

2-DAY WOOD POLE COMPLIANCE ANSI TRAINING

Official Course Agenda & Field Practicum

DAY 1: OCTOBER 13, 2026 | Standards, Material Properties, & Engineering Design

 Location: Mississippi State University Department of Sustainable Bioproducts, Franklin Center (Room 115)

Time	Session Details
08:00 - 08:15	WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS • Kevin Ragon: Welcome and Course Objectives • Will Cox (National Rural Cooperative Association/Wood Quality Control Program): Introduction & Overview of the ANSI O5.1 Standard and utility safety frameworks
08:15 - 09:30	How We Got to Where We Are with ANSI O5.1 <i>Speaker: Martin Rollins</i>
09:30 - 09:45	 MORNING BREAK
09:45 - 10:00	Manufacturing Specifications & Defects Theory <i>Speaker: Donnie Parker</i> Topics: Prohibited vs. permitted defects; Class H-1 through 10 length, circumference rules, and more.
10:15 - 12:00	Wood Preservative Systems & Conditioning <i>Speakers: Tim Carey, Hollis Ervin, Tad Cleve</i> Topics: Conditioning & AWPA U1 standards; permanent pole branding; chemical safety & PPE.
12:00 - 13:00	 LUNCH PROVIDED
13:00 - 15:00	Kiln Drying & Treatment Preparation <i>Speaker: Tad Cleve</i> Topics: Moisture management auditing; inspection prior to cylinder staging.
15:00 - 17:00	 DAY 1 NETWORKING RECEPTION

DAY 2: OCTOBER 14, 2026 | Field Inspection Practicum & Examination

 Location: East Mississippi Pole Company, 14877 US-45, Macon, MS 39341

Time	Session Details
08:30 - 09:00	Field Site Orientation & Safety Briefing Mandatory safety instructions and PPE check before entering the yard.
09:00 - 11:30	Section 2: Field Inspection Handout Practicum Activities: Hands-on inspection of Southern Pine batches using standard class tape. Audit Tasks: • Verify dimensional & class tolerances (Length, top/butt circumference, sweep, crooks). • Perform growth & material defects audit (Knot clusters, max knot size, spiral grain). • Check staging completeness (Bark removal, pre-drilled gains, permanent brand verification).
11:30 - 12:30	 LUNCH BREAK
12:30 - 14:30	Section 3: Comprehensive Course Examination Format: 10-Question written exam administered online. Certification awarded upon completion.
14:30 - 15:30	Official Course Adjournment