

# Citrus Notes



**Chris Oswalt**  
UF/IFAS Citrus  
Extension Agent  
for  
Polk &  
Hillsborough  
Counties

## IMPORTANT DATES

**NOVEMBER 7, 2019**  
**ANNUAL CITRUS**  
**EMPLOYEE SAFETY**  
**TRAINING & TRACTOR**  
**RODEO**  
Bartow, FL

**NOVEMBER 8, 2019**  
**CITRUS NUTRITION**  
**MANAGEMENT**  
**PROGRAM**  
Sebring, FL

**NOVEMBER 21, 2019**  
**CORE & PRIVATE, AG**  
**TREE CROP REVIEW AND**  
**TESTING**  
Arcadia, FL

## CONTACT INFO

### **POLK COUNTY** **EXTENSION SERVICE**

PO Box 9005, Drawer HS03  
Bartow, FL 33831  
(863) 519-1052  
Email: [wcoswalt@ufl.edu](mailto:wcoswalt@ufl.edu)

### **HILLSBOROUGH** **COUNTY EXTENSION** **SERVICE**

5339 County Road 579  
Seffner, FL 33584  
(813) 744-5519  
Ext. 541231

### 2019 Annual Citrus Employee

## Safety Training & Tractor Rodeo



On Thursday, November 7, 2019, we will be holding our Annual Citrus Employee

Safety Training and Tractor Rodeo Program. As in the past, we will have classroom instruction in both English and Spanish during the morning session, along with CEU's for your restricted use pesticide license. After lunch, we will be holding our annual tractor rodeo with trophies presented to our best equipment operators and the companies they represent.

Program information and the registration form is an attachment to this newsletter. Plan today to send your employees to this annual citrus safety training program.

### Citrus Nutrition Box Meeting

For those citrus growers who missed one of our citrus nutrition management programs, there will a fourth held at the Highlands County Extension Center Office. At the nutrition program, growers will be provided with a citrus nutrition box. In this box, there will be information that will allow growers to fine-tune their citrus nutrition program. To do this, we have



included vouchers for free soil and leaf analysis for one year. The date of this program will be Friday, November 8, 2019. A program flyer for the Sebring location is included in the newsletter. Just make sure you register for the program.

### Restricted Use Pesticide Training & Testing

The new regulations for the application Gramoxone will go into effect on November 14, 2019. These rules require mixer, loaders, and applicators to have a Restricted Use Pesticide License and complete the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved Gramoxone training at <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/paraquat-dichloride-training-certified-applicators>.

To help users of Gramoxone comply with these new rules, November 21, 2019, in Arcadia, we will be holding a CORE training class followed by the exam in the morning. In the afternoon, we will be conducting both the private and Ag Tree Crop training and testing. Registration and additional information will be email out next week.

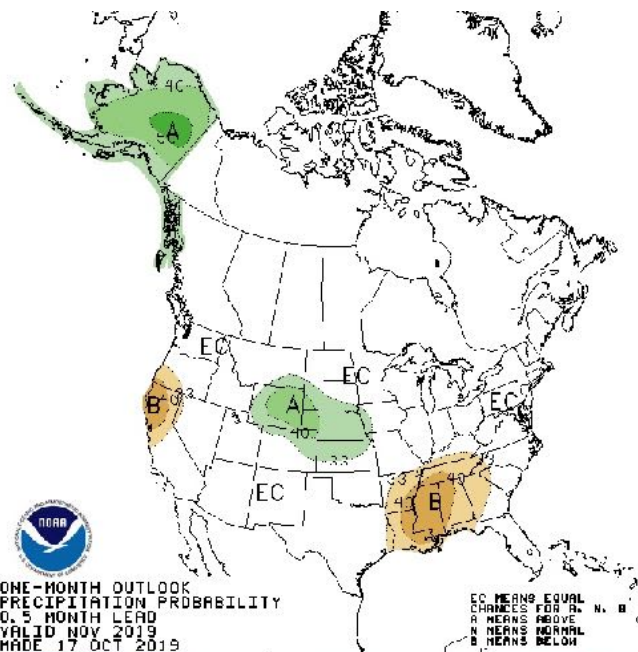
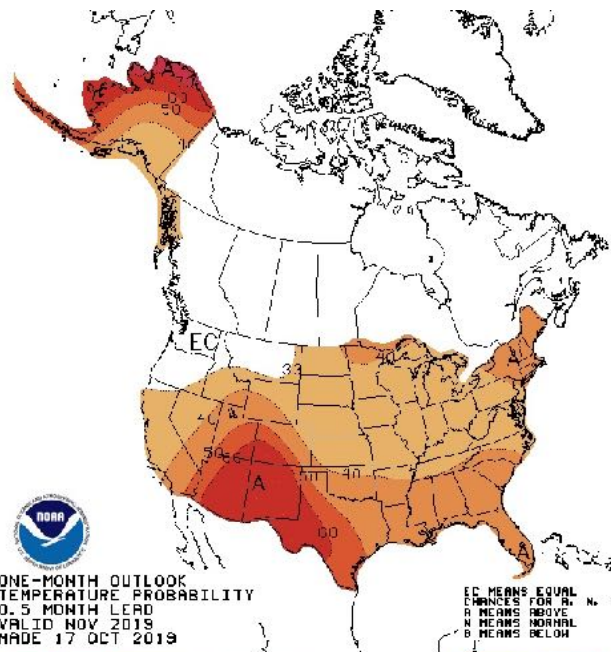
**UF | IFAS Extension**  
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

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Nation*

*An Equal Opportunity Institution*

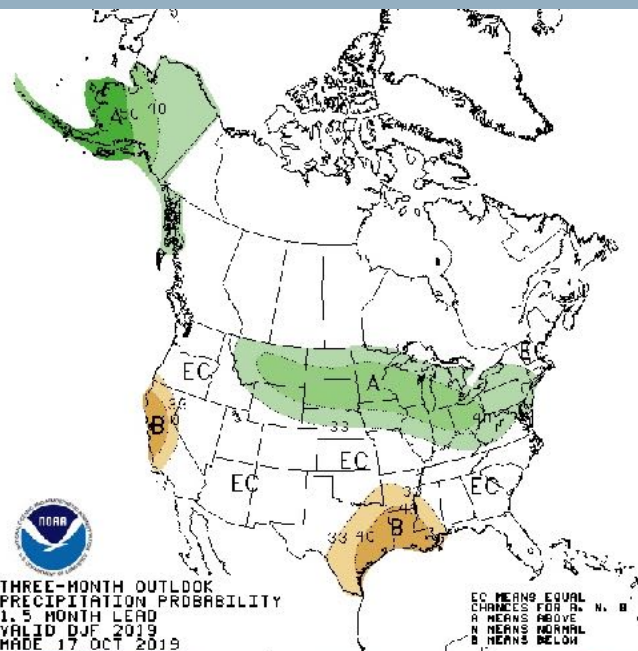
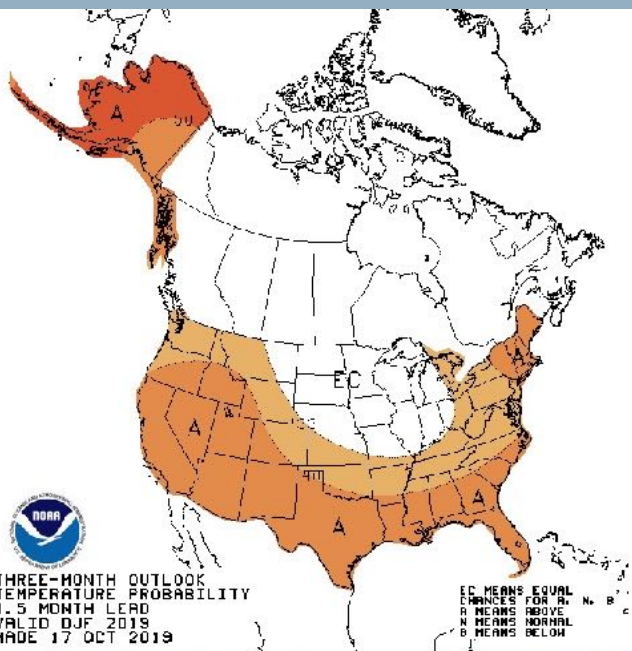
# WEATHER OUTLOOK

## MONTHLY OUTLOOK FOR NOVEMBER 2019 - TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION



# WEATHER OUTLOOK

## MONTHLY OUTLOOK FOR DEC/JAN/FEB 2019-20 - TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION



### 2019-20 Winter Weather Watch

It is hard to believe it's already November, and air temperatures are still in the 90's ° for daytime highs. Sure makes you wonder if winter will arrive.

It's only a matter of time, and it will get here whether we're ready or not. To the issue of being prepared, the 2019–20 edition of the Winter Weather Watch will begin on November 15, 2019. The outlook maps above call for above-normal temperatures and equal chances for rainfall this winter.

The 2019-20 Winter Weather Watch registration forms are attached to the end of this newsletter.

Just as a reminder this year we're looking at neutral ENSO conditions. In the past, under these conditions, we typically get our most devastating freezes.



## CITRUS COLD PROTECTION

In horticulture, there are considered two methods of cold protection those that are considered passive and those considered active.

Passive methods of cold protection are practices that growers would do before a freeze event. These practices could include clean cultivation of row middles to enhance the absorption of heat from solar radiation during the day.

Active methods, on the other hand, are practices the growers would do during the freeze event. This would include running low volume irrigation for cold protection.

### Whatever happened to Trunk/Tree Wraps?

Ever wonder what happened to those young citrus tree trunk wraps and soil banks we used in year's past? At one time, they were an essential part of protecting young trees from freeze damage by insulating



the trunk of the young tree slowing the rate of heat loss. This reduction in the rate of heat loss provided insurance in the form of maintaining warmer temperatures until sunrise the following morning.

Citrus tree trunk wraps were made of many different materials. The ability of these wraps to protect the trunks of young citrus trees were directly related to the insulating properties of the elements that they were made from. Depending on the material, there could also be

additional problems associated with their use. Some wraps would hold water for extended periods around the trunk of the tree, causing issues with foot rot. Other wraps with poor insulating properties would actually be warmer during the day and colder at night than an unwrapped trunk. Some trunk wraps could also provide a favorable environment for fire ants, which would build nests under the wraps.

These wraps were also quite variable in cost, and you usually got what you paid



for when comparing cold protection properties to cost. Today tree wraps are rarely used other than for sprout control in new citrus plantings.

These sprout and inhibiting wraps afford little in the

way of cold production of young citrus trees.

I wonder if it is time to revisit the use of tree wraps for the cold production of young citrus trees. In solid set plantings, a properly designed irrigation system can provide a high level of cold protection without the use of tree wraps. There are, however, instances today where resets have



been placed in mature groves. These resets would need more protection than the mature trees located in the same grove. In some situations, you might be able to protect your young trees with tree wraps when the protection of your mature trees is not warranted. Something I think you could think about.

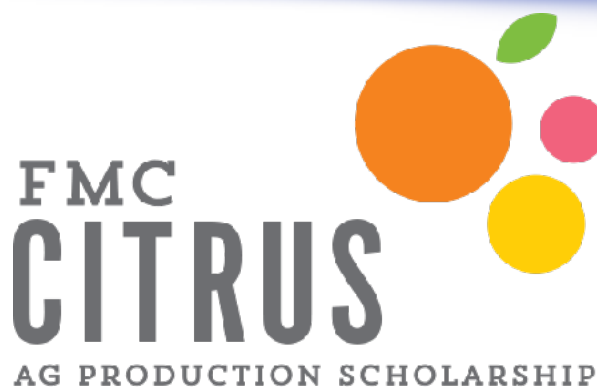
## FMC CORPORATION & AGNET MEDIA

**FMC, IN COLLABORATION WITH AGNET MEDIA, IS NOW OFFERING THE FMC CITRUS AG PRODUCTION SCHOLARSHIP (FMC CAPS) PROGRAM.**







The first of its kind, the program awards five generous \$5,000 scholarships to eligible students at the University of Florida and Florida Southern College. The program is now accepting applicants.

FMC CAPS is designed to support Florida citrus production and to support young adults who are pursuing careers in citrus. Eligible students can apply online with a video essay application that addresses a series of industry-specific questions.

Application deadline is December 1, 2019. Visit [citrusindustry.net/caps](http://citrusindustry.net/caps) to learn more and apply.



## Characteristics Citrus Tree Trunk Wraps

Type of Protection	Advantages	Disadvantages	Type of Protection	Advantages	Disadvantages
 <p>Soil Bank</p>	<p>Insulating value (12-15° F)</p> <p>No cost for material</p>	<p>Costly to construct and maintain</p> <p>Occasional problems with foot rot, ants and termites</p>	 <p>Rigid Polystyrene Foam (thin walled)</p>	<p>Inexpensive</p> <p>May be left on for several years</p> <p>Sprout inhibitor</p> <p>Will not hold water</p>	<p>Insulating value (0-2° F)</p> <p>Some types do not inhibit sprouts well</p> <p>Ant problems in types not containing insecticides</p>
 <p>Fiberglass Wrap</p>	<p>Insulating value (3-6° F)</p> <p>May remain in place for many years</p> <p>Sprout inhibitor</p> <p>Can be pushed down to allow for regrowth after a freeze</p> <p>Will not hold water for long periods of time</p> <p>Rarely ant/termite problems</p>	<p>Moderately expensive</p> <p>More difficult to install than some other wraps</p>	 <p>Rigid Polystyrene Foam (thick walled)</p>	<p>Insulating value (4-8° F)</p> <p>May be left on for several years</p> <p>Sprout inhibitor</p> <p>Will not hold water</p> <p>Pesticide packets can be included to prevent insect damage</p>	<p>Moderately expensive</p> <p>May loosen from trunk with time</p> <p>Must be removed after a freeze to allow for regrowth</p>
 <p>Polyurethane Foam</p>	<p>Insulating value (3-6° F)</p> <p>Sprout inhibitor</p>	<p>Moderately expensive</p> <p>May become water logged</p> <p>Some susceptible to breakdown in sunlight</p> <p>Foot rot an occasional problem</p>	 <p>Closed Cell Polyethylene Foam</p>	<p>Insulating value (2-4° F)</p> <p>May be left on for several years</p> <p>Will not hold water</p> <p>Some models use irrigation water supply tubes inside for extra protection</p>	<p>Moderately expensive</p> <p>Some types are difficult to install</p>



# CITRUS SAFETY TRAINING

# AND TRACTOR RODEO

Nov. 7,  
2019

### TOPICS WILL INCLUDE

- Ag Crimes
- First Aid
- Highway Safety
- Tractor and Equipment Safety
- WPS Handler Training
- Basic Pesticide Safety Training
- Decontamination Procedures



## ANNUAL CITRUS EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING

UF/IFAS Extension Polk County invites you and your employees to attend the 2019 Polk County Citrus Safety Training Program. This program is designed to help growers with regulatory compliance by providing annual safety training for their employees. Topics include proper safety measures in the grove and on the highway.

**Pre-registration is required. Completed registration forms are due in the Extension Office no later than Friday, November 1, 2019.**

**ENGLISH AND SPANISH SESSIONS AVAILABLE!**

**Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.**

**Program begins at 8:00 a.m.**

### TRACTOR RODEO COMPETITIONS

The **Sprayer Operator Competition** will test precision, safety awareness, and attention to detail required for safe pesticide applications using a tractor with a sprayer.

The **Herbicide Operator Competition** will test for the above mentioned skills on a tractor with a boom sprayer.

In the **Fertilizer Spread-Off**, operators will simulate fertilizer applications to resets scattered randomly through a grove. The operator will be provided with an all-terrain utility vehicle (ATV), bucket of simulated fertilizer, and cups to apply the fertilizer. Judging will be based on precision of the fertilizer application, time, and vehicle operation skills.

For more information about any competition, contact Chris Oswalt at **(863) 519-1052**.

**UF/IFAS Extension Polk County Agricultural Center  
Stuart Conference Center  
1710 Highway 17-98 South, Bartow, FL 33830**



# CITRUS NUTRITION

## Management Program

**NOVEMBER 8, 2019**

UF/IFAS Extension Highlands County  
4509 George Blvd., Sebring, FL

### DESCRIPTION

Providing the right nutrient management program for your grove is one of the best ways to fight the impacts of citrus greening.

UF/IFAS is offering **FREE soil and leaf testing kits** to help growers customize their fertilization programs.

Florida citrus growers are invited to come and get their nutrition box and learn how the citrus nutrition program will work. In addition, learn about the most recent citrus nutrition research from the UF/IFAS experts.


### AGENDA


- 9:30 a.m. **Registration**
- 10:00 a.m. **Citrus Acclimation and Leaf Freezing Temperatures**  
*Mr. Chris Oswalt, UF/IFAS Extension Polk County*
- 10:30 a.m. **Managing Macro and Micronutrients for Sustaining Citrus Productivity in the HLB-Era**  
*Dr. Davie Kadyampakeni, UF/IFAS CREC*
- 11:00 a.m. **Use of Soil Applied Micronutrient and CRF for HLB-affected Sweet Orange**  
*Dr. Tripti Vashisth, UF/IFAS CREC*
- 11:30 a.m. **Citrus Nutrition Management Program Details**  
*Dr. Tripti Vashisth, UF/IFAS CREC*
- 11:45 a.m. **Nutrition Box Checkout**
- 12:15 p.m. **Lunch**  
*Sponsored by ICL Specialty Fertilizers, Ward Gunter*

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED: [citrusnutritionprogramsebring.eventbrite.com](https://citrusnutritionprogramsebring.eventbrite.com)**

**More information contact: Laurie Hurner • [lhurner@ufl.edu](mailto:lhurner@ufl.edu) • 863-402-6540**

# Winter Weather Watch


**Polk County Cooperative Extension Service**  
 Phone: 863-519-1052  
 Email: [wcoswalt@ufl.edu](mailto:wcoswalt@ufl.edu)



## UF/IFAS Polk County Cooperative Extension Service

The 2019 - 20 version of the Winter Weather Watch will begin on November 15, 2019. Time is short so send in your subscription form to receive timely agricultural winter weather forecasts and information.



The 2019-20 edition of the Polk County Winter Weather Watch program will begin on November 15, 2019. The program provides growers with winter weather forecast

information specifically geared toward agricultural interests in West Central and Southwest Florida. The program provides subscribers with an unlisted phone number for (24 hour/7 days a week) access to daily weather forecasts. The zone forecasts are from the National Weather Service (NWS) and are listed on the automated phone menu, so you can select the products you are interested in. Forecasts include the zone forecasts, 6-10 and 8-14 day outlook forecasts. In addition to the forecasts we have special weather narratives provided as needed in the event of freezing temperatures and a weekly outlook provided by our own meteorologist Fred Crosby. When freezing temperatures are predicted in our area additional updates will include the afternoon zone forecast and the modified sunset brunt minimum temperature equation. If this is not enough we will also provide the weekly citrus leaf freezing

temperatures and the 2019-20 Winter Weather Watch manual. You will also have access to weather data from five Polk County Citrus Extension Weather Stations.

Subscriptions for the Winter Weather Watch program are only \$100.00 for the entire 4 month period (Nov 15 to Mar 15). The cost is about the same as one tank of gas for your pickup truck. You can subscribe to the Winter Weather Watch by completing and returning the enclosed “subscription form”.

### Forecast Schedule



The following schedule lists the products available from the Winter Weather Watch. The times and specific days of week and the forecasted minimum temperature dictate

when these forecasts products will be updated. Our Winter Weather Watch area includes the following areas by county: Pasco, Hillsborough, Polk, Highlands, Hardee, Manatee, Sarasota, DeSoto, Charlotte, Lee, Glades, Hendry and Inland Collier.

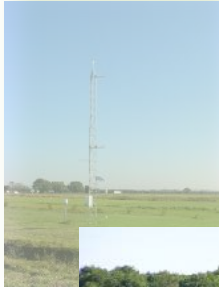


# FORECAST SCHEDULE

Forecast Product	Above 32 ° F	32°-29°F	Below 28° F
<i>Zone</i>	<i>Daily 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Daily 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Daily 8:30 a.m.</i>
<i>6-10 &amp; 8-14 Day Outlooks</i>	<i>Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Weekly Outlook</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Leaf Freezing Temperatures</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Special Weather Narratives</i>	<i>As Needed</i>	<i>Daily 4:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Daily 4:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Afternoon Zone</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>Daily 5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Daily 5:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Sunset/Brunt</i>	<i>As Needed</i>	<i>As Needed</i>	<i>Daily 7:00 p.m.</i>

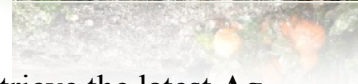
# 2019 - 2020 WINTER WEATHER WATCH PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 15, 2019 TO MARCH 15, 2020  
REGISTRATION FEE: \$100.00



It's once again time to register for the upcoming 2019 - 2020 Winter Weather Watch Program. Upon receiving your \$100.00 registration payment, you will be

sent an unlisted telephone number with which you can retrieve the latest **Ag Forecasts**, 24 hours a day. **Please do not give this number to others.** The *Winter Weather Watch Program* is funded by the registration fees to pay for telephone equipment rentals, long distance calls, repairs and our meteorologist.



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## 2019 - 2020 Winter Weather Watch Program

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL PHONE NUMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION FEE \$100.00

PLEASE RETURN THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:

**POLK COUNTY EXTENSION CITRUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
PO BOX 9005, DRAWER HS03  
BARTOW, FL 33831-9005**



**Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences  
UF-IFAS Polk County Extension Service**

**1702 US Highway 17 S  
Bartow, FL 33830**

Information for the next Certified Pile Burners Course:

The Florida Forest Service and University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service will be conducting a Certified Pile Burners Course on Wednesday, January 15, 2020. This course will show you how to burn piles *legally, safely and efficiently*. Most importantly, it could save a life. If you burn piles regularly, don't put off registering for this training. When the weather is dry, certified pile burners will receive priority for authorization to burn. Also, certified pile burners are allowed to burn up to two hours longer per day and get multiple day authorizations. Don't wait. The number of trainings offered and attendance at each training is LIMITED. This training will be held from 8:30 am till 4:30 pm at the **UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center, Ben Hill Griffin Jr. Citrus Hall, Lake Alfred, Florida**. Included are a registration form and program agenda.

Registration is required to attend and class size is limited. To attend please send the following information (see form on next page):

1. Your full name (as wanted on your pile burning certificate).
2. Your mailing address (where you want the certificate mailed).
3. Your Florida Forest Service Customer Number (It is the number that you are required to give the FFS when you call in for your burn permits. If you do not know it please call the local FFS office and ask them to create one for you).
4. Your email address (if you have one) and/or contact phone number.
5. A check made out to: Polk County BOCC for \$50.00.

The first fifty individuals to provide these five requirements will be registered; there will be a 7-day non refundable fee limit. If you do not make the training and did not contact our office at least one week before the class, you will not receive a refund. There will be a test at the end of the session. You must receive a grade of 70% or higher on the exam and demonstrate a proper pile burn with your local FFS office to become certified. Once you are certified it will be noted with your customer number, thus it is important for us to have the proper number. If you do not have a customer number the FFS office will set one up for you. Fill out the registration form on the next page and return as directed.

Sincerely,

**Chris Oswald**  
UF/IFAS Commercial Citrus  
Extension Agent  
Polk & Hillsborough Counties

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For Questions Contact: Chris Oswald at [wcoswalt@ufl.edu](mailto:wcoswalt@ufl.edu) or 863-519-1052

# Registration Form

Florida's Certified Pile Burner Program  
Wednesday, January 15, 2020

UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center  
Ben Hill Griffin Jr. Citrus Hall  
700 Experiment Station Rd, Lake Alfred, FL 33850  
863-519-1041

**Please send this form and a check for \$50.00 made payable to:**

**Polk County BOCC**

**Mail to: Polk County Cooperative Extension Service  
Attn: Gail Crawford  
P. O. Box 9005, Drawer HS03  
Bartow, FL 33831**

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Name

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Mailing address

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Email address

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Phone Number

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FFS Customer Number



**Florida's Certified Pile Burner Training**  
**Wednesday, January 15, 2020**  
**UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center**  
**Ben Hill Griffin Jr. Citrus Hall**  
**700 Experiment Station Rd, Lake Alfred, FL 33850**  
**(863) 519-1041**

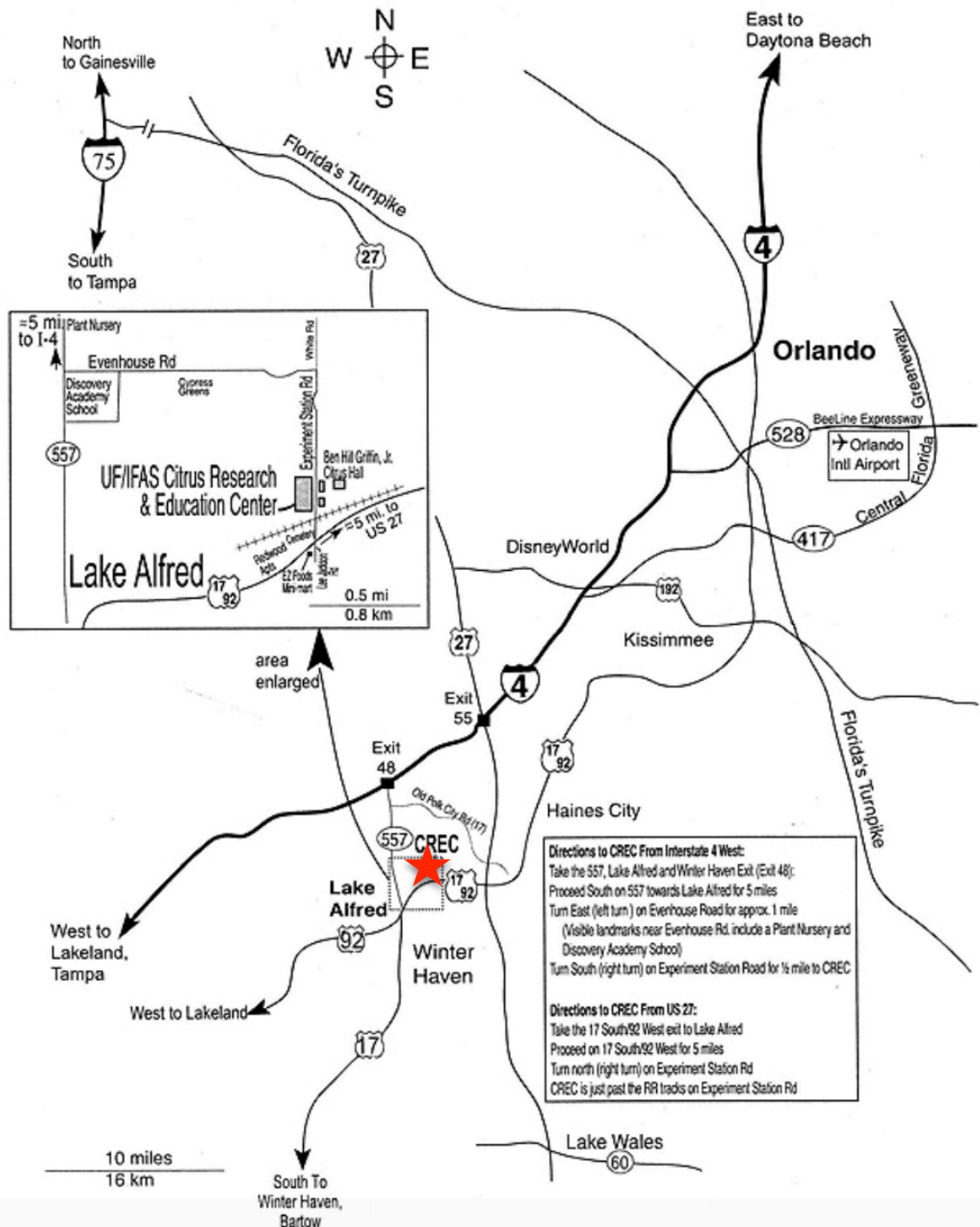
**All Times Are Local**

1. Opening Comments and Introduction	08:30 – 09:10
2. Fire Weather	09:10 – 09:50
3. BREAK	09:50 – 10:00
4. Smoke Management	10:00 – 11:20
5. Open Burning Regulations	11:20 – 12:15
6. LUNCH (provided)	12:15 – 01:15
7. Planning and Implementation	01:15 – 02:30
8. Safety	02:30 – 03:10
9. BREAK	03:10 – 03:20
10. Public Relations	03:20 – 04:00
11. Wrap Up & Test	04:00 – 04:30

**Please bring a Pencil for the Exam!**



**UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center**  
**Ben Hill Griffin Jr. Citrus Hall**  
**700 Experiment Station Rd, Lake Alfred, FL 33850**  
**863-519-1041 (Registration Information)**  
**863-956-1151 (Center Information)**





## **Florida's Certified Pile Burner Training**

### *Frequently Asked Questions*

#### **Q: Why should I be a certified pile burner?**

A: Certified pile burners are trained to burn piles **legally, safely and efficiently**. Most importantly, it could save a life. Also, when the weather is dry, certified pile burners will receive priority for authorization to burn by the Florida Forest Service (FFS). Also, certified pile burners are allowed to burn up to two hours longer per day and get multiple day authorizations.

#### **Q: What is a Pile Burner Customer Number?**

A: When you call the FFS for an authorization to burn, you will be assigned a personal customer number. This number references your information so it doesn't need to be gathered each time you call for an authorization. You must have your individual FFS customer number in order to be certified.

#### **Q: Is there a test?**

A: Yes, the test is 20 questions and open-book. You must receive a score of at least 70% to pass.

#### **Q: What if I don't pass?**

A: Very few people fail the test but if you do, you will be provided another opportunity to take the test at a later date. If you fail the second time, you must re-register and take the training again.

#### **Q: Why do you ask for my email on the application form?**

A: Email is the fastest and most convenient method to inform registrants of their registration status. If no email address is provided then all correspondence will be sent through the federal mail. This can take several days to relay messages and this may not be practical if changes are made to the course schedule or for last minute registrations.

#### **Q: How much does it cost to register for the training?**

A: Registration for the training is \$50 per person and includes lunch, training materials and testing.

#### **Q: How long does my certification last, and how long do I have to complete the certification from the time I finish the class?**

A: As long as the person with the certification uses their number at least 5 times in a period of 5 years their certification will not expire under the current program. You **MUST** complete the certification burn within a year of taking the class.

#### **Q: Will certified burners be notified if their certification expires?**

A: Yes, notification will be sent out to them to let them know of their upcoming certification expiration date.

#### **Q: Will I be certified at the end of the one day training?**

A: No, you will need to follow the written instructions that you will receive from the FFS to become certified. You will need to complete a simple burn plan, have it reviewed and approved locally by the FFS and also have the burn itself reviewed and approved by the FFS.

#### **Q: Is there a minimum age to be a certified pile burner?**

A: Yes, you must be at least 18 years old to take the test and be a certified pile burner.