

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

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

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