

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

RULE TITLE:

RULE NO.:

Contractual Agreements in Public's Interest – Control  
And Preventive Treatment of Wood Destroying Organisms

5E-14.105

**PURPOSE, EFFECT AND SUMMARY:** The purpose and effect of the proposed rules are to add amendments to the rule regarding contracts for wood destroying organisms that would require the signature on these contracts, would require a master contract for treatment of multiple properties owned by a single owner, require periodic reinspections, require the use of a department form for informing consumers when a second contract for the same wood destroying organism control is offered, and require a damage repair warranty when a protection contract is offered but no treatment is performed.

**SUBJECT AREA TO BE ADDRESSED:** Contractual Agreements in the Public's Interest- Control and Preventive Treatment for Wood Destroying Organisms.

**SPECIFIC AUTHORITY:** 482.051, F.S.

**LAW IMPLEMENTED:** 482.051 (3), F.S.

**A RULE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP WILL BE HELD AT THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE SHOWN BELOW:**

**DATE AND TIME:** May 27, 2008; 10:00 A.M.

**PLACE:** Mid-Florida Research and Education Center; 2725 South Binion Road, Apopka, Florida 32703-8504, (407)884-2034

**THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE PROPOSED RULE IS:** Mr. Steve Dwinell, Assistant Director, Division of Agricultural Environmental Services, 3125 Conner Boulevard, Tallahassee, Florida, 32399; (850) 488-7447.

THE PRELIMINARY TEXT OF THE PROPOSED RULE IS:

**5E-14.105 Contractual Agreements in Public's Interest - Control and Preventive Treatment for Wood-Destroying Organisms.**

(1) No change.

(2) (a) –(j) No change.

(k) The signature of the licensee or his authorized representative, and the signature, ~~or when unavailable the verbal consent,~~ of the property owner or authorized agent.

(3) Contracts covering treatments for the prevention of subterranean termites for new construction:

(a), shall clearly set forth that additional treatment(s) shall be performed to control an infestation should subterranean termite infestation occur to the structure treated during the warranty period.~~shall clearly set forth that should subterranean termite infestation occur to the structure treated during the warranty period, additional treatment shall be performed to control the infestation.~~ The warranty shall show either the date of initial or final treatment and shall be issued to the property owner or agent within 30 days of the date of initial or final treatment, whichever is specified on the contract, and shall be for a period no less than one year from date of treatment specified on the contract, and,

(b) The property owner at the time of each renewal, if a previous renewal was purchased, shall have the option of extending the warranty annually after the first year for no less than 4 additional years. The contract shall conform with Section 482.227, F.S., and contain information required by paragraphs 5E-14.105(2)(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), and (k), F.A.C. and,

(c) For treatment of multiple properties for a single owner, if individual contracts are not prepared prior to treatment, a licensee shall enter into a master contract with the owner or authorized agent prior to treatment that provides for the fulfillment of the requirements of subsection (a) above.

(d) This section applies only to treatment for the prevention of subterranean termites for new construction which does not physically attach to or adjoin existing structures.

(4) No change.

(5) No change.

(6) When periodic reinspections ~~or retreatments~~ are specified in wood-destroying organisms preventive or control contracts, the licensee shall furnish the property owner or his authorized agent, after each reinspection ~~or retreatment~~, a signed report of the condition of the property with respect to presence or absence of wood-destroying organisms covered by the contract and whether retreatment was made. A copy of the inspection report shall be retained by the licensee for a period of not less than three (3) years.

(7) A structure shall not be knowingly placed under a second contract for the same wood-destroying organism control or preventive treatment in disregard of the first contract, without first obtaining specific written consent in using DACS form 13671, 4/08.~~letter form~~ signed by property owner or authorized agent.

(8) No change.

*Specific Authority 482.051 FS. Law Implemented 482.051(3) FS. History--New 7-13-06, Amended 7-11-07; Amended \_\_\_\_\_-08..*