

Continuing Education [Contact Hours] Training

- Operators are required to obtain a minimum number of continuing education contact hours every 3 years after they have successfully completed an approved initial course and required exam.
- Spotters are required to have continuing education training every 3 years after completing an initial training course.

<u>Facility Type</u>	<u>Continuing Education Contact Hours</u>
Landfill – Class I, II, III	16 hours every 3 years [formerly 15 hours]
C&D Disposal Facility	16 hours every 3 years [formerly 15 hours]
Transfer Station	8 hours every 3 years
Material Recovery Facility [MRF]	8 hours every 3 years
Land Clearing Debris Facility	No training required
Spotter	4 hours every 3 years [formerly 8 hours]

Note: *If you are trained as a Class I, II, III landfill or C&D operator and as a transfer station operator, you will need 16 hours plus an additional 8 hours of continuing education every 3 years to maintain both Facility types. Many of the approved courses are approved for both facility types.*

A. Approved Courses

- Courses are listed on the Florida's Approved Solid Waste Management Facility Operator and Spotter Training Course List.
- Check each approved course for the number of hours given for each facility type.
 1. The approved list is available on UF TREEO website: www.treeo.ufl.edu.
 2. To request a list by fax or mail call: 352/392-9570 extension 127 or 130.
 3. Courses/Conferences/Seminars that are offered only once, will include the course date.
 4. Courses and course providers are listed in Alphabetical order. The number of contact hours awarded for each course is also provided.
 5. Sometime providers jointly offer training courses.
 6. Contact numbers for current training providers are listed at www.treeo.ufl.edu.

B. Continuing Education [CE]

1. Operator CE training is required every 3 years and starts with the date they passed the initial course/exam.
2. Spotter CE training is required every 3 years and starts with the date they take the initial course.
3. No CE credit will be given for courses taken before the initial course is successfully completed.
4. Initial hours are not counted toward continuing education.
5. An Initial course can be taken as a CE course only if it was not taken as the operator's or spotter's initial training.
6. No CE credit will be given for the same course taken within the same 3-year period.

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7. No CE credit will be given for courses not listed on the Florida's Approved Solid Waste Operator Training Course List. List is available at www.treeo.ufl.edu or call 352/392-9570 ext 127 or 130. If a course is not listed, then see section "How to have Training Approved / New Courses."
8. To maintain your database records for the next 3-year period, the operator must have the minimum required number of contact hours.
9. Contact hours received above the minimum requirement do not rollover to the next 3 years. The new 3-year period starts at zero [0.0].
10. Operators who fail to achieve the required number of Contact Hours of CE by the end date of their 3-year period may be considered out of compliance with Rule 62-701.320(15), F.A.C. If the operator is a part of the Florida Solid Waste Operator/Spotter Database, they are then put on the Expired list of operators.
11. Expired operators may be reinstated to current status if they provide:
 - o Proof of training taken during the last 3-year period that meets the number of hours needed Include: Continuing Education Form and verification of attendance.
 - o Or, the operator may start over by taking an approved initial training course.
12. It is the operator's responsibility to submit the training forms and verification for upkeep on the landfill database, not the training provider's.
 - o Forms and verification are submitted to:
Dawn Jenkins, fax: 352/392-6910
or by mail to:
Solid Waste Operator Training
University of Florida- TREEO Center
3900 SW 63 Blvd
Gainesville, FL 32608
14. Operators and Spotters are required to keep a copy of all training submitted or taken, including any in-house training, and make it available to FDEP Inspectors.
15. See section "How to Have Training Added to your Transcript."

Who Approves Training

- Training courses are approved by the FDEP Division of Waste Management in Tallahassee.
- In-house training programs are approved by the FDEP District Offices as part of a facility's operation permit.
- The Solid Waste Management Training Committee provides technical guidance to FDEP staff in reviewing courses and programs.

If your facility wishes to receive approval for an innovative or complicated in-house training program, it may be advisable to ask the Training Committee to review and comment on your program prior to seeking Department approval in order to avoid delays in the permitting process.

If you would like to have your in-house training program added to the list of "approved courses" maintained by UF TREEO, you may submit it in accordance with the section "How to Have Training Approved."