

Incoming President's Welcome Address

My name is Tony Wurst. I am the President and founder of Dominion Pest Control Services, INC. I am honored to serve as your President for 2018. Thanks for your support.

Since my first year as a PCO in 2001, I have benefitted personally and professionally from the WSPMA. From my earliest years in the business the WSPMA has faithfully been there to educate, provide fellowship and inspire.

In my term as President, I want to make the goodness of the WSPMA accessible to as many members as possible. I want to Share the Love. I want to unleash the power of our Association by signing up as many new members as I can and encouraging everyone else to do the same. This Association is not great because of a great cast on the Board. This Association is not great because of the wonderful staff. This Association is great because of all of us. WE make it great. WE are the Association.

As a young boy, when my family went camping, as we would break camp my Dad would always say, "Son, lets pick this place up and leave it a little nicer than we found it. If everyone did that, the world would constantly be improving." That is what I plan to do for the WSPMA during my term in 2018; Leave it a little nicer than I found it. After being involved on the board for the last several years, I have found a few areas that I think I can help with. Here are some things that I want to do:

1. Continue to work with the WSDA for license testing and credit hour logging modernization. If you have not heard, Scott Dideon of Green City Pest Control prompted a meeting with the leaders at the WSDA to discuss the limitation of WSDA's current licensing facilities. We discussed the needs of the WSPMA members to have electronic licensing for which we could register online and take electronically at a local community college testing facility. We also discussed the content of some of the questions to help guide the test makers on how to make future test better at qualifying the right candidates. The staff at WSDA was already hard at work on this. They shared their plans to begin rolling out electronic testing over the next year. It will include:

- Online registration.
- Pay for the test with a credit card online.
- Electronic test.
- Proctored at several region community college testing facilities.
- Give immediate results including feedback on the testee's performance by section in order to facilitate study focus for those who do not pass.

This is great and welcomed news. Hopefully it will be fully functional by 2019.

2. Align all board member roles with our desire to engage and grow the membership of the WSPMA.
 - Will bring several recommended changes to the By-Laws in order to support sustained growth.
3. Recommended Changes to WSPMA BYLAWS to be voted on in Leavenworth:
 - References to "Joint Membership" need to be removed.
 - Vice President added role responsibility to be active in the Education Committee

- Education Committee should make a report to the Board regarding its plan for the next year by October. This report should be brought to the Post Leavenworth Board meeting in person or electronically.
- President to be responsible for a yearly Membership Drive.

At Leavenworth this year, the Board will be asking for a vote on several By-Laws changes which will be voted on at the Leavenworth business meeting. Be sure to make it to that and let your voice be heard. This is *our* association. Let's keep making it great!

I look forward to doing everything that I can to make the WSPMA better for our members. I would also ask you to consider the same; How can you get involved? How can you add to the benefits of all members? It could be something as small as making a phone call to someone that we haven't heard from in a while. Whatever it is, do something to improve *our* WSPMA. When you do, let us know about it. We are interested.

I hope to see you at one of the many upcoming events. Please see the WSPMA website for a list of upcoming events. If we haven't met, be sure to come shake my hand and introduce yourself. I'm eager to meet more of our wonderful members.