



February 2021

Minnesota Wetland Professional Certification Program

Temporary Continuing Education Policy Updates

All Minnesota Wetland Professional Certification Program (MWPCP) training events were canceled in 2020 due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. In response, the MWPCP extended the current certification renewal period for all certified individuals in good standing until December 31, 2023.

This document is intended to outline temporary changes to the MWPCP Continuing Education and Certification Exam policies. All other MWPCP policies and procedures outlined in the policy documents issued on January 1, 2020 remain in effect. The changes outlined below are effectively immediately for all certified individuals and will expire at the end of the current renewal period (December 31, 2023) except where noted under "Change 2".

Change 1: Continuing Education for MWPCP- Policy and Procedures (issued January 1, 2020)- Continuing Education Reporting for Certification Renewal:

Reducing CEC hours requirement *for current renewal period from 18 to 12 hours*- Certified professional and in-training individuals must attend *at least 12 credit hours* of qualifying training events during the certification renewal period ending on December 31, 2023. No more than 4 of the *12 required credit hours* during this period can be obtained from online training where the participant does not attend in person. Please note that this temporary policy change applies to all individuals certified on January 1, 2020 (current renewal period).

Change 2: Certification Exams for MWPCP- Policies and Procedures (issued January 1, 2020)- Certification Requirements:

Increase training hours "lookback" for both the Professional In-Training and Professional Exam applications during the current renewal period from 3 to 4 years- Within the *four years* prior to passing the exam, Professional In-Training and Professional exam applicants must have completed at least *12 hours* of professional level wetland regulatory and/or technical coursework related to wetland delineation/identification, wetland restoration, state/federal wetland regulations, wetland functional assessment and/or wetland monitoring. Please note that this temporary policy change applies to all individuals who submit exam applications to take either the Professional In-Training and Professional exams in 2021 & 2022.

More Information: bwsr.state.mn.us/minnesota-wetland-professional-certification-program