

## **PQA Plus and TQA trainings offered in Le Center, Mankato, Waseca and Worthington**

Pork producers and livestock transporters can earn their individual certifications for Pork Quality Assurance Plus (PQA Plus) and Transport Quality Assurance (TQA) at free trainings in LeCenter, Mankato, Waseca and Worthington. These are the final trainings scheduled for these areas this year.

The PQA Plus trainings will be from 10 a.m. to noon and the TQA trainings will be from 1:30-4 p.m. The times are the same at all locations.

- The **Mankato** PQA Plus and TQA trainings will be on **Nov. 9** at the Minnesota Pork Office, 151 Saint Andrews Court, Mankato.
- The **Waseca** PQA Plus and TQA trainings will be on **Nov. 19 and Dec. 17** at the Southern Research and Outreach Center, Waseca.
- The **LeCenter** PQA Plus and TQA trainings will be on **Dec. 7** at the LeSueur County Fairgrounds, LeCenter.
- The **Worthington** PQA Plus and TQA trainings will be **Dec. 14** in the Farmers Room of the Nobles County Government Center, Worthington.

To assure adequate seating and materials, pre-registration is encouraged. To pre-register, telephone the Minnesota Pork Board office at (800) 537-7675 or email [colleen@mnppork.com](mailto:colleen@mnppork.com). When pre-registering, provide your name, address, telephone number and email, if available.

PQA Plus is required as a condition of sale by nearly all packers for those individuals who provide daily care of pigs, such as owners, managers and employees. The PQA Plus training also describes the site assessment process and how to achieve PQA Plus Site Status. The minimum age for PQA Plus certification eligibility is 14.

TQA training is also a common hog packer requirement for the drivers delivering hogs to the plant and for on-farm animal handlers.

Pork producers can check their PQA and TQA certification status by calling the Pork Checkoff Service Center at (800) 456-7675. Check with your hog packer for their specific requirements of PQA Plus certification, PQA Plus Site Status and TQA certification.

PQA Plus and TQA trainings are hosted by the Minnesota Pork Board, Pork Checkoff and University of Minnesota Extension Swine Team. For additional training locations and dates go to [www.mnpork.com](http://www.mnpork.com).