

Certified Manager of Invasive Plants

North American Weed Management Association
Central Community College, Hastings NE Campus



[Home](#) * [Standards](#) * [Registration](#) * [Continuing Education](#) * [CMIP Directory](#) * [Promotional Materials](#) * [Check CEU's](#) * [Update your Address](#) * [Contacts](#)

STANDARDS

A North American Certification Program For Managers of Invasive Plants

A certification program sponsored by
North American Weed Management Association

In cooperation with

Central Community College
Hastings, Nebraska

I. THE PROGRAM

North American certification as a CERTIFIED MANAGER OF INVASIVE PLANTS (CMIP) is a voluntary program that provides recognition of professional and technical competency. Others may chose to make it a job related requirement for employment, promotion, training, etc.

NAWMA certification is available to those individuals who:

- 1.meet the requirements for admission as set forth herein;
- 2.pass a qualifying examination; and
- 3.maintain the minimum requirements for re-certification.

These pages explain the certification program, standards and procedures, describe the examination, and recommend study material for those individuals interested in North American certification.

II. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of NAWMA's North American Certification Program are:

- 1.To improve the technical and professional competency of personnel involved in the management of invasive plants;
- 2.To provide incentives for those individuals to continue their professional development;
- 3.To maintain and promote high standards of performance by all members of the profession; and
- 4.To provide the public a means to identify those who, through a professionally developed examination and certification process, have demonstrated a thorough knowledge of invasive weed management.

III. MINIMUM EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS

Personnel applying for certification as a CMIP must have a certified pesticide applicator card and meet one of the following requirements:

- No college credits, but a minimum of six- (6) years progressively responsible managerial, administrative and/or supervisory experience in management of invasive plants and related activities.
- Less than 30 college credits but with a minimum of four (4) years progressively responsible technical or managerial or field experience in management of invasive plants and related activities.

- 30-60 college credits plus two- (2) years progressively responsible technical or managerial or field experience in management of invasive plants and related activities.
 - 61 + college credits plus one (1) years progressively responsible technical or managerial or field experience in management of invasive plants and related activities.
- * College credits in natural, physical, agricultural or environmental science, landscape architecture or related fields are acceptable.

IV. APPLICATION AND RETEST FEES

The applicant shall forward to NAWMA the completed Certification Application Form and required fees by the deadlines established by NAWMA. Application fee **MUST** accompany the completed Certification Application Form. The application fee for personnel applying for certification as a CMIP is \$125 (US). Receipt of the appropriate application fee and an approved Certification Application Form entitles the applicant to sit for the examination. If a qualified applicant fails the exam, there is a \$50 (US) re-test fee for each subsequent exam.

V. RENEWAL FEES

The CMIP certification shall be valid for a 36 month period beginning on January 1 of the year immediately following the year in which the successful candidate sat for the examination. A re-certification will be issued for a new 36 month period after the receipt of a \$50 (US) fee and the approval of the continuing education reported.

VI. CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

Certification examinations for the CMIP designation shall consist of 100 questions. Question categories and number of questions for each category are shown below:

CAT	DESCRIPTION	QUESTIONS
I.	Noxious/invasive plants	5
II.	Coordination	5
III.	Planning	5
IV.	Awareness and Public Relations	10
V.	Prevention	10
VI.	Principles of Integrated Pest	5
VII.	Weed Control Methods	20
VIII.	Herbicides	20
IX.	Weed Survey and Mapping	10
X.	Safety	10

No reference or study materials may be utilized during the examination.

To receive certification, candidates must achieve an overall score of at least 70%. If the overall score is achieved, the candidate will be considered a certified manager of invasive plants by NAWMA. If an overall passing score is NOT achieved, the applicant must retake the entire examination. Examinations will normally be administered during the NAWMA Annual Conference and Trade Show. All completed examinations will be graded by the Central Community College, Hastings, Nebraska. Your score results will be mailed to you within approximately six (6) weeks following your test date.

Your scores are strictly confidential. Therefore, your results cannot be obtained over the telephone, by fax, or through Email. If you have questions concerning your test results, you should direct them in writing to NAWMA. Because of the need to maintain test security, examination booklets cannot be made available for review of the questions and answers, and NAWMA does NOT provide a list of questions you answered incorrectly or correctly. The only information available regarding your performance on the examination is provided on your individual score report.

The certification examination is selected from a question bank developed by a panel of NAWMA members who are experts in selected phases of invasive plant management. NAWMA will evaluate the examination scores and will coordinate the development of new questions for the question bank.

VII STUDY MATERIAL

All test questions will be taken from the following resources:

1. Key Study Resources

- a. Guidelines for Coordinated Management of Noxious Weeds, 228 pages - Center for Invasive Plant Management www.weedcenter.org/management/guidelines/tableofcontents.html
- b. Weed Control Methods Handbook, 208 pages – The Nature Conservancy <http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/handbook.html>

2. NAWMA Programs & Guides

- a. Weed Free Forage Program, 5 pages www.nawma.org/documents/Weed%20Free%20Forage/WFF_Standards.html
- b. Mapping Standards, 38 pages www.nawma.org/
- c. Public Relations Plan, 6 pages www.nawma.org/ NAWMA Committees, Personal Improvement / Education List of Available Documents for Professional Improvement

3. Key On-Line Work References

- a. America Invasive Plants ESAs', 2 pages – The Nature Conservancy <http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/esadocs.html>
- b. Biological Control: A Guide to Natural Enemies in North America, 5 pages – Cornell University www.nysaes.cornell.edu/ent/biocontrol/weedfeeders/wdfdrtoc.html
- c. INVADERS Database, 2 pages PLANTS Database, 3 pages – University of Montana <http://invader.dbs.umt.edu/>
- d.– Natural Resources Conservation Service http://plants.usda.gov/cgi_bin/topics.cgi?earl=noxious.cgi

VIII. CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

Certified Professionals in Management of Invasive Plants will be required to meet the minimum continuing education requirements of 30 hours during the 3-year certification period. Courses or training sessions and the number of hours counting toward re-certification will be approved by the NAWMA Certification Committee or a state or provincial agency or association authorized by the Committee. The eligible courses or training courses are:

1. 10 hours for attending the NAWMA Annual Conference and Trade Show,
2. Any state or provincial weed management agency or association sponsored or approved training, and
3. Other courses or training sessions approved by the NAWMA Certification Committee or a state or provincial agency or association authorized by the Committee.

Continuing education requirements must include a diversity of topics. Generally the credits should be directly related to the categories described under VI. CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION. Each individual should plan their continuing education to meet their needs. Refer to List of Available Documents for Professional Improvement under NAWMA Personal Improvement / Education Committee www.nawma.org for guidance in developing a self-improvement plan. Some credits should be earned in each year of the 3-year certification period.

Individuals must submit proof of satisfactory completion of all continuing education requirements when making application for renewal of certification. A Continuing Education Unit Self Reporting Form will have to be prepared and submitted along with the re-certification fee. Certified individuals who fail to obtain the required 30 hours during a 3-year period will be given a provisional re-certification period of 6 months to complete the requirement, and charged a penalty fee of \$25.00.

IX. SUSPENSION OF CERTIFICATION

For a certified individual, if the required renewal fee has not been received within 12 consecutive months following the initial expiration of the certificate, NAWMA will assume the individual has voluntarily withdrawn from the certification program and the certificate holder's name will be dropped from the active certification list. Recertification will then occur only after the applicant has:

1. completed a new Certification Application Form;
2. transmitted all required fees as required; and
3. successfully passed the appropriate Certification examination.