



If you already have an FDACS license and are attending the Short Course for CEUs, this information is for you!



Congratulations on being a certified applicator!

If you're like 99% of other applicators, you really, really, really don't want to take those exams again 😊 That means renewing your license with CEUs, which is why you attend events like the Aquatic Weed Control Short Course.

In the past, it's worked like this: you attend an entire session, then we hand you a paper Certificate of Attendance (CEU) form at the end of the session. There are a few issues with doing things that way...

1. We kill a lot of trees printing those forms – we usually use around 15,000 sheets of paper just for CEU forms
2. There's always a crowd crush at the end of the session as people are lined up to receive their CEU form before going to the sponsors room for refreshments
3. Everyone takes a CEU form whether they need it or not (including people who aren't licensed yet)
4. If you lose a CEU form, you're out of luck – we have no way to track who was in what session
5. Those CEU forms are blank, so if you lose a form before you've hand-written your information and someone else finds it, they can claim it as theirs just by filling it in

In 2023, FDACS approached me about finding a resolution to the issues outlined above (although their primary concern was having those blank forms floating around). **Starting this year, we are going paperless and issuing "digital CEU forms" for attending the Short Course.**

How do digital CEUs work?

Just like before, if you're in the room for the entire session, you'll get credit for attending. The big difference is we'll project QR codes on the screen at various points during the session – all you need to do is shoot those codes with your phone, enter your name and FDACS license number, and you're good to go! Your CEUs will show up in your FDACS account within a few days. That's it – there's no paper to carry around, fill out, or keep track of.

FAQs

I was out of the session room when the QR code was displayed! You must attend the entire session to get credit – that has always been true and hasn't changed. You're here to learn so please use the restroom and have refreshments during the breaks

I don't have a smartphone with a camera! Please see the session moderator at the end of the session and they'll be able to help you

How do I check whether my CEUs are in the FDACS system? Shoot this with your phone →



I checked FDACS and my CEUs aren't showing up! It may take a few days for everything to update – if you entered your name and license number correctly you'll get credit

I made a typo entering my information! See the CEU coordinator during the break

I don't know my FDACS license number! Shoot this with your phone →



I'm not licensed in Florida – I'm from AL, SC or GA! See Dr. Gettys *before* sessions start for instructions

Other questions about CEUs? Please visit the FDACS booth for more information



More information if you already have an FDACS license: License Renewal and Short Course FAQs



When does my license expire and how do I renew it? How many CEUs do I need?

FDACS licenses are good for 4 years. You can renew by taking the exams again (hahaha!!!) or by earning Continuing Education Units (CEUs). Shoot this with your phone to find out when your license expires



The number of CEUs you need depends on your category (or categories). Everyone needs 4 Core/General Standards (Ch. 487) CEUs regardless of the number of categories they have. In addition, you need the following category-specific CEUs:

Aquatic: 16	Natural Areas: 16	Ornamental & Turf: 12	
Forest: 8	Right-of-Way: 8	Ag Row: 8	Ag Tree: 8
Private: 4	Demo & Research*: 4	Aerial*: 16	

* These are secondary categories; you must be licensed in at least one other category to qualify for D&R or Aerial

Shoot this with your phone to find out how many CEUs you already have
Important safety tip: the FDACS system *only* has CEUs that have been uploaded by you or the CEU provider. If you have paper CEUs that have not been scanned and entered into the system, they won't show up here



Which sessions should I attend?

On Tuesday and Thursday, you should attend the sessions in the Majestic Ballroom. Full attendance of these sessions will earn you 4 core/general standards CEUs plus 8 CEUs in almost any category. On Wednesday, you can earn 8 additional CEUs by attending the Aquatic CEU Track, the Upland CEU Track, or the Exam Prep Track – details for CEU tracks are in this booklet. Most speakers have agreed to share pdfs of their presentations, so we've provided QR codes if you want to access them during sessions and follow along.

What is "Upland"? FDACS does not have an "Upland" category!

The principles, concepts, and techniques that will be covered in "Upland" sessions are applicable to weed management in any terrestrial setting (forestry, natural areas, right-of-way, turf & ornamental, etc.) so CEUs will be available in a wide range of terrestrial categories for Upland sessions.

I need a mix of Aquatic and Upland CEUs; can I move between tracks on Wednesday?

Absolutely! But remember, you must be present for the entire session to receive credit for attending, so make sure you only switch rooms during a scheduled break or lunch.

Aquatic and Wetland Plant Display

Live specimens of aquatic and wetland plants will be available for viewing in the Sponsors Room throughout the Short Course. Look, but don't touch unless someone from the Gettys lab is nearby to answer questions – and please do NOT remove any plants or plant parts from the display!