

TVMA'S Quarterly CLIP

A Publication of the Texas Vegetation Management Association

Inside this issue:

Disaster Relief	1
Register Now for 2005 Conference	1
The President's Message	2
Serve as a TVMA Board member	2
Board Recommends a change to the By-Laws	3
2005 Conference Agenda	4-5
2,4-D RED	5
2005 Annual Conference Registration Form	6
2004 Upper Level Sponsors	7
Want to Exhibit in 2005?	7
Register Now!	8

**Its
Conference
Time!**

Volume 3, Issue 2

October, 2005

HURRICANE KATRINA & RITA DISASTER RELIEF

As we go to press with this issue of the CLIP, our hearts and prayers go out to the thousands who have been affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

It's difficult for those of us who were largely untouched by this natural disaster to comprehend the degree of damage and suffering that has been spread throughout the southeastern Gulf states and especially our friends in Louisiana and Mississippi.

One way we can all help in the recovery process is to donate to the charity of your choice who is providing aid and assistance to the victims of Katrina and Rita.

TVMA encourages you to do so as quickly as possible. Although many fine charities are available, the American Red Cross has a Hurricane Disaster Relief Fund set up and you can easily make donations "on-line" through their web site located at <http://www.redcross.org/>.

REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE!

Join TVMA on October 24-26, 2005, when we meet at the Radisson Hotel and Resort, 500 Padre Blvd., in South Padre Island, TX for our 2005 Annual TVMA Conference.

Guest hotel room reservations can be made by calling the Radisson directly at 1-800-292-7704. Our room block expired 9/23/05, but hopefully they will still have rooms available. Room rates are \$90 for a single or double occupancy room or \$160 for a condo. Governmental room rates are \$80 single or double occupancy, but you must tell the Radisson you are a Governmental employee and show your government ID upon check-in.

On Monday, October 24, 2005, we'll go fishing in the Laguna Madre! Osprey Fishing Trips will furnish everything you need for a great afternoon of fishing—just show up and get ready to catch the big one! Registration for the fishing tournament is only \$40. Once you cross the causeway, turn right and look for the Osprey Fishing Trips on your immediate right. The phone number to Osprey Fishing Trips is 1-888-867-7739. We'll shove off around 1:00 pm so don't be late!

If you like golf, join us at 1:00 pm on Monday, October 24, 2005, at the South Padre Island Golf Club. If you driving in from the North, take US 77 south to State Highway 100 toward South Padre Island. You'll be heading East until you get to the town of Laguna Vista. At the only blinking light, take a left onto Highway 510. Do about one mile and you'll see the South Padre Island Golf Club's gates on your right. In the event you need more specific directions, call the SPIGC at 956-943-4653. Registration for the golf tournament is \$85.

Both events support TVMA's Scholarship Program which provides funds for deserving students hoping to pursue a career in Vegetation Management.

See you October 24th in South Padre Island. BRING YOUR FAMILY!

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—DAVID WALL, Xcel Energy



David Wall, TVMA's 2004-2005 President

Our sympathy goes out to our neighbors in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama from the devastating impact of Hurricane Katrina. We regret the enormous loss of life and property, and pray that individuals and families can reestablish their lives as soon as possible. Tragedies like this remind us that our family and friends are the most important parts of our lives. It is also important to lend a helping hand to people we do not know who are in need. Someday we may need a helping hand from others ourselves. I encourage all of us to lend a helping hand by donating to the American Red Cross or other charities for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Vegetation management programs are a very important necessity before and after major storms. After a major storm event, recovery efforts are required to clear trees from roadways, power lines, and drainage areas. Many crews from Texas have responded to our neighboring states to help with this task. Thanks to these individuals for their willingness to help out, and we hope that they return home safely.

I am looking forward to our annual conference at South Padre Island in October. Our Vice President, **Ray Erwin** and his committee have done a great job putting together the conference with a variety of presentations and scholarship events. The Radisson hotel is very nice and is located on the beach. **Please plan on attending and bring a new member with you.**

Thank you for supporting the TVMA.

REMEMBER OUR TVMA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!

Several members have already been signing up new members to TVMA, and they are getting credit toward several outstanding prizes being donated.

For the person (or company) who signs up the most new members, TVMA is giving a fishing trip for two to Richard Chambers Lake. This is a great prize and is courtesy of **Ray Erwin and BASF.**

Other prizes will include a gift certificate to Bass Pro Shops and TVMA logo jackets.

In order for TVMA to continue to grow and remain the best educational resource for vegetation managers in Texas, we must continue to recruit and retain new members in our active membership. Each TVMA member probably knows someone who would benefit from membership in the TVMA! Please consider asking them to join up as a new member. They don't even have to attend the annual conference, although they are more than welcome to do so. Just joining at the \$25 per year general membership level qualifies them as a new member, and you as their sponsor.

Our Membership Committee Chair, **Scott Dunham of Becker Underwood** is working hard to help increase our TVMA membership. **He can't do it alone—help him out by recruiting a new member for TVMA!**

2005 TRAINING SEMINAR

Rick Bennett, TVMA's Training Program Chair, has put together an outstanding program to help you prepare to take the Texas Department of Agriculture Pesticide Applicator examination.

The training program **kicks off at 10:00 am on Monday, October 24th, 2005**. (Sorry, but you won't be able to play golf or go fishing, but you can kick back and join those festivities at the 2006 Annual Conference!) The focus of this intensive training is to prepare you as best we can for the TDA examination which will be given during the Conference on Wednesday, October 26, 2005.

Our training program has been re-structured to present information directly from the following three TDA study manuals: 1) Laws and Regulations; 2) Commercial / Noncommercial Applicator—General Manual; and 3) Right of Way Pest Control Manual. Each of these manuals are available from the Texas Cooperative Extension and you can order them through their web site at <http://agensafety.tamu.edu/TDAoform.pdf>. TVMA strongly encourages you to secure these manuals and study them before coming to the seminar as we will not have these manuals available for you at the conference.

Registration for the seminar is \$100 by 9/23/05 and \$125 thereafter. **Remember that you must also pay the TDA inspector a \$24 testing fee by separate check. You can pay this fee to the TDA inspector the day you take the test. Remember to bring a check for this fee, because the TDA inspector cannot take cash and this fee is not included within your TVMA registration.**

During 2004, TVMA had a 90% plus passing rate and we hope that 2005 is even better. Although attendance at the seminar does not guarantee a passing score, it is one of the best ways we know to help your employees prepare for passing the TDA examination. The inspector will be administering three exams, each of which must be passed in order to receive a TDA license: 1) Laws and Regulations; 2) General; and 3) Right of Way Pest Control

Join us in South Padre Island for an outstanding training event!

PLEASE CONSIDER SERVING AS A TVMA BOARD MEMBER

Each year, TVMA elects three new Board of Directors to replace the three outgoing Directors. This year, one Supplier position, and two At-Large positions will be available.

The TVMA Board of Directors is an active group who provide day-to-day leadership and direction to the Association. TVMA board members are expected to participate in the quarterly board meetings which are held across Texas to help defray travel costs, participate in electronic meetings and ballots, and provide direction and leadership to the Association.

Please consider volunteering for a TVMA Board of Director. If you have an interest and would like to serve in that capacity, please contact TVMA President David Wall who chairs our Nominating Committee. David's phone number is 806/640-6558 or you can email David at david.p.wall@xcelenery.com.

Board of Directors Recommend By-Laws Change, 2nd Notice

The TVMA Board of Directors recommends a revision to the TVMA By-Laws. The revision includes the following statement as a new requirement to Article V, Section D:

(5) to remove for cause after a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors, and replace, any officer of board member who fails to perform the duties of their office.

We will vote on this proposed By-Laws change during the business session of our 2005 Annual Conference. If you have any questions on this recommendation, please contact any TVMA Board member. Their names, addresses, phone and email information is on the TVMA Leadership Page at www.tvma.net/leaders.htm.

2005 Annual Conference Preliminary Conference Agenda

Monday, October 24, 2005

10:00 am	2nd Floor Foyer	Registration Opens
10:00 am—5:00 pm	1st Floor Key Largo	TDA License Preparation Certification Training
Noon—6:00 pm	2nd Floor Exhibit Hall	Exhibit Set-Up
Noon—5:00 pm	South Padre Island Golf Course, I Golf House Rd., Laguna Vista TX	Scholarship Golf Tournament
1:30 pm—5:00 pm	The “Osprey” Fishing I Padre Blvd, South Padre Island, TX	Scholarship Bay Fishing Tournament
6:30 pm	2nd Floor Exhibit Hall	Welcome Reception (Cash bar and snacks)

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

7:00 am	2nd Floor	Registration Opens
7:00 am—8:00 am	2nd Floor Exhibit Hall	Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors
8:00 am—11:45 am	1st Floor Key Largo	TDA License Preparation Certification Training
8:00 am—8:15 am	Grand Ballroom C & D	Opening General Session, Welcome and Program Review David Wall , 2004-2005 TVMA President Ray Erwin , 2004-2005 TVMA Vice President & Program Chair
8:15 am—11:45 am	General Session 1: Stan Jones , Red River Specialty, Session Chair	
8:15 am—8:45 am	Grand Ballroom C & D	Exhibitor Presentations
8:45 am—9:45 am		“Managing Public Perception”, Lisa Drake , Monsanto
9:45 am—10:00 am	2nd Floor Exhibit Hall	Coffee Break with Exhibitors
10:00 am—10:30 am	Grand Ballroom C & D	“How Surfactants Help Herbicides and How they Work”, Mike Lansdale , Helena Chemical Company,
10:30 am—11:00 am		“Growth Regulators in the Urban Environment”, Grant Ehlen , AEP, Corpus Christi
11:00 am—11:45 am		“Laws and Regulations”, Mike Buchanan , Texas Structural Pest Control Board, Houston, TX
11:45 am—2:00 pm Meeting,	Grand Ballroom A & B	TVMA Awards Luncheon, Keynote Address and 2005 Business David Wall , TVMA President
2:00 pm—2:15 pm	2nd Floor Exhibit Hall	Coffee Break with Exhibitors
2:15 pm—5:00 pm	1st Floor Key Largo	TDA License Preparation Certification Training
2:15 pm—5:00 pm	General Session 2: Steve Prather , Texas DOT, Session Chair	
2:15 pm—3:15 pm	Grand Ballroom C & D	“Training Chemical Applicators”, Brenda Descamps , Training Resource Group
3:15 pm—4:30 pm		“Manufacturers Research Updates and Industry Chemical Future”, Panel
4:30 pm—5:00 pm		“Traffic Control Requirements on Public Roadways”, Paul Northcutt , TNT Training
5:00 pm—7:00 pm	Grand Ballroom C & D	Texas DOT Vegetation Managers Meeting
6:00 pm—8:00 pm	Radisson Patio / Poolside	Beachside Party and Reception

2005 Annual Conference Preliminary Conference Agenda (continued)

Wednesday, October 26, 2005

7:00 am	2nd Floor Foyer	Registration Opens
7:00 am—8:00 am	2nd Floor Exhibit Hall	Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors
8:00 am—Noon	1st Floor Key Largo	TDA Pesticide Applicator Examinations ***
General Session 3: Don Telge, TNT Training, Session Chair		
8:00 am—9:15 am	Grand Ballroom C & D	<i>"Ask the Experts—a Panel Discussion and Q&A"</i> Howard Pierson , Chemical Weed Control
9:15 am—9:30 am	Exhibit Hall	Coffee Break With Exhibitors
9:30 am—10:15 am	Grand Ballroom C & D	<i>"Managing Herbicide Resistance"</i> , Dr. Dearl Sanders , LSU Ag Center, Baton Rouge, LA
10:15 am—11:00 am		<i>"Effect of Rainfall on Herbicides"</i> , Dr. Jim Griffin , LSU Ag Center, Baton Rouge, LA
11:00 am—11:45 am		<i>"Vegetation Management and Mosquito Control"</i> , Roy Burton , Department of State Health Services
11:45 am—Noon	Grand Ballroom C & D	Closing Remarks and Conferene Adjourn, Ray Erwin , BASF, 2005-2006 TVMA President
Noon—2:00 pm	To be Announced	TVMA Board of Directors Meeting and Luncheon

2,4-D Completes EPA Review Process—Risks "Not of Concern"

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently released a RED (Registration Eligibility Document) which is a comprehensive assessment of 2,4-dichloro-phenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D).

The EPA has found that 2,4-D does not present risks of concern to human health when users follow 2,4-D product instructions.

2,4-D is a phenoxy herbicide discovered sixty years ago and is used worldwide for a wide variety of applications in agricultural, non-crop, residential and aquatic settings. The Agency concluded that acute and short-term margins of exposure for homeowner applications of 2,4-D to lawns were "not of concern".

EPA's comprehensive findings are consistent with decisions of other authorities such as the World Health Organization, Health Canada, European Commission and recent studies by the U.S. National Cancer Institute on 2,4-D.

The EPA's final decision document may be downloaded from:

<http://docket.epa.gov/edkpub/do/EDKStaffItemDetailView?objectID=090007d480925518>.

Source: Industry Task Force II on 2,4-D Research Data, August 8, 2005
Web page: www.24d.org

**REGISTRATION FORM: TVMA 2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 24-26, 2005
RADISSON RESORT, 500 PADRE BLVD, SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TX**

Please COPY this form as needed and either FAX completed form to 512-933-9971 or
MAIL completed form to TVMA, 6402 Betty Cook Drive, Austin, TX 78723
Hotel reservations must be made directly with the Radisson Resort, by calling them at 1-800-292-7704

Date: _____

Your Name: _____

Spouse or Guest Name (if applicable): _____

Company: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

I'm new to TVMA, sponsored by: _____

Please register me for the following activities (Sorry—Early Bird Discounts Expired 9/23/05)

QTY	Description	Cost Each	Extension
	Regular Full Conference Registration	\$125	
	Regular TDA Applicator Pesticide License Training	\$125	
	Spouse or Guest Registration	\$50	
	Scholarship Golf Tournament	\$85	
	Scholarship Bay Fishing Tournament	\$40	
	Single Day Registration (specify day _____)	\$50	
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE TVMA:			

Payment Options (Please complete ONE only)

My Check is Enclosed I'll Pay by Check at the Conference

I'll pay by *Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover at the Conference

Charge my *Visa MasterCard American Express Discover

Card Number: _____ Expires: _____ Security Code: _____
(3 or 4 digits)

Card Billing Address: _____

Your Signature: _____ * A processing fee added to all credit card payments

Thanks to our UPPER LEVEL Exhibitors for 2004!

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Mobile (214) 850-0682
Fax (972) 429-5087
E-mail: erwinc@basf.com

ON-LINE, SECURE REGISTRATION THROUGH TVMA WEB SITE

While this issue of the *Quarterly CLIP* has a registration form for the 2005 Annual Conference, the TVMA web site (www.tvma.net) has several ways through which you can join TVMA as a General Member, or sign up to attend any of the 2005 Annual Conference events as well.

Manual forms, usually in Adobe PDF format, are available for you on the TVMA web site to print, fill out manually, then mail or fax to TVMA if that is your preference.

However, TVMA has a **secure, "on-line" registrar** which handles credit card registration as well. By clicking on any of the "instant, on-line" registration links shown on the "Conference Page" (www.tvma.net/conference.htm) you will be taken into the registration forms of Acteva, TVMA's on-line credit card processing vendor. This process is very easy and extremely safe. Their servers are doubly protected to insure that your credit card information remains secure. You can sign up for any of the conference events through this process, as well as sign up to be an exhibitor at any level as well. Once you submit your registration through Acteva, they will send you an immediate email confirmation of your registration. A small processing fee will be added.

If you choose to sign up and pay for your registration fees using a credit card at the conference, we will enter the data for you, but we'll use the Acteva system as well.

Try **on-line** registration! It's safe, secure, and convenient!

**TEXAS VEGETATION
MANAGEMENT
ASSOCIATION
(TVMA)**

TVMA
6402 Betty Cook Dr
Austin, TX 78723-3313
Phone: 512-933-9930
Fax: 512-933-9971
Email: pnorth@sbcglobal.net

**Check out the membership
drive contest on Page 2:
You could win a
Fishing Trip !**

**DON'T DELAY!
REGISTER NOW FOR TVMA'S
2005 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 24-26
RADISSON RESORT, 500 PADRE BLVD.,
SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TX**

Registration forms are available in this
issue of the Quarterly CLIP and also on the
TVMA Web site
www.tvma.net

Our room block at the Radisson Expired on 9/23/05, but if you don't have your hotel room at the Radisson Hotel & Resort, call them directly at 1-800-292-7704! Rates are \$90 single/double or \$160 for a condo. Government employees have a room rate of \$80, but you must tell them you are a government employee and show your ID upon check-in. Hopefully, they will still have some rooms remaining at the conference rate. You can pay at the door, **but please pre-register so we'll know you are coming!**

If you want to prepare for the TDA Pesticide Applicators License examination which will be given during the conference on Wednesday, October 26, 2005, be sure to sign up now for our Training Seminar! It's the best way to prepare for the examination. Be sure to secure and study the 1) General; 2) Laws & Regulations and 3) Right of Way manuals from the Texas Cooperative Extension before you come. Also, be prepared to pay the TDA inspector a \$24 testing fee. This is not covered in your TVMA registraton.



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