\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 1,155.00
Mileage							\$ 48.91						\$ 48.91

TOTAL \$ 4,471.83

(P) = Present in Person

(ABS) = Absent

(CAN) = Cancelled

(T) = Teleconference

(N) = No meeting scheduled

(V) = Virtual Online

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

August 12, 2025

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:03 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Kim Bragg, Bodine Sinyard, Greg Holley, and Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. A motion was made by Mrs. Bragg to approve the minutes of the June meeting. Mr. Holley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. Classes at UGA will start tomorrow, and overall, he reported that things are going smoothly. Dr. Forschler noted that NPMA would be hosting an event in September at UGA aimed at getting more students involved in the industry.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. He reported that the state is anticipating a lean budget this year; therefore, all remaining commission meetings in 2025 will be held virtually. At the federal level, all funding had been initially removed, but this funding was later restored by the House Committee on Appropriations with a small increase for enforcement. The GDA has now received the final allocation from the EPA's three-year grant cycle, with the next grant period set to begin on October 1. Mr. Lastinger also discussed an upcoming press release from the GDA regarding consumer protection from unlicensed operators selling pest control services.
- F. Mr. Taylor gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. A Statewide Inspector training Meeting (SWIM) is scheduled for this week at the GDA Atlanta Lab located on the Georgia Tech campus. SPD will also be implementing a statewide initiative to reach out to the approximately 110 companies that have not yet renewed their company license. Mr. Taylor also reported that an injunction against an unlicensed operator was recently signed in Upson county, with the judge signing.
- G. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. The license renewal deadline was June 30th, so we are now in the late renewal period through September 30th. Three renewal notices were sent via email, and one by traditional post. Renewal reminders and information have also been sent out in the latest two editions of the Inside Buzz. As a reminder, after the late renewal deadline all initial licensing requirements are required to be met and late fees paid for anyone wishing to regain their license for two years. There are approximately 212 Certified Operators, and about 500 Registered Employees with active employment in the system that are eligible for renewal currently. Companies are strongly encouraged to check their lists of registered employees prior to the September 30th deadline. Ms. Ikner noted that this renewal period has been uniquely challenging due to several issues with our web vendor as well as ongoing issues with mail delivery. If you have not received your license in the mail after three weeks, please confirm your address is correct in the system and then reach out to our office.

- H. Ms. Bradshaw provided the Outreach report on behalf of Mrs. Nan Collier. Currently, SPD is participating in 4 workshops this fall to be held at the UGA Griffin Structural Pest Training Center. These include the Home IPM workshop which took place on August 7th, the upcoming School IPM Workshop on August 21st, and Fall Termite workshops scheduled in September. SPD also has plans to host a compliance booth at 3 upcoming fall conference, including the GPCA North GA Conference in Dalton, GA on September 10th & 11th, the GPCA South GA Conference in Tifton, GA on October 8th, and the CPCO Annual Fall Conference at UGA Griffin on October 15th & 16th. She also noted that the recent edition of the Inside Buzz was sent to 1,866 subscribers and featured stories from the SPD's summer interns, as well as renewal information and the update to Notice 22-01: Three Day Right to Cancel.
- I. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt provided an update on SPD field activities. She welcomed newly hired SPD inspector Patricia Goodson and noted that training at the SWIM will feature an emphasis on the new structural fumigation label requirements.
- J. Mr. Lastinger discussed the Rulemaking survey results. He began by highlighting a recent update from the EPA regarding methomyl, a product often used for fly control. This product is being reclassified as a Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) by the U.S. EPA. Mr. Lastinger noted that rodenticide products are being reviewed by the EPA in light of the new ESA policies, federal regulations, and updated data to determine if they should remain classified as general use or be considered RUPs. He emphasized that while SPD has the authority to restrict pesticide use at the state level, that has not been done traditionally. The SPCC's proposal of an additional optional license type, as described in the survey, is to provide an avenue for companies to meet these new federal regulations and be better positioned to adjust to potential changes in federal pesticide classifications. Mr. Lastinger reported that if RUPs remain under the sole purview of Certified Operators, then revisions will be made to comply with the federal standards for supervision of noncertified applicators found in 40 CFR 171.201 (d). *As a reminder no rule changes are being formally proposed at this time. These discussions are to aid in the initial drafting of the revisions to be proposed. Once the draft is complete, the proposed rules will be posted and there will be a public comment period before rule changes are finalized.* The resulting discussion from the attendees on the survey and rulemaking centered on questions regarding definitions and changing federal policy of on-site supervision, the naming of the proposed license type, and Registered Employees certification being unable to receive a federal equivalency to allow for the application of RUPs.
- K. Ms. Ali Ikner spoke about Notice 07-01 Examination Cheating Policy. Due to an incident earlier this year this policy is being revised to add clarification and transparency. The draft is projected to be presented at the September SPCC meeting for review and approval.
- L. Mr. Jay Roberts provided the legislative update. He discussed upcoming elections, noting that there are several legislators in the Senate running for other offices. This could mean numerous potential changes in the Senate. Conversely, there are relatively few changes expected in the House.
- M. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. He noted that the EPA seems to have experienced a significant loss in personnel, and that this trend seems to be continuing. He also discussed NPMA's intent to request more dialogue on the rodenticide interim decision and highlighted that Dudley Hoskins has recently been nominated to serve as Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Mr. Hoskins has been

involved in the industry for a long time, and his experience is expected to be a benefit to the industry in his new role. Mr. Bell also stated that there have been no updates on the Farm Bill, and with the Senate currently not in session it is unlikely we will see any updates soon. Mr. Holley added that Commissioner Tyler J Harper has recently been named as one of the twelve members to AFPI’s America First Agriculture Commissioners and Secretaries Council. This council aims to bring together agricultural leaders from across the country to help inform policy recommendations under President Trump’s Farmers First Agenda.

- N. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- O. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:36am.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

Chris Gorecki, Chairman	Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary
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ATTACHMENT 1



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Chris Gorecki, Chairman
Derrick Lastinger, Vice-chairman
Dr. "Tiffany" Thuy-Vi Nguyen, Georgia Department of Public Health
Dr. Brian Forschler, University of Georgia
Bodine Sinyard, Adams Exterminators
Greg Holley, Zone Pest Solutions
Kim Bragg, Consumer Affairs & Protection Representative

Agenda

August 12, 2025

Welcome

Open – Chairman Gorecki

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Compliance/Enforcement – Tim Taylor
 - Certification & Training – Ali Ikner
 - Outreach – Kenzie Bradshaw
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. License Renewal 2025-2027
- e. Rulemaking survey
- f. Notice 07-01 Examination Cheating Policy – Ali Ikner
- g. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- h. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- i. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- IPM Services, Inc – Hall County – Name Change Only
- Rentokil North America, Inc dba Terminix – Forsyth County
- Rentokil North America, Inc dba Terminix – Fulton County
- Beeboyz Honeybee Rescue – Berrien County – HBR Company
- AB & BE – South Carolina
- Money's Honey – Peach County – HBR Company
- Armor Extermination Co, Inc DBA Armor Pest Control – South Carolina – Name Change Only

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Atomic Pest Solutions – McDuffie County – Pending Insurance; Name Change Only
- Thomas Pest Control – Madison County – Pending Insurance; Name Change Only
- Sadie's Pest Defense LLC – Newton County – Pending Insurance & DCO confirmation
- Pest Share – Cobb County – Pending Insurance
- Piedmont Pest Management – Habersham County – Pending Insurance
- DNR Pest Control LLC – Henry County – Pending Insurance
- Howard's Pest Solutions – Newton County – Pending Payment
- One Simple Solution Pest Control – Dekalb County – Pending Insurance
- C'YA Pest Solutions – Camden County – Pending Insurance
- Davenport Environmental of GA LLC – Gwinnett County – Pending Insurance & Payment
- BW Exterminating – Paulding County – Pending Insurance
- Gr8 Pest Solutions – Gwinnett County – Pending Name
- Urbanex of Knoxville, LLC – Hamilton County – Pending Insurance & Payment

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

September 9, 2025

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:02 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Kim Bragg, Greg Holley, and Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. A motion was made by Mr. Holley to approve the minutes of the August meeting. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. All is well with the UGA Urban Entomology department currently.
- E. Mr. Trip Martin provided the Legislative update. He noted there are numerous fundraisers going on this time of year. He also spoke about the possibility of changes in seven State Senate seats, due to several current Senators either running for other offices or leaving the position. He stated that while we are not expecting to see a new Chairman of the Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Committee, we may see some changes within key committees.
- F. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. He discussed the GDA's recent press release regarding unlicensed operators hired as salespeople or "doorknockers". The press release warned the public on the risks of hiring an unlicensed operator and explained how to verify if a pest control salesperson is licensed. This press release has been picked up by several media sources and viewership has now been estimated at over 5 million viewers. Mr. Lastinger also spoke about GDA's Yellow-legged Hornet ongoing eradication efforts. The Plant Protection Division, who spearheads the YLH response, has asked for volunteers to assist with checking traps and monitoring over the next couple of months. Six SPD team members have volunteered to assist at different times throughout the fall to respond to this need for aid.
- G. Mr. Taylor gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. SPD is continuing its efforts, which began on August 18th, to contact companies that have still not yet renewed their licenses. Last week this effort began including in-person visits. To date this project has brought about 20 companies into compliance with their license renewals. SPD is also assisting the Agricultural Inputs Division in co-hosting EPA R4 Basic Inspector Training next week and will have a few inspectors participating in that training as well.
- H. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. As a reminder, the late renewal deadline is September 30th. SPD records show 90 companies, 198 Certified Operators, and 443 Registered employees that have not renewed, but she noted that these numbers have all decreased since the last meeting. It is highly recommended that all licensees log on to the renewal webpage before the late renewal deadline. Starting Oct. 1st anyone who has not renewed must re-complete all the initial renewal requirements and pay the late fee to hold an active license. Ms. Ikner also noted that UGA PSEP Dr. Allison Johnson accepted a different position and as such is no longer employed in that role. As SPD is in the process of C&T plan implementation this transition will come at a difficult time, however the job is

expected to be posted soon and hopefully Dr. Johnson's meticulous notes will help make the transition smoother.

- I. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach report. Currently SPD is halfway through the fall workshop series. The recent School IPM Workshop hosted 25 participants. Other workshops in the series will include a Termite Workshop being held on Sept 11th through the 12th, and a second Termite Workshop to be held Sept. 25th through the 26th. SPD will also be hosting a compliance booth at the GPCA North GA Conference on Sept 10th-11th in Dalton, GA, at the GPCA South GA Conference on October 8th in Tifton, GA, and at the CPCO Annual Fall Conference being held on Oct. 15th-16th at UGA Griffin. She also noted that the next edition of The Inside Buzz is scheduled for publication around the end of September.
- J. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- K. Mr. Gorecki gave the update on Rulemaking. He began with a discussion on the Certified Applicator proposed license type. The feedback received through the survey and discussion at the past several SPCC meetings has been generally positive so the SPCC will be moving ahead with adding it to the draft of proposed rule amendments. Mr. Gorecki then discussed the adding of fee increases to the proposed rule changes to help offset the cost in processing, printing, and mailing licenses. The proposed increases are currently drafted at \$25 for a Registered Employee License, \$125 for a Certified Operator License, \$150 for a Company License, and \$50 for a Company Suboffice License. Mr. Gorecki noted that currently we are not even covering the cost of printing the cards and these fees are still lower than in many other states. He requested feedback and stated that this topic would be further discussed at the next meeting. A suggestion was made to also increase the research fee that is paid to the UGA Urban Entomology Department. It was further noted that all non-research fees for SPD licenses pay into the state of Georgia General fund, and not SPD nor GDA specifically. Mr. Gorecki also discussed the possibility of renaming the HPC category to be more inclusive of commercial and residential services, however the SPCC is still consulting with the GDA legal department to determine if the name of the HPC category is able to be changed through policy or if it would require a change to the existing law. If changing the name requires a law modification, the name will most likely remain unchanged. The SPCC is also adding some clarifying language to the draft of proposed rule changes regarding rule 620-9-.02(3) and adding "Reentry point" to 620-9-.01 Definitions. The way these rules currently read suggests that all entry points for bees must be sealed, however the intent of the rule is to prevent reinfestation, so it is proposed that language be added to require the cavity the bees were infesting be filled as well as having the entry points to the cavity sealed. Mr. Gorecki continued the rulemaking discussion with the suggestion to change the rule regarding the required amount of time that an examinee is required to wait should they fail an exam twice in a 12-month period. The proposal to reduce this to a 6-month wait will also be added to the draft of proposed rule changes. *As a reminder no rule changes are being formally proposed at this time. These discussions are to aid in the initial drafting of the revisions to be proposed. Once the draft is complete, the proposed rules will be posted and there will be a public comment period before rule changes are finalized.* Outreach will begin in January of 2026 on the proposed rule changes.
- L. Ms. Ali Ikner spoke about an Examination Request under Notice 07-01. The applicant addressed the commission directly, expressing remorse for his prior actions and his intent to move forward with a legitimate career in the pest control industry. A motion to approve

the applicant's request to take the registered employee examination was made by Mr. Holley, Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion and the motion passed.

- M. A second request had been received from an applicant to retake the WDO portion of the Certified Operators exam due to extenuating personal circumstances. Mr. Gorecki explained that the rules do not allow the SPCC the leeway to make those types of waivers and therefore the request is denied, however with the aforementioned proposed rule change to reduce the minimum time required to pass between subsequent failures of examinations the applicant could potentially be able to retest as early as January.
- N. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. The ASCPRO meeting was held just a couple of weeks ago. There was a lot of discussion about state variations in rodenticide restrictions such as first and second-generation bans, as well as speculation on when a decision regarding the potential reclassification of rodenticides as an RUP may be finalized. Mr. Bell also discussed the disease potential of rodents and the important impacts to public health that warrant the need for control as well as the economic impact of rodenticide sales and how that impacts the rodenticide decision. Mr. Bell also noted that PestWorld 2025 hosted by NPMA will be held on October 21st through the 24th in Orlando, FL. Mr. Lastinger added that SPD's LeAnna Merritt was recently elected by the association membership to serve on the ASCPRO board.
- O. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:19am.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Chris Gorecki, Chairman
Derrick Lastinger, Vice-chairman
Dr. "Tiffany" Thuy-Vi Nguyen, Georgia Department of Public Health
Dr. Brian Forschler, University of Georgia
Bodine Sinyard, Adams Exterminators
Greg Holley, Zone Pest Solutions
Kim Bragg, Consumer Affairs & Protection Representative

Agenda

September 9, 2025

Welcome

Open – Chairman Gorecki

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Compliance/Enforcement – Tim Taylor
 - Certification & Training – Ali Ikner
 - Outreach – Kenzie Bradshaw
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. License Renewal 2025-2027
- e. Rulemaking Update
- f. Examination Request under Notice 07-01
- g. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- h. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- i. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Specter Services, LLC dba Spector Pest Control – Fulton County
- Troutman Pest Services – Wayne County – Name Change only
- Maple Leaf Lawn Pest and Termite – Cobb County – Name Change Only

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Exhibit A Pest Pro's – Gwinnett County – Previously approved pending name; Pending Insurance
- Signal Mountain Pest Control – Sequatchie County (Tennessee) – Pending Insurance
- Dasher Termite and Pest Control – Effingham County – Pending Insurance
- U Buggin' Pest Management and Services – Gwinnett County – Pending Insurance
- Mosquito Slayers, LLC dba Mosquito Squad of Chattanooga – Hamilton County – Pending Insurance
- Adams Exterminators – Tift County – Suboffice becoming a full office – Pending Insurance
- Peach State Pest and Mosquito – Bartow County – Pending new name, insurance, email address, and payment
- Vortex Crawldaddies - Madison County – Pending Insurance; Name Change Only
- Tim's Pest Control – Elbert County – Pending insurance

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

October 14th, 2025

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:04 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Kim Bragg, Greg Holley, Bodine Sinyard, and Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. He noted that all is going well with the UGA Urban Entomology department currently. He also highlighted that the Georgia Mosquito Control Association's 48th Annual Meeting is taking place from October 5th – 17th at the UGA Continuing Education Center in Athens, GA. Notable speakers include SPCC member Dr. Nguyen and Billy Blasingame Jr. He encouraged everyone to attend if they are able.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. The Georgia National Fair is currently taking place and will conclude on October 18th. Mr. Lastinger also noted that several members of the SPD team are currently volunteering through the end of October to aid the Plant Protection Division's team with their Yellow-legged hornet eradication efforts. In response to a reduced budget, the SPD is currently operating while reducing expenditures and relying on our support systems.
- F. Mr. Taylor gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. He emphasized that there has been a rise of over 30% in the number of complaints, especially in regard to unlicensed operators. He also stated that the SPD is seeing incidents of falsified records, where PURs are being filled out based on the label despite those directions not actually being followed. With the prevalence of modern home security cameras, it becomes increasingly easy to obtain a clear picture of how applications are being performed. Mr. Taylor emphasized the requirement to follow label use directions.
- G. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. The 2025 renewal season has come to a close. Anyone who has still not renewed will now need to recomplete all initial licensing requirements. The Fall 2025 issue of [the Inside Buzz](#) features an FAQ for those seeking to get relicensed. The final totals of unrenewed licenses were: 4,324 Registered Employees, 239 Certified Operators, and 56 Companies. Ms. Ikner noted that there were approximately 20 fewer unrenewed companies than in the last renewal season. She praised the hard work of the office staff, inspectors, and website team in helping to get the word out and provide assistance throughout this renewal season. Ms. Ikner also announced that the course renewal webpage is being finalized and emails will be sent out to the sponsors as soon as it is available.
- H. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach report. The 2025 Fall Workshops at UGA Griffin have concluded, these were well attended this year. She also spoke about the GPCA's South Georgia Conference which had recently occurred on October 8th, and the many positive

interactions the SPD team had with attendees there. Mrs. Collier also noted that SPD will be hosting a compliance table and participate in speaking events throughout the CPCO's Annual Fall Conference October 15th – 16th. Mrs. Collier also highlighted the recent edition of The Inside Buzz, which featured guidance on renewing your license if you missed the late renewal deadline. This edition had a 7% increase in its already competitive open rate. We appreciate everyone staying tuned into the department news! Mrs. Collier also emphasized an upcoming SPD special presentation of the School IPM program at Friendship Elementary School's A.G.D.A.Y. (Always Growing a Desire for Agriculture in Youth) to be held on October 16th. SPD Outreach will be somewhat winding down as we move into the winter months, but we will be gearing up behind the scenes for next spring.

- I. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- J. Mr. Gorecki gave the update on Rulemaking. He began by opening the floor to comments and questions about the proposed rule changes. He thanked the GDA team for their work in organizing these rule changes into a format that was easy to work with. Mr. Gorecki also highlighted several proposed changes and made clarifications on the reasoning and intent of those changes. He noted that some were simple language updates, updating references to federal laws, and other changes that are administrative "clean up" in nature. He discussed the newly included definition of the HBR "reentry point" to better clarify expectations, and the proposed increase in licensing fees. He also elaborated on federal changes that are driving state level rules and regulation modifications. This includes changes to the rules under which a Registered Employee is able to apply RUPs. He encouraged everyone to read through all the changes thoroughly to understand what will need to be done for Registered Employees to be able to apply RUPs. Another change is that the SPCC is proposing is that Georgia drop its state specific requirement that the Certified Operator must be on site to oversee the application of RUPs, but rather in line with federal standards is able to be reached if and when needed. Mr. Lastinger clarified that the reason for proposing the removal of the onsite requirement was due to new extensive federal training requirements which help to add an additional layer of protection. Mr. Gorecki continued the discussion, speaking about the newly proposed Certified Applicator License, which may provide another option to allow a person to apply RUPs as well as act as a good steppingstone for career advancement for Registered Employees. A motion was made by Mr. Greg Holley to accept the Rule Change Draft to move forward with the public comment period. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- K. Mr. Lastinger explained the next steps in the Rulemaking process. For each of the chapters with proposed amendments the GDA's legal team has drafted copies as well as a synopsis of changes. Once legal services have finalized these drafts, they will post these rule amendments for public comment. The 30-day comment period will open once everyone has received those notifications via email. An in-person event where all members of the public are welcome to submit comments will be held at the GDA during this time period. At the end of the 30 days the SPCC will review all the comments, consider them, and make any final edits to the draft rule changes and GDA will file with the Secretary of State's Office. Once the rules become law, the GDA will begin working on its formal implementation process. This will include outreach on rule changes and a timeline for compliance assistance and enforcement date. Outreach on approved rule changes is expected to begin in January of 2026.

- L. Mr. Gorecki provided the NPMA update. Pest World 2025 starts next week kicking off with the Board of Directors meeting in Orlando, FL. The agenda promises a great conference. He also stated that the NPMA public policy group is working with the US Chamber and providing comments back to the FTC on Employment agreements. NPMA is continuing its work on the Rodenticide issue and will continue to monitor changes regarding these policies.
- M. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 10:58am.

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Attachment 2	Company Applications

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

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Dr. "Tiffany" Thuy-Vi Nguyen, Georgia Department of Public Health
Dr. Brian Forschler, University of Georgia
Bodine Sinyard, Adams Exterminators
Greg Holley, Zone Pest Solutions
Kim Bragg, Consumer Affairs & Protection Representative

Agenda

October 14, 2025

Welcome

Open – Chairman Gorecki

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Compliance/Enforcement – Tim Taylor
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- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. License Renewal 2025-2027
- e. Rulemaking
- f. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- g. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- h. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- C-Con Exterminating, LLC – Jenkins County – Company Name Change Application
- Hurst Pest Prevention – Habersham County

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Breda Pest Management – Hall County – Pending Insurance
- Lake Hartwell Pest Control – Elbert County – Pending Insurance
- Brothers Pest Control, LLC – South Carolina – Pending Email Address
- Northwest Exterminating Company, LLC – Jenkins County – Pending Insurance
- Safe Haven Pest Solutions – Cherokee County – Pending Insurance
- Cake Pest LLC – Coweta County – Pending DCO & Insurance
- The Bug Doctor LLC – Catoosa County – Pending Email Address and Investigation
- Simmons Pest Control Inc. – North Carolina – Pending Insurance
- Premier Pest Solutions – Bartow County – Pending Payment, Insurance, and Email Address
- Grace Valley Pest Control – Lumpkin County – Sub Office – Pending Insurance
- Rogue Pest Solutions – Alabama – Pending DCO and Payment

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

November 4th, 2025

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:02 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Kim Bragg, Greg Holley, Bodine Sinyard, and Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. A motion was made by Mr. Holley to approve the minutes of the October meeting. Dr. Forschler seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. He lamented that the Georgia Mosquito Control Association's 48th Annual Meeting was not well attended by structural pest control professionals. He recommended that the organizers reach out to the pest control associations next year to help spread the word that PMP's could benefit from the information shared at this event as well as receive course credit. Dr. Forscher also spoke about a special celebration held at UGA to Celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the University of Georgia's Department of Entomology. This celebration also honored the legacy and contributions of 10 emeritus professors. Dr. Forschler then provided a brief presentation to explain the plans for an upcoming survey that aims to quantify how the tone and language used in communication can influence an individual's response.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. The Georgia Department of Agriculture has recently wrapped up its work on the 2025 Georgia National Fair and the Sunbelt Expo. The Structural Pest Division is beginning the new 3-year cooperative agreement grant with the EPA, which requires the SPD to choose compliance and enforcement focus areas from a given pick list. To better respond to a growing demand, SPD has chosen fumigations as its focus area for this grant period. SPD will be working on providing information and additional outreach on this topic over the course of the grant period.
- F. Mr. Taylor gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. He discussed a recent exposure case where a tenant was directly affected by pesticide mist. This case was particularly alarming due to the applicator's failure to recognize any risk or mitigation measures of pesticide exposure. Mr. Taylor recognized the risks associated with pesticide exposure, the importance of applicator and public safety, and the requirements to follow all label instructions and precautions.
- G. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. She announced the course renewal website is expected to go live later this week with notifications following shortly after. If you are a course instructor and have not received a notification by November 14th, please reach out to the SPD office.
- H. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach report. SPD recently hosted a compliance table and spoke at the CPCO's Annual Fall Conference which took place on October 15th & 16th. Mrs. Collier also gave special thanks to three members of the SPD team who provided a special presentation of the School IPM program which featured an appearance by "Randy the Roach" at Friendship Elementary School's A.G.D.A.Y. (Always Growing a Desire for

Agriculture in Youth) on October 16th to over 300 students. A video of this special day was featured on GDA social media pages as well.

- I. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt provided an update on SPD Inspector field activities. SPD Inspectors are meeting later this month for their annual respirator fit certification. While attending this course inspectors will also receive pesticide sampling kits created to help ensure that all sampling is completed in an effective, efficient, and consistent manner.
- J. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- K. Mr. Lastinger gave the update on Rulemaking. The GDA legal team is completing final edits to the rules, which are expected to be published soon. The revisions do not change the substance of the rules but are intended to strengthen them against potential challenges. Specifically, the updates clarify that certified applicators are a more qualified subset of registered employees, rather than a new category not established by the Act. Mr. Lastinger also discussed the implementation timeline for how compliance and enforcement of updated rules would come into effect. He also noted that the public consideration meeting to receive in person comments is currently scheduled for Wednesday Nov. 12th. To clarify that is not an SPCC meeting and will not be held virtually. Mr. Lastinger also noted that the December SPCC meeting has been pushed to Dec. 16th. This change is to allow more time after the end of the 30-day comment period for comments to be organized, reviewed, and considered prior to the December SPCC meeting. Mr. Gorecki also noted that fee increases have been withdrawn as part of this rule update, other than those needed to establish the Certified Applicator license.
- L. Mr. Trip Martin provided the legislative update. He spoke about the accomplishments of Brad Bohannon who joined GeorgiaLink recently. Mr. Bohannon previously worked in Governor Kemp's office as director of government affairs, as well as with the Georgia Lottery and as chief of staff for Congressmen Lynn Westmoreland. Mr. Martin also spoke about another new addition to GeorgiaLink, Alyse Murray. She is a government affairs expert with a background as the Senior Director in State and Local Government with Ohio River South and a Government Relations Representative from Georgia EMC. Mr. Martin also reminded everyone that today is an election day, so he encouraged everyone to be sure to vote if you have not done so already. There is a special election in the House on the ballot. Other special elections are expected to be added to the calendar soon. Mr. Martin also reported on Speaker Jon Burns, whose office has reached out for more information regarding fumigations as his office seeks reform in the timber industry.
- M. Ms. Faye Golden gave the NPMA update. Pest World 2025 in Orlando has now concluded. This event saw record attendance with more than 4500 attendees and welcomed new NPMA president Emily Thomas Kendrick with Atlanta based Arrow Exterminators. Ms. Golden also noted several award recipients, including Alyson Gilleland (Arrow Exterminators) who won the Women of Excellence Award, Staci Jo Johnson (Ecolab) who received the Emerging Leaders Award, Court Parker (Bug Busters) who received the Crown Leadership Award, and Dan Moreland who received the Pinnacle Award. Ms. Golden noted that Georgia was especially well represented at this year's event. She then spoke about the Public Policy Committee meeting. Due to the current federal shutdown, there were no new updates from the federal side to discuss. The meeting instead focused on the importance of pesticide safety educators and extension partners.

- N. Mr. Gorecki added that the comment period on the FTC's request for information regarding employee noncompete agreements recently closed. He noted that NPMA had done a great job in putting together comments for this docket.
- O. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Chris Gorecki, Chairman
Derrick Lastinger, Vice-chairman
Dr. "Tiffany" Thuy-Vi Nguyen, Georgia Department of Public Health
Dr. Brian Forschler, University of Georgia
Bodine Sinyard, Adams Exterminators
Greg Holley, Zone Pest Solutions
Kim Bragg, Consumer Affairs & Protection Representative

Agenda

November 4, 2025

Welcome

Open – Chairman Gorecki

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Compliance/Enforcement – Tim Taylor
 - Certification & Training –Ali Ikner
 - Outreach – Nan Collier
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. Recertification Course Renewals
- e. Rulemaking
- f. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- g. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- h. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Perfect Blend Pest Solutions, LLC – Tennessee
- Eagleshield Pest Control, Inc. – California
- Safe Home Pest Defense – Cobb County – Name Change Only
- Lookout Pest Control – Morgan County – Name Change Only

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Safe Solutions Pest Control – Coweta County – Pending Insurance
- Mosquito Squad of Savannah – Chatham County – Pending DCO & Research Fee
- Guardian Pest Solutions – Glynn County – Pending COI
- Axiom EPC on TN, LLC dba Axiom Eco Pest Control – Tennessee – Pending Name Change

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

December 16th, 2025

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:07 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Kim Bragg, Greg Holley, and Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. A motion was made by Mr. Holley to approve the minutes of the November meeting. Dr. Forschler seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
- D. Mr. Gorecki spoke about the passing of Mr. Tim Taylor. His contributions to the department and to the industry will be greatly missed.
- E. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. UGA will be hosting breakfast for the SPCC prior to the January meeting at the UGA Chapel in Athens. Details for attending commission members were shared.
- F. Mr. Rick Bell gave the NPMA report. He discussed the SFIREG meeting which took place earlier this month, though Mr. Lastinger noted that due to weather and travel issues some of the regional representatives were unable to attend. Key topics included ESA and rodenticide policy, however updates on these were minor at the current time. Mr. Bell also discussed concerns regarding PFAS, which seem to be moving towards water supply purity and potential health effects on children. It is currently unclear how changing policy may impact products in the pest control industry, however Mr. Bell noted there is potential for several products to be affected. Mrs. Bonnie Rabe added that they are also expecting to see more language regarding PFAS single versus multi chemical bonds come from the state level, since EPA's definition is broader. She noted that several states have already filed regulations to ban specific consumer-based products rather than implementing an overall chemical ban. This topic will likely remain top of mind in January and February. Mr. Bell continued the discussion on the SFIREG meeting highlighting that state & regulatory concerns regarding cooperative agreements and funding were robust topics of discussion. Residential mosquito misting and its associated regulatory concerns and label language were also key topics, to which the AAPCO workgroup intends to speak more on at their upcoming meeting.
- G. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. He expressed appreciation for everyone who has reached out to our team regarding the loss of Mr. Taylor. The GDA honored Mr. Taylor by flying the Georgia state flag over the state capital in his honor, which was then gifted to Mr. Taylor's wife. Mr. Lastinger spoke about the department's work as the calendar year winds down and planning for the upcoming Legislative session in January continues. The GDA internship application period opened on December 1st and will be open through February. The 2026 Internship program will officially begin in May of 2026.
- H. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt provided an update on SPD Inspector field activities and gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. The SPD currently has one inspector position open in northeast Georgia, and that job is expected to be posted soon. During the interim companies may expect to see inspectors from other parts of the state while we transition.

- I. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach report. The SPD is gearing up for the GPCA Winter Conference being held in Athens, GA from January 13th through the 15th. The SPD will host a compliance table and have several speakers providing presentations as well. Spring Workshops at UGA Griffin are also being planned for February and March including the Bed Bug Workshop, the Commercial IPM Workshop, and two Spring Termite Workshops. Dates and registration links for these will be available on the [Workshops page of the UGA Extension Structural Pest Management website](#). Mrs. Collier also discussed the upcoming Winter 2026 edition of the Inside Buzz which will likely feature information on the draft rule changes. If you have an idea for an article or topic you would like to see featured in an edition of the Inside Buzz, please reach out to the SPD office.
- J. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. She reminded Course Sponsors that the course renewal portal is now open and any course that was approved for 2025 may be renewed. She emphasized that the 2025 course numbers should continue to be used through Dec. 31st, 2025. Ms. Ikner also noted that there has been an increase in the number of course submissions but assured attendees the division is working through them and appreciates everyone's patience.
- K. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- L. Mr. Lastinger gave the update on Rulemaking. GDA Legal Services have completed their review and are finalizing the draft rules. The intent of the rules has not been modified, rather the language has been improved to provide consistency and enforceability. The draft rules are expected to be posted soon, at which point the 30-day comment period will begin. Comments may be submitted via email or in person at a public meeting in Atlanta to be announced following the posting of the draft rules.
- M. Mr. Gorecki also announced that the 2026 meeting schedule has been posted to the [SPCC Public Notices webpage](#).
- N. Mr. Brad Bohannon provided the legislative update. The study committees will be finalized this week to go into the legislative session which is set to begin on January 12th. Mr. Bohannon also noted that changes to the session from the outcomes of the special elections are being tracked as new members come in.
- O. Mr. Gorecki thanks to everyone for their work this past year. Special thanks to the GDA team for all their hard work on rule changes and making the format so digestible.
- P. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 10:39 am.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Chris Gorecki, Chairman
Derrick Lastinger, Vice-chairman
Dr. "Tiffany" Thuy-Vi Nguyen, Georgia Department of Public Health
Dr. Brian Forschler, University of Georgia
Bodine Sinyard, Adams Exterminators
Greg Holley, Zone Pest Solutions
Kim Bragg, Consumer Affairs & Protection Representative

Agenda

December 16, 2025

Welcome

Open – Chairman Gorecki

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Compliance/Enforcement – LeAnna Merritt
 - Certification & Training – Ali Ikner
 - Outreach – Nan Collier
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. Recertification Course Renewals
- e. Rulemaking
- f. Public Notice 25-04 Meeting Schedule 2026
- g. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- h. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- i. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Safe Solutions Pest Control, LLC – Coweta County – Name Change Only
- Guardian Pest Solutions, Inc. – Glynn County – Name Change Only
- Mira Home, LLC – Clayton County – New Location

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- NJ Ray's Bee Control (HBR Company) – Liberty County – Pending Insurance
- EagleShield Pest Control, Inc. – Hall County – Pending Insurance and Supervision Explanation
- Nooga Pest Control, LLC – Chattanooga, TN – Pending Insurance and Research Fee
- Lookout Pest Control, LLC – Newton County – Becoming Sub-Office – Pending Fee

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

January 13th, 2026

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:02 a.m. in the Chapel at the University of Georgia located at 109 Herty Drive, Athens, Georgia. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Bodine Sinyard, Greg Holley, and Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. Mr. Gorecki announced modifications to the agenda, which included a special presentation by CPCO, extending the same privilege to GPCA, and a closed Executive Session.
- D. Mr. Lastinger provided background and information on Executive Sessions.
- E. A motion was made by Mr. Holley to hold an Executive Session at today's meeting. Dr. Forschler seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- F. A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Holley seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- G. A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard to approve the minutes of the December SPCC meeting. Mr. Holley seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- H. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. He spoke about how the GDA helps to fund UGA Urban Pest Entomology through fees collected as part of company applications. He provided the Urban Pest Control Program Research Report (Attachment 3) to the commission and the attendees. Dr. Forschler then yielded the floor to Dr. Sabrina Elgar, postdoctoral associate, who gave a brief overview of her background researching southeastern peach systems. She now endeavors to begin a new research project focused on structural pest management. Emily Haney, who is a first-year master's student working with Dr. Dan Suiter, also spoke about her research. Her project focuses on the bioavailability and longevity of perimeter soil treatments. Dr. Forschler then spoke about the breakfast hosted by UGA that was held that morning that brings the SPCC, the SPD, members of the pest management associations, and the UGA School of Agriculture together. He spoke about the importance of the structural pest control industry gaining more recognition for its economic impact on the state of Georgia, and his appreciation for the Dean of Agriculture attending. He emphasized how pest control has evolved over time, especially with new detection technologies, better identification of specific termite species, and the ability to better tailor treatments to customer's specific needs. He also spoke about how our understanding of species has evolved, using the project on carpenter bees completed last year that illustrated their impact in improving biodiversity through habitat creation and their role as pollinators. He highlighted that he welcomes any comments about the work the UGA Urban Entomology department performs and invited everyone to attend the presentations highlighting the students' research at the GPCA Winter Conference tomorrow.
- I. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. He began by thanking UGA for hosting this annual meeting in January. This tradition is always a great way to kick off the new year. He spoke about a meeting with Commissioner Tyler J Harper last week, who plans to attend an

in-person SPCC meeting later, to be determined date. Mr. Lastinger also mentioned that the legislative calendar was announced yesterday, along with the topics of discussion which will include the state budget. The SPD team met for a strategic planning meeting recently. This meeting is an opportunity for the SPD to review accomplishments from the past year and set new goals for this year which will likely focus on rule changes and related outreach. Mr. Lastinger also talked about two new work groups at the department level. An outreach workgroup has been formed with Ali Ikner and Nan Collier from the SPD team participating. This workgroup was created to aid in advancing the public's understanding of the work the GDA does. The other work group was formed to develop division specific performance measures. Mr. Lastinger explained that each year SPD reports state level performance measures and US EPA Performance measures. Because these measures are designed to be broad and apply to many different programs, they often do not give a very complete or clear picture of what our division accomplishes. The intent of the workgroup is to create measures that more accurately represent the work of each division.

- J. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt provided an update on SPD Inspector field activities and gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. She expressed appreciation to the industry for their condolences and understanding in working with our team following the loss of Mr. Taylor. She also announced that there are currently two open positions, which include an inspector position in the northeast area, and an Enforcement officer position in Atlanta. Mrs. Merritt noted that our Compliance and Enforcement team completed over two thousand inspections in 2025. This number includes routine and for-cause inspections. She noted that it has been observed on several occasions now that some applicators are filling out their PURs based on what the label requires, and not what they are actually doing on site. She reminded attendees that PURs should be filled out to reflect the application performed. Mrs. Merritt also spoke about a trend in homeowners and pest management companies calling in to submit complaints over the last 12 months, with a greater increase in the last 6 months. The largest increase has been in reports of unlicensed operators, but there is also an increase in fumigation notifications. She applauded the efforts of the inspector team handling the influx of inspections. Mrs. Merritt also emphasized that all pest control salespeople must be licensed. She highlighted that a full department update would be presented on Thursday at the GPCA Winter conference as well.
- K. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. She reflected on the successes of the recent renewal period. Despite a few technical difficulties, the SPD team worked to provide information and assistance through two editions of The Inside Buzz, the renewal webpage, inspector outreach, and one on one assistance through the admin team. Thanks to everyone's hard work we had record low numbers of unrenewed licenses. Ms. Ikner then provided the final renewal numbers for the 2025 season, which included 2,269 Certified Operator licenses, 7,797 Registered Employees, and 1,278 company licenses that were renewed this year. Ms. Ikner also reminded Course Sponsors that the 2025 course numbers are now officially expired, and everyone should now be using the 2026 course numbers.
- L. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach report. She spoke about what an honor it is to be associated with UGA and their wonderful team. She highlighted that SPD will be hosting a Compliance booth this week at the GPCA Winter Conference, as well as providing several presentations throughout the conference. Mrs. Collier then spoke about the upcoming Spring Workshop series hosted through UGA at the Griffin campus. These include the

upcoming Bed Bug Workshop on February 5th, the Commercial IPM Workshop on February 19th, and two two-day Spring Termite Workshops to be held March 3rd and 4th and on March 19th & 20th. Registration links for these will be available on the [Workshops page of the UGA Extension Structural Pest Management website](#). Mrs. Collier also emphasized that while the School IPM grant has officially concluded, the SPD hopes to continue offering this program while supplies last. Anyone interested in arranging a school visit for SPD to educate students on the importance of IPM and pest ID should contact the SPD office. Mr. Lastinger added that while the division may need to adjust to operating under a reduced budget, SPD will strive to continue its outreach work. He emphasized the importance of how this work provides compliance assistance and education to reduce the need for enforcement.

- M. Mr. Lastinger thanked Ms. Bradshaw for the important work she does behind the scenes as a project coordinator to keep the SPD team organized.
- N. Ms. Bradshaw spoke about the GDA internship program and its benefits. This summer internship program is a paid opportunity, with roles available with many divisions at the GDA. The application window for summer 2026 will close on February 8th.
- O. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- P. Mr. Lastinger gave an update on Notice 14-08 Under-floor space ventilation – unvented crawl space. The diagram in reference D of this fact sheet suggests that insulation practices may vary in “low termite risk areas”. This is believed to be in reference to IRC Table R301.2, which is a template to be completed by the local authority having jurisdiction, such as the county, to determine level of termite risk, or it may be in reference to the IRC’s Termite Infestation Probability Zones (also known as TIP Zones). Mr. Lastinger explained that he would be consulting with the DCA for clarification and will consider modifying this fact sheet if appropriate.
- Q. Mr. Gorecki spoke about proposed amendments to the SPCC Regulations and the upcoming Public Consideration meeting. He clarified that while the proposed rules were originally set to be posted in October, after further review the GDA Legal services department determined additional modifications would need to be made to make the rules more enforceable. The revisions focused on improving the legal language of the rules and did not substantively modify the underlying intent, outcomes, or processes previously discussed. A complete copy of the draft rules and regulations and a synopsis of changes are available on the Legal Notices section of the GDA website. The 30-day comment period began on January 2nd and will remain open until February 2nd. Comments may be submitted via email to SPCC@agr.georgia.gov, by mail, or in person at the public consideration meeting to be held in Atlanta on January 21st. Mr. Gorecki also stated that he will be providing a presentation with an overview of the proposed rule changes at the GPCA Winter Conference and describing how these changes will better prepare the pest management industry for national changes in the regulatory landscape.
- R. Mr. Gorecki spoke about Big Canoe POA Regulations. A letter was distributed by the Big Canoe Property Owners Association to inform its residents and pest control vendors that no outdoor pest control bait stations would be permitted within the community in response to a case allegedly involving a bear poisoning. Questions about what occurred in the incident that precipitated the POA’s rule change, what types of bait stations are prohibited by the rule, the ability of the POA to impose this type of regulation, and how this affects preemption in Georgia have been raised. Mr. Lastinger explained that the GDA is taking this very seriously

and is fully engaged in the investigation. SPD is coordinating with DNR's biologist for a better understanding of the investigation.

- S. Mr. Gorecki discussed the 2026 SPCC meeting schedule. The public notice with the complete schedule for the year has been posted online. Should any meeting location or date be changed an additional notice will be posted.
- T. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. He spoke about the potential for the ratio of democrats to republicans in the senate and house to shift as Georgia currently has eight members that have left to run for other positions. Mr. Bell provided details on a landmark decision in Peru, where certain municipalities in the Amazon have issued legal rights to the native stingless bees. This is the first case of insects being granted legal rights and may influence policy decisions on how pollinators are regulated. He next gave a description of SFIREG's recent meeting in Alexandria, VA. Where the pervading issue continues to be the classification of rodenticides and ESA implementation. Mr. Bell concluded with a discussion about a policy decision in California, where three towns have passed bans on the use of glue boards. The bans have given rise to federal preemption concerns, given that sticky traps are not registered with the EPA.
- U. Mr. Wally Holden spoke on behalf of CPCO. The CPCO presented the SPD with a memorial plaque in commemoration of Mr. Tim Taylor's years of service and contributions to the pest control industry. Mr. Lastinger thanked the CPCO for their kind words and thoughts during this difficult time.
- V. Mr. West spoke on behalf of GPCA. The GPCA appreciated the time to speak but announced they would be honoring Mr. Tim Taylor during their awards ceremony during the GPCA Winter Conference and therefore had nothing further to add during the SPCC meeting.
- W. Mr. Gorecki began the Executive session at 11:39am. The executive session ended at 12:13 pm.
- X. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications
Attachment 3	Urban Pest Control Program Report

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Chris Gorecki, Chairman
Derrick Lastinger, Vice-chairman
Dr. "Tiffany" Thuy-Vi Nguyen, Georgia Department of Public Health
Dr. Brian Forschler, University of Georgia
Bodine Sinyard, Adams Exterminators
Greg Holley, Zone Pest Solutions
Kim Bragg, Consumer Affairs & Protection Representative

Agenda

January 13, 2026

Open –Chairman Gorecki

Introductions

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update & Research Reports - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. UGA Structural & Urban Training Center – Dr. Dan Suiter
- c. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Compliance– LeAnne Merritt
 - Certification & Training –Ali Ikner
 - Outreach – Nan Collier
- d. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- e. Notice 14-08 Under-floor space ventilation – unvented crawl space 2b
- f. Amendments to the SPCC Regulations & Public Consideration
- g. Big Canoe POA Regulation
- h. 2026 Meetings
- i. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- j. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Northwest Exterminating Company LLC dba Volunteer Rid A Pest - Tennessee – Name Change Only (Acquisition)
- TactPoint Pest Solutions - Barrow County
- Savannah River Residential - Columbia County
- Palmetto Exterminators, LLC - Chatham County – Name Change Only

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Final Solution Pest Service – Dekalb County – Pending Email
- Fortress Pest Control - Floyd County – Pending Insurance
- Axiom Eco Pest Control – Tennessee – Approved Pending Name

ATTACHMENT 3

**URBAN PEST CONTROL PROGRAM
HOUSEHOLD AND STRUCTURAL ENTOMOLOGY RESEARCH PROGRAM
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA, ATHENS, GEORGIA**

DATE OF REPORT TO COMMISSION: **January 13, 2026**

PROGRESS REPORT:

The economic clout of the professional pest management industry remains underrepresented within the academic community. Our research program has been contacted by and is collaborating with sister institutions to generate comparable data on the economic contribution of the industry to their respective state economies. The task of highlighting the role PMP businesses make toward the financial stability of university systems is the responsibility of industry advocates by establishing strong lines of communication with College of Agriculture administrators. The research generated at UGA over the past 30 years is providing an opportunity for the industry to proactively bring their termite business model into the 21st century. The current science shows that, in Georgia, subterranean termites are common, omnipresent cryptic soil-dwelling animals and of the 6 species 3 pose a high risk for structural infestation. Termite detection technology will soon be able to take a sample of termites collected at a bait station and identify the species. The PMP can use that information to inform customers of the risk that species poses toward their home and provide decision-making options on treatments and contracts tailored to their property. New termite-detection tools will provide sales personnel access to potential customers without a swarm event thereby opening opportunities for increasing the customer base. The recently completed work on carpenter bees highlighted a role those insects have in creating habitat for other insects - including an additional bee species, 2 wasp species, a fly, roaches and spiders – and increasing biodiversity in urban settings. The study of borate wood-surface applications as a preventative and remedial treatment for drywood termites continues to show promise managing the feeding activity and resulting structural injury caused by that pest.

EXPENDITURES:

Student expenditures were approximately \$12,000 in addition to \$22,000 for supplies and equipment. The State Structural Pest Control Commission research fee was used for all the undergraduate student salaries as well as equipment and supplies.

PLANNED RESEARCH:

We plan to address the following research topics over the next year: **(1)** the role of subterranean termite speciation and their involvement in structural infestations **(2)** continued testing pest management products and application technologies **(3)** highlight the financial contribution the pest management professional industry has on a national level **(4)** test termite monitoring systems.

Comparison of carpenter bee nests, by board, showing number of holes and galleries along with other insects found in each nest.

Board	Nest (# gallery)	Carpenter bee	Mason bee	Mason wasp	Grass wasp	Other Arthropods
1	1 ⁽²⁾		X			
	2 ⁽⁷⁾	X				
	3 ⁽⁴⁾	-	-	-	-	-
	4 ⁽²⁾	X				
	5 ⁽⁶⁾	X				
	6 ⁽²⁾	-	-	-	-	-
	7 ⁽¹⁾	-	-	-	-	-
	8 ⁽⁴⁾	X				
	9 ⁽⁶⁾	X				
	10 ⁽⁴⁾	X				
	11 ⁽⁴⁾	X				
	12 ⁽⁴⁾	X				
	13 ⁽²⁾	X				
	14 ⁽²⁾				X	
2	15 ⁽²⁾		X		X	
	16 ⁽³⁾	X		X		spider
	17 ⁽²⁾					
	18 ⁽²⁾	X		X		
	19 ⁽²⁾	X				
3	20 ⁽⁵⁾	X				roach
	21 ⁽⁴⁾	X				
	22 ⁽⁴⁾	X				
	23 ⁽²⁾			X		
	24 ⁽³⁾	X				
	25 ⁽²⁾	X				
Board	Nest (# gallery)	Carpenter bee	Mason bee	Mason wasp	Grass wasp	Other Arthropods
4	26 ⁽⁸⁾	X				
	27 ⁽¹¹⁾	X	X	X	X	Beetle roach spider wood louse
5	28 ⁽²⁾		X			
	29 ⁽⁴⁾	X	X	X		moth
	30 ⁽²⁾	-	-	-	-	-
	31 ⁽¹⁾	-	-	-	-	-
	32 ⁽¹⁾	-	-	-	-	-
	33 ⁽³⁾		X			
	34 ⁽⁶⁾					Resin bee
	35 ⁽³⁾		X	X		
6	36 ⁽³⁾					roach
	37 ⁽³⁾	X				
	38 ⁽⁵⁾	X				
7	39 ⁽²⁾		X	X		
	40 ⁽⁵⁾					roach
	41 ⁽²⁾	X				
	42 ⁽⁵⁾	X	X			roach
	43 ⁽²⁾				X	
	44 ⁽¹⁾		X	X		
	45 ⁽⁵⁾	X				

Comparison of colonies collected from wildland and urban habitats by species.

Species	Urban		Wildland	
	Number of colonies	Percentage by category	Number of colonies	Percentage by category
<i>R. flavipes</i>	109	65%	32	31%
<i>R. hageni</i>	3	2%	15	15%
<i>R. mallei</i>	19	11%	29	29%
<i>R. nelsonae</i>	0	0	13	13%
<i>R. virginicus</i>	37	22%	12	10%
Total	168	100%	101	100%

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

February 10th, 2026

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:03 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Bodine Sinyard, Greg Holley, Kim Bragg, and Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard to approve the amended agenda. Dr. Forschler seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- D. A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard to approve all minutes from the January SPCC meeting. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- E. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. He spoke positively about Dr. Elgar's work with the GDA to draft the biology chapter for the state certification manual. Dr. Forschler also reflected on the success of the January Commission meeting at the historic chapel in Athens. He hopes that this annual tradition will continue, highlighting the importance of the opportunity for everyone to come together.
- F. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. He noted the Capitol is especially busy with the Legislative session in full swing, and that Reaganne Hart from the GDA Policy Team was present at the meeting. Mr. Lastinger spoke about goals to obtain funding for GDA to host a Clean Day, to maintain SPD software programs, and to acquire updated vehicles for staff to improve safety. He also stated that national concerns regarding the reclassification of rodenticides and regulation of mosquito misting are topics on AAPCO's 79th Annual Spring Meeting and Conference agenda which is scheduled to take place March 1st through the 4th in Alexandria, VA.
- G. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt provided an update on SPD Inspector field activities and gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. She announced that the department is still accepting applications for an inspector position in the Northeast Georgia region. She also announced that the Compliance team is now participating in bi-monthly trainings dubbed LAP (Learn, Apply, Practice) sessions. Mrs. Merritt then provided an overview of how the compliance numbers have increased from 2024 to 2025. She also highlighted the increase in the number of tips and complaints from the industry and the public that have led to a higher number of investigations related to unlicensed operators.
- H. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. She noted that HBR licensees will enter their fourth year of certification in 2026, meaning some individuals will have only one year remaining to complete their required continuing education hours for recertification. The next edition of *The Inside Buzz* will focus on available training opportunities for these individuals. She also discussed a current system error affecting some CEU entries by authorized submitters, preventing certain operators and registered employees from receiving credit. Sponsors may submit documentation directly to the office in the meantime for manual entry while the error is being fixed. Ms. Ikner further stated that SPD staff are

working with Dr. Forschler and Dr. Elgar to update the manual to meet new EPA Competency Standards.

- I. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach report. She shared that the Bed Bug Workshop held on February 5th was well attended, particularly for a non-renewal year. Mrs. Collier then reviewed the upcoming Spring Workshop series hosted through UGA at the Griffin campus, including the Commercial IPM Workshop on February 19th and two Spring Termite Workshops scheduled for March 3rd–4th and March 19th–20th. She also noted that the SPD team will soon be developing outreach materials related to the proposed rule changes.
- J. Mr. Lastinger provided an update on the Big Canoe POA regulations. He stated that there are no new developments at this time and that the matter remains under review.
- K. Mr. Lastinger announced Public Notice 26-01 regarding the June meeting. Space has been secured to hold the meeting in person, and the public notice will be posted in the near future.
- L. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- M. Mr. Trip Martin provided a legislative update, noting that the General Assembly is currently on Day 16 of the legislative session. He reported that there has been significant discussion surrounding property tax reduction. While his role is not to advocate on behalf of the Department, he offered to review priority items with leadership and serve as a point of contact to help keep the Commission informed. Mr. Martin also noted that three or four individuals have been indicted and removed from office, resulting in two open seats that will require runoff elections. He highlighted that there is a notably large freshman class in both the Senate and the House this session. As part of the biennial training conducted for new legislators, he suggested that, if the Commission is meeting in Athens on a Tuesday, it could present a valuable opportunity for industry members to engage with new state officials. The training is typically held on a Monday or Tuesday following the SEC Championship game, and he will distribute the confirmed dates later in the afternoon.
- N. Mr. Lastinger provided an update on Rulemaking. Following the previous meeting, a public meeting was held at GDA to receive comments, and the official comment period closed in early February. Five sets of comments were received. Legal Services reviewed the submissions and determined that none warranted substantive changes to the proposed rules. Mr. Lastinger explained that at this stage, the Department is limited in the types of changes that may be made without restarting the rulemaking process.
- O. A motion was made to approve the rule changes for submission to the Secretary of State's Office. Mrs. Bragg made the motion to accept, and Mr. Sinyard seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- P. Mr. Lastinger provided comments regarding rule implementation. He discussed ongoing efforts to update images and formatting within the rules. He noted that some rules may require more than a year to implement, while others may take effect sooner. Once the rules are posted to the Secretary of State's website, additional guidance will follow. Stakeholders were encouraged to share any feedback regarding implementation timelines. Mr. Lastinger added that much of the implementation work will occur behind the scenes, particularly on the licensing side.
- Q. Mr. Gorecki provided an update regarding building codes. He explained that certain language in Section 402, which also addresses spray foam and rigid board insulation, had been discussed with the building code amendments board. Mr. Gorecki stated he will follow up

and attend additional meetings to continue monitoring the issue. Currently, no changes to the language affecting this section are anticipated.

- R. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. NPMA is working to incorporate language related to preemption and is monitoring potential movement on the Farm Bill in March. He also mentioned that NPMA is participating in a MAHA stakeholder group focused on potential disruptions to pesticide registration. He noted that of the 230 stakeholders involved, none currently represent pest control companies. Mr. Bell further reported that in Indiana, a proposal to shift the Office of the State Chemist to the Department of Agriculture is facing opposition. While this may not directly impact Georgia, it is being monitored. Finally, he noted that a bill in Virginia proposing a 1,000-foot PFAS buffer around schools is under consideration, emphasizing that similar legislative concepts often move from state to state.
- S. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Chris Gorecki, Chairman
Derrick Lastinger, Vice-chairman
Dr. "Tiffany" Thuy-Vi Nguyen, Georgia Department of Public Health
Dr. Brian Forschler, University of Georgia
Bodine Sinyard, Adams Exterminators
Greg Holley, Zone Pest Solutions
Kim Bragg, Consumer Affairs & Protection Representative

Agenda

February 10, 2026

Welcome

Open – Chairman Gorecki

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Compliance/Enforcement – LeAnna Merritt
 - Certification & Training –Ali Ikner
 - Outreach – Nan Collier
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. Final Rulemaking and Implementation Planning
- e. Building Codes
- f. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- g. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- h. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Holland Pest Management – Cobb County – Pending Insurance
- Max Pest Solutions Inc. – Forsyth County – Pending Insurance
- Vengeance Pest Solutions – Brantley County – Pending Insurance
- Total Spraying LLC – Florida – Pending Alternate Name
- Honey I'm Home – Muscogee County – HBR Company- Pending Insurance & Email
- Pest Badger Northeast Atlanta – Fulton County – Pending Insurance & Payment

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

March 10th, 2026

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:03 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Greg Holley, Bodine Sinyard, Kim Bragg, and Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. A motion was made by Mr. Holley to approve the minutes from the February SPCC meeting. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. He noted that workshops and several projects are progressing steadily. Dr. Forschler spoke positively about Dr. Elgar's work with the GDA to draft the biology chapter for the new state certification manual.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. He noted the Capitol is especially busy with the Legislative session in full swing. He referenced the for-cause and complaint numbers shared by Mrs. LeAnna Merritt at last month's meeting, emphasizing the overall rise in workload placing significant strain on resources. Mr. Lastinger also noted that the department still has two vacancies it hopes to fill in the near future. In response to continued budget reductions, the compliance team has creatively adapted by shifting to short bimonthly virtual training meetings focused on maintaining inspection and field operations competency. Mr. Lastinger also acknowledged the considerable work that has gone into updating the state certification manual.
- F. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt provided an update on SPD Inspector field activities and gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. She reported that the LAP (Learn, Apply, Practice) session held the previous Monday was well received by field staff and will be continuing. Two calls regarding termite swarmers have already come in, and for-cause inspections continue to be on the rise, keeping staff busy. She highlighted the most common violations since January 1st, identifying the omission of the 3-day right to cancel notice on contracts as the leading routine inspection violation, and insufficient documentation of specific areas treated as the most frequent for-cause violation.
- G. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. She thanked everyone involved in the manual update effort and noted that though the manual may soon be completed, full implementation may take until Summer of 2027 to allow time for exams and other integral process updates to occur. She clarified that the new manual would be intended for those preparing to take the General Examination, which will be the test to become Certified Registered Employees and one of the required exams to become a Certified Operator. The Employee Registration Manual will still be the basis for the Registration Exam and Truman's Scientific Guide to Pest Management Operations will still be in use for certification category exams. Ms. Ikner noted that work on a tentative implementation roadmap is forthcoming. She also reported that a previously identified glitch in the CEU submitter portal has been resolved; however, a new issue has emerged causing some users' training summaries to

display zero credit hours. Affected individuals are asked to contact the office by email so courses can be credited appropriately.

- H. Mr. Lastinger reported on updates learned at the AAPCO conference, including that PERC will be losing its federal funding and will no longer be available as a resource. He also noted that NPIC has received a federal funding cut and is now only open for limited hours each week, though online resources remain available.
- I. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach report. She spoke about two Spring Termite Workshops hosted through UGA at the Griffin campus. The first workshop, held March 3rd–4th, was attended by 25 participants. The second workshop is scheduled for March 19th–20th. Additional outreach activities include a Career Day presentation at Pleasant Grove Elementary School in Henry County on March 19th, a two-hour WDO webinar on April 8th as part of the UGA 2026 Webinar Series, and participation in Fernbank Bug Fest on May 2nd. Mrs. Collier also noted that the Winter 2026 Edition of The Inside Buzz has been published, with this issue featuring HBR CEU opportunities. She also highlighted the availability of CAMs as a resource on the department's website and conveyed that outreach materials are now being developed in preparation for the implementation of the amended rules.
- J. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- K. Mr. Lastinger provided an update on Rulemaking. He reported that the amended rules have been transmitted to the Secretary of State's office and are awaiting formal approval. An implementation roadmap detailing when the rules will take effect is being developed and will be shared through outreach channels when it becomes available. Mr. Lastinger also noted that significant work has been completed on the formatting of the Official Waiver and WIIR, and that updated fact sheets are forthcoming. The SPD hopes to share a preview of the updated materials at the next SPCC meeting.
- L. Mr. James Wright of BASF provided a presentation on a product called “Encircle”, a smart home remote termite detection system. Per Mr. Wright, the system is intended to be sold exclusively to licensed PMPs. Commission members raised questions regarding PMP response timelines and placement requirements. It was noted that the device would fall within the scope of existing Georgia regulations, and PMPs meeting current requirements should be in compliance. It was also noted that the product would not be suitable for pretreats in the state of Georgia and not considered a pesticide. The Commission thanked Mr. Wright for proactively bringing the product to their attention, and staff agreed to follow up with a summary of the specific regulatory requirements that apply to the device and asked Mr. Wright to provide a copy of the products manual and technical information to aid in that response.
- M. Mr. Gorecki provided an update regarding building codes. He reported that while the request to allow for the placement of foam boards under the slab has been vetoed, placement inside and outside the foundation wall does not appear to present a regulatory issue. Mr. Gorecki stated he will continue monitoring the matter and noted that Mr. Lastinger may be needed to attend an April meeting in his place.
- N. Mrs. Faye Golden provided the NPMA update. She reported on her participation alongside state regulators at the AAPCO meeting and highlighted key topics including ESA, rodenticide actions (now delayed until 2027 or 2028), and PFAS. She noted that AAPCO is placing increased emphasis on hands-on learning opportunities for regulators. Mrs. Golden also reported that the Farm Bill has been approved and that NPMA is focused on grassroots efforts

at this time. She provided an update on Legislative Day, noting record-setting attendance, and extended an invitation for members to join NPMA in Washington, D.C.

- O. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:56 am.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Chris Gorecki, Chairman
Derrick Lastinger, Vice-chairman
Dr. "Tiffany" Thuy-Vi Nguyen, Georgia Department of Public Health
Dr. Brian Forschler, University of Georgia
Bodine Sinyard, Adams Exterminators
Greg Holley, Zone Pest Solutions
Kim Bragg, Consumer Affairs & Protection Representative

Agenda

March 10, 2026

Welcome

Open – Chairman Gorecki

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Compliance/Enforcement – LeAnna Merritt
 - Certification & Training –Ali Ikner
 - Outreach – Nan Collier
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. Final Rulemaking and Implementation Planning
- e. Encircle RTDS - BASF
- f. Building Codes
- g. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- h. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- i. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Guardian South, LLC – Huntsville, AL – Name Change Only
- Bug Busters (new location Carrollton County)

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- BRD Pest Solutions – Fulton County – Pending Insurance
- Old School Pest Solutions – Baldwin County – Pending Insurance
- PestNation – Forsyth County – Pending Insurance – Name Change Only
- Go-Forth Pest Control (new location) Fulton County – Pending Insurance
- Go-Forth Pest Control (new location) Richmond County – Pending Insurance & Confirmation of DCO Eligibility
- Maxpest LLC – Cobb County – Pending Insurance & New Name
- Cherokee Pest Services LLC – Cherokee County – Pending Insurance & Confirmation of DCO Eligibility
- Preferred Pest Control LLC – Liberty County – Pending Insurance

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

April 14th, 2026

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:02 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Greg Holley, Bodine Sinyard, Kim Bragg, and Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard to approve the minutes from the March SPCC meeting. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. He spoke about the UGA Words of War survey that is currently open and encouraged everyone to participate in this survey.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. He introduced Tom Stage as SPD's new Compliance and Enforcement Manager. Mr. Stage previously worked in the GDA's Plant Protection Division on the Yellow-legged Hornet (YLH) response. Mr. Lastinger also announced that the next SPCC meeting will be held on May 12th, with June 9th scheduled as the next in-person meeting.
- F. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt provided an update on SPD Inspector field activities and gave the Compliance and Enforcement update. She reported that the department is actively hiring for an open inspector position and is still accepting applications. Interested parties may apply through the Team Georgia website. She also discussed the continued upward trend in complaints, with the most common issues involving WIIRs and treatment standards.
- G. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. She reported that revisions to adapt the PERC manual were approved on March 31st, and that the state now officially has a new manual to serve as the basis for the general exam. While the new manual is not planned to be released until the corresponding exams have been updated, the approval of the manual is a significant milestone in the implementation process. Ms. Ikner offered a reminder that all newly registered employees, including those working solely in sales, are still required to complete the pre-exam training. She emphasized the importance of completing employee registrations, obtaining registration cards, and ensuring employees carry them at all times. She also noted that the rule changes have been formally approved and that an updated Certification and Training plan will be submitted to the EPA.
- H. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach report. She reported that the Spring Termite Workshops have concluded and were well attended with 25 participants attending the first session and 42 at the second session. She highlighted Mrs. Merritt's presentation on Career Day at Pleasant Grove Elementary School, and recognized all speakers who contributed to the UGA 2026 webinar series. Upcoming outreach activities include participation in Agriculture Night at the Rome Emperors game in Rome, GA where the SPD team will speak about the importance of hiring licensed pest management professionals and pesticide safety. SPD will also be hosting a booth at Fernbank's upcoming Bug Fest and has scheduled a visit to Camp Bartow to provide a School IPM presentation in June. Mrs. Collier also spoke about outreach materials that are in development for the implementation of the amended rules.

- I. Mr. Tom Stage provided more information on his background working with the GDA and spoke about the state's ongoing work to track down and eradicate YLH throughout the state. He noted that scouts are currently looking for embryo nests approximately the size of a baseball and emphasized the critical need for additional eyes in the field. He advised that a flyer and local mailer will be forthcoming and expressed gratitude to the pest management industry for its continued support and assistance in scouting efforts.
- J. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- K. Mr. Lastinger provided an update on Rulemaking. He reported that the amended rules were formally adopted on April 8th and have now been published by the Secretary of State's office. SPD will be updating its webpage to include a copy of the new rules and a dedicated implementation page to help provide resources and updates. He noted that the Official Waiver and WIIR fact sheets have been updated to reflect the new form layouts that aim to be fillable, more readable, and easier to complete correctly. Existing stocks of forms may continue to be used until June 2027. Mr. Lastinger then walked attendees through the Key Change Dates one-pager, noting that it does not cover every rule amendment but highlights the most significant upcoming changes. A motion to approve the Key Changes to the Rules of the SPCC as a working document was made by Mrs. Bragg and seconded by Dr. Forscherler, and the motion passed.
- L. Mr. Lastinger spoke about the revisions to Notice 24-04 Termite Monitoring Only Products and Devices. The revised notice is intended to help clarify the existing regulations applicable to devices, such as TermiTek and BASF Encircle. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Holley and seconded by Mrs. Bragg, and the motion passed.
- M. Mr. Gorecki provided an update regarding Building Code Amendments. He reported that the proposed change regarding the foam board slab insulation exception will be discussed again at the April building code amendment meeting.
- N. Mr. Brad Bohannon provided the Legislative update. He reported that the legislative session concluded on April 2nd and that the bill review and signing period will run through May 12th, which will remain the primary focus of legislative activity. He noted that the May 19th primaries are approaching and that there is also some discussion of a potential special election.
- O. Mrs. Faye Golden provided the NPMA update. She is currently in Chicago attending the NPMA Sustainability Summit alongside approximately 60 other attendees. She spoke about the Safety Summit that is scheduled for the following day with over 100 participants expected. She highlighted the strong attendance at the recent NPMA Legislative Day and encouraged industry members to reach out to their congressional contacts regarding current priorities, including the Farm Bill. Mrs. Golden also referenced a presidential memorandum announcing a 53% budget cut, noting that the full impact on NPMA and EPA staff is not yet known.
- P. Mr. Lastinger spoke about the upcoming ASCPRO Mid-Year Meeting, which is scheduled for the following week. He highlighted that this will be Mrs. LeAnna Merritt's first Mid-Year Meeting serving on the ASCPRO board. Mrs. Merritt expressed her interest in discussions with industry representatives and committee members at the upcoming meeting.
- Q. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all the guests in attendance, and the meeting adjourned at 11:21 am.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Chris Gorecki, Chairman
Derrick Lastinger, Vice-chairman
Dr. "Tiffany" Thuy-Vi Nguyen, Georgia Department of Public Health
Dr. Brian Forschler, University of Georgia
Bodine Sinyard, Adams Exterminators
Greg Holley, Zone Pest Solutions
Kim Bragg, Consumer Affairs & Protection Representative

Agenda

April 14, 2026

Welcome

Open – Chairman Gorecki

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Compliance/Enforcement – LeAnna Merritt
 - Certification & Training – Ali Ikner
 - Outreach – Nan Collier
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
 - Revisions to the new company license applications
- d. Recertification course policy
- e. Final Rulemaking and Implementation Update
 - Revisions to Notice 14-09 Official Waiver and Notice 14-10 Official Georgia Wood Infestation Inspection Report
 - Draft timeline for key changes and resource page
- f. Notice 24-04 Termite Monitoring Only
- g. Building Code Meetings – Chris Gorecki
- h. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- i. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- j. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Pest Hunters/Mosquito Hunters of Savannah/Hilton Head – Beaufort County
- Pro Ex Pest & Home Services – Bulloch County – Name Change Only
- Tennessee Valley Pest & Lawn – Tennessee – Name Change Only

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Buginator Pest Control – Liberty County – Pending Insurance
- Apex Pest Control Services – Name Change Only – Pending Insurance
- Augusta Home Services LLC – Richmond County – Pending Email Address
- T&S Pest Solutions – Bibb County – Pending Insurance
- Insight Pest Solutions SGA LLC – Muscogee County – New Location – Pending Insurance and DCO Supervision Plan
- McCormick Pest Control – Floyd County – Pending Insurance
- Red Clay Pest Control – Bibb County – Pending Insurance
- Southern Shield – Barrow County – Pending Insurance and Email Address
- Home Safe Honey Bee and Wildlife Removal – Clarke County – HBR Company – Pending Insurance and Payment
- Case Closed Pest Control – Cherokee County – Name Change Only – Pending Insurance

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

May 12th, 2026

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:01 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Dr. Brian Forschler, Greg Holley, Bodine Sinyard, Kim Bragg, and Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. A motion was made by Mr. Holley to approve the minutes from the April SPCC meeting. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- D. Dr. Forschler provided the UGA Urban Entomology Update. Dr. Forschler announced that he will be retiring on August 1st, so this will be his last SPCC meeting. He acknowledged it has been his pleasure to serve and thanked the commission for the kind words shared by members. Mr. Gorecki expressed sincere gratitude on behalf of the commission for Dr. Forschler's years of dedication and support to the industry and the department. The Commission and department noted the need to discuss filling the vacancy and agreed to work together to identify a suitable candidate.
- E. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. He reported that SPD recently partnered with the GDA's Ag Pesticide Program to visit the Port of Savannah to meet with Peebles Industries and tour operations related to import/export commodity fumigations. The visit focused on the challenges of export commodity fumigation and the use of sulfuryl fluoride. Mr. Lastinger also announced that Ms. Ali Ikner has been promoted to Assistant Director of SPD and congratulated her on her new role.
- F. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. She announced that SPD has launched an online payment portal for payments through KRS, allowing initial payments for certified operator and company license applications to be accepted by email rather than requiring mailed checks. She also previewed a modernized second edition of the licensing database, currently in development, which will significantly improve self-service capabilities for licensees. It will be some time yet before the new system is live for structural pest control licenses, since several other Divisions will be moved to the new system first. She did note however that currently the sub-office license fees of \$10 are not yet supported by the online payment system and must continue to be paid by check.
- G. Mr. Tom Stage provided the Compliance and Enforcement update. He reported that the department has seen an uptick in complaints involving unlicensed door-to-door sales operations. The compliance team continues to focus on unlicensed operator cases as a priority.
- H. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt provided an update on SPD field operations. Mrs. Merritt recently attended the ASPCRO Mid-Year Meeting in Orlando. She reported that the rodenticide, fumigation, communications, and public health committees all convened and had productive discussions. Nationally, unlicensed door-to-door operations were identified as an issue, and the board is exploring the formation of an ad hoc committee to address it. The board also

approved an increase in conference registration fees, with additional details to be shared at the next meeting.

- I. Mrs. Nan Collier provided the Outreach report. She reported that on April 17th, she and Mrs. Merritt attended Agriculture Night at the Rome Emperor's baseball game. On May 1st, SPD joined Commissioner Harper, USDA, GDA, and Georgia Grown at Atlanta University for a recruitment event aimed at attracting new talent to the agricultural sector. On May 2nd, SPD participated in Fernbank's Bug Fest, which drew over 1,000 guests. Rollins served as a sponsor, and Ms. Ikner, Jennifer Pate, and Tyler Washburn all contributed to the event's success. Upcoming outreach events the SPD will be participating in include the Chattahoochee Nature Center's Butterfly Festival on June 6th and 7th, and the presentation of the School IPM Program at Camp Bartow on June 22nd. Mrs. Collier also noted that the UGA Words of War survey now has 550 respondents and encouraged continued promotion of the survey through industry outreach. She extended thanks to Dr. Forschler for his mentorship and support over the years.
- J. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- K. Mr. Gorecki noted that the commission has seen an increasing trend of company applications from out-of-state operations, which appear to be associated with door-to-door sales models. He indicated that the commission and department will develop a more structured process to ensure that Designated Certified Operator obligations are being fulfilled, including following up on supervision plans.
- L. Ms. Ikner presented revised company license applications for informational purposes. Two primary updates were noted, firstly applicants will need to provide Secure and Verifiable Document (SVD) information on the application form, in addition to the DCO's SVDs, to satisfy licensing requirements. Second, a new checkbox for the online payment option has been added to the Company License Application and the HBR Company License Application which will allow applicants to pay by credit card via an emailed link. Due to current limitations of the online payment system, Sub-Office License Application fees will still need to be paid via check.
- M. Ms. Ikner presented proposed revisions to the Recertification Course Approval Policy. She shared examples of several recently submitted course applications that contained AI-generated imagery with inaccurate pest identification images, nonsensical labeling, hallucinated text, and other issues. The proposed policy revisions strengthen language around content accuracy, authorize the commission to request additional documentation for review, allow for spot-checking of approved courses, and specify that non-compliance may result in revocation of course and/or speaker approval. A motion to approve the revised Recertification Course Approval Policy was made by Mr. Sinyard and seconded by Mrs. Bragg, and the motion passed.
- N. Mr. Lastinger provided the Rulemaking Implementation update. He reported that Notice 14-14: Wood Destroying Fungi Fact Sheet has been updated to reflect the rule change increasing the minimum vapor barrier coverage requirement from 70% to 90% of exposed soil, and to correct outdated links. A motion to approve the updated fact sheet was made by Mrs. Bragg and seconded by Mr. Holley, and the motion passed. Mr. Lastinger also noted that the rulemaking implementation webpage has been updated and encouraged attendees to reference it for the latest resources. He further reported that Notice 21-03 regarding honey bee removal is currently being revised to reflect the rule changes. He confirmed that Notice

24-04 on Termite Monitoring Only Products and Devices has been published to the SPD website and submitted to BASF.

- O. Mr. Gorecki provided an update on Termite Barriers. He summarized the history of the Pango Wrap physical termite barrier product, which the commission approved in 2016 for installation by licensed pest management professionals. The manufacturer has since approached the commission to reconsider that determination, contending the product is a physical barrier rather than a termite control method, and noting that some other states and EPA have reconsidered. Mr. Gorecki and Mr. Lastinger indicated they will share the manufacturer's materials with commission members for review and will seek clarification on whether the product's claims constitute termite control under existing regulations. Dr. Forschler noted concerns about the marketing language on the product's website. The Commission agreed the matter will be revisited at a future meeting.
- P. Mr. Gorecki spoke about Recertification course policy, noting inconsistencies in the current criteria across instructor qualifications and the intent to better standardize and streamline this process to reduce the burden on the GDA and decrease the length of time it takes to get approved. He also noted that the in-person presentation requirement at the department creates scheduling burdens. He suggested consolidating the final three application categories into a single standard based on practical experience and completion of the Train-the-Trainer Program, and potentially replacing the SPCC presentation requirement with an observed in-course presentation. Input from the associations will be solicited prior to bringing a formal proposal to the commission.
- Q. Mr. Trip Martin provided the Legislative update. He reported that the May 19th primary election is approaching, with early voting already underway and strong turnout expected. The Governor is expected to sign the budget, though a budget shortfall may necessitate a special session following the June 16th primary runoff. He noted that a special session could address the budget, an election integrity bill, and potentially licensing-related matters. Mr. Martin also suggested that the SPCC consider holding its December meeting in Athens to coincide with the biannual legislative orientation for newly elected members, which would provide an opportunity to introduce SPCC priorities to incoming legislators.
- R. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. He reported that the Farm Bill passed the House with the state pesticide preemption language, but it was later stripped by amendment. Mr. Gorecki noted that 45 states currently have preemption, and that the industry has now had preemption language survive to the final stages of the Farm Bill process twice in 13 years, though it was ultimately removed. Mr. Lastinger also spoke about Georgia's existing state preemption, which is codified in the Georgia Pesticide Use and Application Act (O.C.G.A. § 2-7-113), which prohibits other government entities from independently restricting pesticide use. Mr. Lastinger agreed to share the relevant statutory language with commission members for distribution to industry operators seeking clarification. Mr. Bell also announced the upcoming NPMA events, which include the Women's Forum in Charlotte from May 19th through the 21st, and the NPMA Academy from July 21st through the 23rd.
- S. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all guests in attendance. Commission members offered additional remarks recognizing Dr. Forschler's extraordinary contributions to the commission, the industry, and the department over his career. The meeting adjourned at 11:33 am

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1	Agenda
Attachment 2	Company Applications

Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

Chris Gorecki, Chairman
Derrick Lastinger, Vice-chairman
Dr. "Tiffany" Thuy-Vi Nguyen, Georgia Department of Public Health
Dr. Brian Forschler, University of Georgia
Bodine Sinyard, Adams Exterminators
Greg Holley, Zone Pest Solutions
Kim Bragg, Consumer Affairs & Protection Representative

Agenda

May 12, 2026

Welcome

Open – Chairman Gorecki

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Certification & Training –Ali Ikner
 - Compliance/Enforcement – Tom Stage
 - Outreach – Nan Collier
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
 - Revisions to the new company license applications
- d. Recertification course policy
- e. Final Rulemaking and Implementation Update
 - Revisions to Notice 14-14 WDF
 - Resource webpage
 - Notice 21-03 HBR
- f. Notice 24-04 Termite Monitoring Only
- g. Termite Barriers
- h. SPCC Approved Recertification Instructor Qualification
- i. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- j. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- k. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- JJA Partners Holdco Inc. dba Proforce – Gwinnett County (New Location)
- Pest Commando – Cobb County

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- Grand Funk Critters, LLC dba Skedaddle Humane Wildlife Control – Cobb County – Pending Insurance & DCO Supervision Plan
- Evo Pest Control LLC – Richmond County – Pending Insurance & DCO Supervision Plan
- Waggles Honeybee Removal – Whitfield County – Pending Insurance & Payment
- PureGuard Pest Control – Bibb County – Pending DCO Supervision Plan
- Versacor Enterprises, LLC – Gwinnett County – Pending DCO Supervision Plan
- Another Pest Control Company, LLC – Murray County – Pending Insurance
- Illuminating Pest Control, LLC – Fulton County – Pending Insurance and Signature
- Space Invaders Pro LLC – Clayton County – Pending Insurance
- The Back Yard Care Company – Fulton County – Pending Email and New Name

The Commission did not approve the following applications:

- Crossroads Pest Solutions – North Carolina – No DCO

MINUTES OF THE GEORGIA STRUCTURAL PEST CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

June 9th, 2026

- A. The Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission convened at 10:02 a.m. on Microsoft Teams. Commission members present were Chris Gorecki; Chairman, Derrick Lastinger; Vice-Chair, Greg Holley, Bodine Sinyard, Kim Bragg, and Dr. Thuy-Vi Nguyen.
- B. Also in attendance were representatives with the Georgia Department of Agriculture, GPCA, CPCO, registrants, and other members of the pest management industry.
- C. A motion was made by Mr. Sinyard to approve the minutes from the May SPCC meeting. Mrs. Bragg seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- D. Mr. Lastinger provided the department updates. A new UGA PSEP Coordinator has been selected and is expected to start in August. Due to the detection of New World Screwworm in Texas, the GDA has initiated a low-level activation of personnel to monitor for this pest. The GDA Lab is being considered to participate in AAPCO's pesticide Formulation Check Sample Program. This program supports laboratories with proficiency testing schemes that are used to verify and evaluate laboratory test results. Mr. Lastinger also spoke about the mid-year audit with the EPA which is scheduled for later this week.
- E. Ms. Ali Ikner provided the Certification and Training update. She discussed the recent server issues that have caused interruptions and unexpected testing site closures. Athens Technical College is the testing provider for SPD's pest management testing system. Unfortunately, due to construction near their server facility there have been several issues causing testing sites to have technical issues. Ms. Ikner assured attendees that the SPD office is available to provide rescheduling and assistance to anyone who is affected by these technical difficulties. Ms. Ikner also spoke about discussions held at AAPSE last week. This conference is a good opportunity for states to discuss ongoing issues and solutions with other states in the region. She highlighted the concerns regarding door-to-door sales, which other states had reverberated was an ongoing national issue.
- F. Mrs. LeAnna Merritt provided an update on SPD field operations. Field staff have been busy with the increase in for-cause inspections, as well as providing outreach for workshops and events. Several inspectors will also be taking advantage of an opportunity for more hands-on HBR experience this week. Mrs. Merritt also noted that a candidate has been selected for the open inspector position and is expected to begin in July. She also discussed ASPCRO's creation of an ad-hoc committee to focus on the issues with door-to-door sales. This committee will have their first in person meeting at the upcoming ASPCRO Annual Conference in Colorado Springs in August.
- G. Mr. Tom Stage provided the Enforcement update. Echoing Mrs. Merritt and Ms. Ikner's statements, he spoke about the Division's focus on unlicensed door-to-door sales. The SPD has seen a recent increase in these types of complaints, which Mr. Stage attributed to past outreach efforts which have helped to educate the public.
- H. Ms. Bradshaw provided the Outreach report on behalf of Mrs. Nan Collier. Planning for summer and fall workshops at UGA Griffin is officially underway, and outreach materials for rule changes are being created. SPD also has a presentation of the School IPM Lesson at Camp

Bartow scheduled for later this month. Ms. Bradshaw then spoke about the GDA Internship program, which kicked off on May 18th. The division invited the interns to a field day to learn more about the work structural pest inspectors do every day. Interns had the opportunity to crawl a home, take soil samples, learn about the inspection process, create diagrams, and perform pesticide calculations. SPD also hosted a booth at the Chattahoochee Nature Center's Annual Butterfly Festival on June 6th & 7th. SPD Intern Sravani Kari took the lead helping to organize volunteers and educate the public on pesticide safety, pest identification, and the work the SPD performs.

- I. The Commission approved company applications (see attachment 2)
- J. Mr. Lastinger provided the Rulemaking Implementation update. He spoke about the Rule Change Resource webpage which is being updated with information about rule change implementation and fact sheet revisions. The SPD team has been meeting internally to train staff to be prepared to provide assistance on the new rule changes. HBR factsheets are currently being updated and will be published to the webpage as soon as these are available.
- K. Mr. Lastinger provided an update on Termite Barriers. He discussed Pango Wrap's recent request to reverse a previous SPCC policy decision that requires the product to be installed by a licensed pest management professional. After consideration and discussion with the legal services team, the SPCC has chosen to abstain from revising the existing policy that implements Rule 620-6-.04(2)(b) for pre-construction termite control devices.
- L. Mr. Lastinger spoke about SPCC Approved Recertification Instructor Qualification. The SPD would like to consider revising these qualifications. Ms. Ali Ikner will be drafting a proposal for the SPCC to review at a later meeting. If anyone has suggestions on how these qualifications should be adjusted, please send your remarks to Ms. Ikner for consideration.
- M. Mr. Brad Bohannon provided the Legislative update. Gearing up for the special session which will begin on June 17th following the runoff elections. This special session will cover a myriad of topics including potential redistricting, gas tax ratification, property taxes, and others, however no topics directly affecting the pest management industry are currently proposed.
- N. Mr. Rick Bell provided the NPMA update. With the House removing preemption from the Farm Bill, NPMA and other state organizations are attempting to reengage Senators Ossoff and Warnock to encourage the reintroduction of section 10206 which pertains to states authority to regulate pesticide use. NPMA is also revising the language used to discuss preemption to better differentiate its position from other unrelated proposals from other states. Mr. Bell also spoke about a trend in states pursuing rodenticide regulations, with reports of eight states pushing for some form of rodenticide ban. He also noted that there have been discussions regarding prohibiting the use of glue boards. Mr. Bell finished his report by highlighting the upcoming Carolinas/Mid-Atlantic Conference to be held in Charleston, SC at the end of July.
- O. Mr. Lastinger announced his retirement. After earning over 30 years of service with the state of Georgia Mr. Lastinger will be retiring on August 1st. He expressed his gratitude for his team and reflected on the policies, pests, and people that have helped shape his career.
- P. Mr. Gorecki expressed appreciation to all guests in attendance. The meeting adjourned at 11:04 am

ATTACHMENTS

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Chris Gorecki, Chairman

Commissioner Tyler Harper, Secretary

ATTACHMENT 1



Georgia Structural Pest Control Commission

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Bodine Sinyard, Adams Exterminators
Greg Holley, Zone Pest Solutions
Kim Bragg, Consumer Affairs & Protection Representative

Agenda

June 9, 2026

Welcome

Open – Chairman Gorecki

Minutes

Old Business

New Business

- a. UGA Urban Entomology Update - Dr. Brian Forschler
- b. Georgia Department of Agriculture Updates – Derrick Lastinger
 - Certification & Training –Ali Ikner
 - Compliance – LeAnna Merritt
 - Enforcement – Tom Stage
 - Outreach – Kenzie Bradshaw
- c. New Company Applications – Ali Ikner
- d. Final Rulemaking and Implementation Update
 - Resource webpage
 - Notice 21-03 HBR
- e. Termite Barriers
- f. SPCC Approved Recertification Instructor Qualification
- g. Legislative update – Trip Martin
- h. NPMA update – Rick Bell
- i. Certification Examination Application Review

Adjournment

ATTACHMENT 2

Company License Applications

The Commission approved the following applications:

- Clean Pest, LLC – Whitfield County – Name Change Only
- Stellar Pest Control – Houston County
- The Backyard Care Company DBA BYC Pest Control – Fulton County

The Commission approved the following applications pending additional information:

- TruCare Pest Control – Johnson County – Pending Insurance & Signatures
- Arrow Exterminators – Pickens County – Pending Insurance & Payment (New Location)
- Kevin's Pest Control – Decatur County – Pending Insurance
- TruNorth Pest Control – Cobb County – Pending Insurance (New Location)
- ProGuard Pest Solutions, Gwinnett County – Pending Insurance & DCO confirmation
- Advance Exterminators – Gwinnett County – Pending Insurance, DCO Plan, and Signature
- Robinson Pest Control Services – Jackson County – Pending Insurance
- Lance Exterminator Inc (Sub-Office) – Worth County – Pending Insurance & RE Assigned