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working for safe
drinking water
in Tennessee

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www.tbbackflow.com

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
Angel Goike, Secretary
c/o City of Clarksville
1030 Plumping Station Rd.
Clarksville, TN 37040

TBPA



"Let's Not Over Test"

The purpose of a reduced pressure backflow preventer is to prevent contaminants from getting into your water system. This is accomplished by testing the device to assure that it prevents backsiphonage and back pressure. As we all know the heart of a backflow preventer is the relief valve. Obviously, this is the first test performed. If the R/V opens at or above 2 psid; then it is OK. This means the device protects against backsiphonage. Next we test the #2 check valve against backpressure. If the check is holding tight, then we are assured the device will prevent backpressure from entering the water system. The third test is to check the actual pressure drop across the #1 check, which must be a minimum of 5 psid.

The above is the basic test as required by ABPA (USC). If either of the above fails, then there are other tests to determine the cause of failure. For instance, if the R/V doesn't open, then you can test to see if #2 shut off is closed tight. Excessive flow thru the #2 shut off will prevent the R/V from opening. Another test is checking the #2 check in the direction of the flow. The purpose of the #2 check valve is to prevent backpressure. This was our second test and if it is holding tight, why test it a different way.

It is my opinion that if the minimum values for the three basic test of ABPA have been met, then why test further. We have proven that the device is doing the job it is intended to do.

~ Grady Gentry

Tennessee Backflow News

Fall 2002



NEXT MEETING

10:00 AM
Wednesday
January 8,
2003
Nashville, TN
225 Ben Allen Rd.

CALL FOR
NOMINATIONS FOR
EAST AND WEST
TENNESSEE
DIRECTORS.
PLEASE MAIL ALL
NOMINATIONS TO
ANGEL GOIKE, CITY OF
CLARKSVILLE OR AT
agoike@clarksville.com
MUST BE RECEIVED BY
NOVEMBER 30TH.

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President's Message

By Larry Stinnett

The annual conference of TBPA in Memphis was a big success. A big "Thank You" goes to Grady Gentry and the conference committee. As always, those in attendance left the conference with some very good ideas of how the association must proceed. Congratulations to Brent Ogles for receiving the Contribution to the Field of Backflow and Cross Connection Award and to Grady Gentry for receiving the Contribution to the TBPA Award. We appreciate all you do for TBPA.

On July 30, 2002 Eddie O'Neill and I met with David Draughon from the State of Tennessee. We discussed areas that the TBPA would like to see the State address pertaining to the Cross Connection Programs statewide. David was very helpful and open to our suggestions. We left the meeting with three main goals for TBPA:

1. Assist in updating the Cross Connection Control Manual currently in use.
2. Gather Utility support statewide for updating the Cross Connection Program.
3. Assist in the updating of the Sanitary Survey draft.

We are currently naming a committee to work on a proposal to present to the State for review and possible adoption. This proposal will consist of the changes we would like to see in the current Cross Connection Control Manual in order to have consistency among utilities statewide. We are diligently working to insure Tennessee Backflow remains up to date and does not get left behind.

It has been a long time goal of mine to assist in writing a state wide Backflow Program that requires all utilities to meet the same requirements. I believe most utilities across the state would welcome such a program. I

am asking the membership of TBPA to list any concerns or comments you have and send them to me. The committee will gladly consider every one received.

Please remember this is not something that is going to happen tomorrow, but it will happen ... with your help.



AWARD RECIPIENT

Grady Gentry, right, West Tennessee director of the Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association, was presented an award for furthering the goals of the Tennessee chapter of the American Backflow Prevention Association March 7 during the TBPA Conference in Memphis. Making the presentation was Larry Stinnett of Knoxville, president of the TBPA.

Upcoming Events

- April 28-May 1, 2003 — 19th Annual ABPA International Conference - Detroit, MI
- October 16-17, 2003 — TBPA Annual Conference - Hilton Suites Nashville, Downtown - Nashville, TN

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association



Name	Affiliation	Phone # e-mail	Fax #
Larry Stinnett, President	Backflow Specialty Company, Inc. Powell, TN	865-925-0058 backfloop@aol.com	865-925-0058
Eddie O'Neill Vice President	Jackson Energy Authority Jackson, TN	731-422-7214 eoneill@jaxenergy.com	731-422-7584
David Kellogg, Immediate Past President	City of Gallatin	615-451-5922 Dkellogg@gallatinutilities.com	615-452-0568
Liba Ford, Treasurer	JEA Jackson, TN	731-422-7517 lford@jaxenergy.com	731-422-7530
Angel Goike Secretary/Newsletter Slave	City of Clarksville	931-553-2489 agoike@clarksville.com	931-553-2490
Grady Gentry Director, West	Grady's Backflows Dyersburg, TN	901-286-4271 gmentry@bellsouth.net	901-286-1557
Mike Trigg Director, Middle	Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 572	615-227-5542 Local572jtc@mindspring.com	615-227-5892
Dave Birkholz Director, East	Loudon Utilities	865-458-2091 Dave.birkholz@loudonutilities.org	865-458-6781
Greg Baker, Director At-Large	Tennessee Association of Utility Districts Murfreesboro, TN	615-896-9022 Gregbaker@taud.org	615-896-8608
Brent Ogles Director-At-Large	J. R. Fleming Training Center Murfreesboro, TN	615-898-8090 Bogles@mail.state.tn.us	615-898-8064
Dale Phelps Director-At-Large	City of Gallatinburg Gallatinburg, TN	865-436-7792 Dalephelps@yahoo.com	
William (Bill) Kent Columbus Water Works, GA	ABPA Region 3 Director	706-649-3490 wkent@cwaga.org	706-649-3477
Ron Chapman	ABPA President	313-337-1241 Rj_chapman@hotmail.com	313-322-4122

The Tennessee Backflow News is published quarterly by the Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association, whose members have a common interest in protecting the drinking water from contamination through cross connections. Your ideas, experience and expertise are invited and needed by the TBPA to insure a balanced approach to backflow prevention in the State of Tennessee. Your participation and support will continue to help shape the future of this industry in Tennessee.

Opinions expressed in articles, letters or advertisements in this publication are not necessarily those endorsed or supported by the TBPA. The content of this newsletter is not to be considered as legal or professional advice. Dues are \$50 annually, and are payable to the TBPA Treasurer. Annual dues include \$20 for Tennessee and \$30 for National ABPA dues. National membership is required for Tennessee membership.

The TBPA Treasurer address is:

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
Liba Ford, TBPA Treasurer
c/o JEA, P.O. Box 68, Jackson, TN 38305

All other info requests and inquiries, including newsletter items and advertisements can be directed to:

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
Attn: Angel Goike, Secretary
c/o City of Clarksville
1030 Pumping Station Rd.
Clarksville, TN 37043

TBPA/ABPA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
American Backflow Prevention Association

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/ST/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

FAX: _____

CHECK ONE: RENEWAL: _____ MEMBER # _____

NEW : _____



ABPA DUES: \$30.00
TBPA DUES: 20.00
ANNUAL DUES TOTAL: \$50.00

Please remit total to:
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Liba Ford
c/o JEA
P.O. Box 68
Jackson, TN 38305

Includes bi-monthly ABPA News Magazine
and quarterly Tennessee Backflow News
Pre-payment of dues required to process application.
Membership is non-transferable. National ABPA membership required for state TBPA membership

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MIKE TRIGG
Training Coordinator

225 Ben Allen Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37207
www.uatn.org/572/572.htm

Bus. Phone: (615)227-5542
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local572jtc@mindspring.com

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Katherine P. Zeller
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Fax: (706) 965-9326
E-mail: backflowtester@netzero.net

Mid Tenn Backflow Prevention

Testing and Repairs of Backflow Preventers
Cross Connection Surveys

State Cert. #2830
RANDY WALL
931-358-9271

Mobile 931-801-2790
1-800-319-9011 PIN 00

TBPA BOARD MEETINGS

JANUARY 8, 2003 ~ APRIL 2, 2003 ~ JULY 9, 2003
Meet the 1st Wednesday of each Quarter at the JATC Building, 225 Ben Allen Rd., Nashville, TN
All Members Welcome

Tennessee Training Calendar

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation - Cross Connection Control Training Classes

Fleming Training Center
 2022 Blanton Drive
 Murfreesboro, TN 37129
 615-898-8090
<http://www.state.tn.us/environment/dca/fleming.htm>

The classes offered by the Fleming Training Center are free of charge to any person who wishes to attend. Written registration is required, however, a minimum of thirty days in advance of the class. Confirmation letters for all classes/seminars will be sent out to registrants approximately three weeks prior to class and will contain pertinent details regarding exact location, class content, and materials. For information on class content for Cross Connection Control Workshops call Mr. Brent Ogles at 615-898-8090.

Cross Connection Control Workshop (BASIC) (4 days)
 (Textbook: None) Classes are at the Fleming Training Center in Murfreesboro unless otherwise indicated. *See Schedule Below.*

Cross Connection Control Workshop (RENEWAL) (2 days)
 (Textbook: None) Classes are at the Fleming Training Center in Murfreesboro unless otherwise indicated. *See Schedule Below.*

- **Fleming Training Center**, Brent Ogles, 2022 Blanton Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37129, (615) 898-8090
- **The Tennessee Association of Utility Districts (TAUD):** Cross Connection Renewal Classes for Municipalities and Basic Cross Connection Training Classes for contractors are available. Other classes may be available. Contact Greg Baker or Melanie Hammon, 840 Commercial Court, Murfreesboro, TN 37129, (615) 893-9022
- **Memphis Light, Gas & Water (MLGW):** Classes are held in the greater Memphis Tennessee area on an annual basis. Contact Barbara Taylor or Paulette Swanson, P.O. Box 430, Memphis, TN 38101-0430, (901) 528-4449
- **Plumbers and Pipefitters, Local 572**, Nashville, Tennessee: Backflow Classes for Apprentices and Journeyman, contact Mike Trigg, 225 Ben Allen Rd., Nashville, TN 37207, (615) 227-5542
- **Plumbers & Steamfitters, Local #43 JACT:** Contact Woody Evans, 3013 Riverside Drive, Chattanooga, TN 37406, (423) 365-9972
- *To list or update your training classes contact Eddie O'Neill at eoconnell@jaxenergy.com*

Upcoming Articles

Watch for the next TBPA Newsletter articles by Angel Goike from Clarksville and Wayne Cook from Shelbyville. If you would like to see specific information in the newsletter or would like to submit an article, contact Eddie O'Neill at eoconnell@jaxenergy.com. Your comments are appreciated.

Cross Connection Control Classes	
No.	Course Name
2103	Cross Connection Control Workshop (BASIC) (3 1/2 or 4 days - dependent upon location) (Textbook: None; approved procedure sent with confirmation letter) • November 19 - 22, 2002 (4 days) (date change) • January 21 - 24, 2003 (4 days) • March 4 - 7, 2003 (4 days) • April 8 - 11, 2003 - Knoxville (3 1/2 days) • May 20 - 23, 2003 - Kingsport (3 1/2 days) • June 17 - 20, 2003 - Jackson (3 1/2 days) • June 30 - July 3, 2003 (4 days) • July 15 - 18, 2003 (3 1/2 days) • August 19 - 22, 2003 - Kingsport (3 1/2 days) • September 9 - 12, 2003 - Knoxville (3 1/2 days) • October 6 - 9, 2003 (4 days) • November 17 - 20, 2003 (4 days)
3102	Cross Connection Control Workshop (RENEWAL) (1 1/2 or 2 days - dependent upon location) (Textbook: None; approved procedure sent with confirmation letter) • December 11 - 12, 2002 (2 days) (date change) • February 11 - 12, 2003 (2 days) • April 7 - 8, 2003 - Knoxville (1 1/2 days) • May 19 - 20, 2003 - Kingsport (1 1/2 days) • June 16 - 17, 2003 - Jackson (1 1/2 days) • July 14 - 15, 2003 (1 1/2 days) • August 18 - 19, 2003 - Kingsport (1 1/2 days) • September 8 - 9, 2003 - Knoxville (1 1/2 days) • December 15 - 16, 2003 (2 days)

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What's The Difference???

By Rebekah Ciekowski
Cross Connection Control Secretary
Fleming Training Center

During March of this year, Mr. David Draughon, Director of the Division of Water Supply, mailed a letter to nearly five hundred testers across the state of Tennessee who currently hold a Plumber's Cross Connection Certification. Since November 1994 and the state of the Plumber's Cross Connection Program, there has been some confusion surrounding this certification and its limitations when compared with the Full Cross Connection Certification. Due to this confusion, many of the testers who have received a Plumber's Certificate over the last eight years actually needed a Full Cross Connection Certificate. Both certificates have specific purposes and can be highly effective when understood and issued appropriately.

Originally, it was the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts (TAUD) who developed the idea for the Plumber's Cross Connection Certificate. The Certificate was intended only for plumbers. This training and certification program would allow plumbers to perform the initial installation testing and testing of a device after repair, therefore benefitting water systems. These systems were then able to focus on annual testing. In his letter, Mr. Draughon explains, "When the Tennessee Association of Utility Districts approached the Division of Water Supply about the need for this program, the intent was to train and certify plumbers for the initial installation and the initial testing of a backflow preventer. It was recognized that there was a need for this type of program due to the many return visits by local utility personnel to accept a new backflow preventer installation. To promote this program, a certificate was to be issued to signify that the designated individual had completed the training for the installation and initial testing of a backflow preventer. It was anticipated that if some training and a certificate for the initial installation and testing by a plumber were available it would reduce the number of visits by the local water system before initial acceptance of the device could be granted."

On February 28, 2001, Mr. Robert Lashlee, who was over the Cross Connection Certification Program, retired from the Division of Water Supply after 43 1/2 years of state service, and Mr. Brent Ogles was placed over the training and certification portion of the Cross Connection Control Program. At the same time, the Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association organized a committee to study and make recommen-

dations for standardization of backflow prevention assembly testing. As a result, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) began standardized testing and more rigid enforcement of policy. During this process, it was discovered that some water systems had begun accepting the Plumber's Certificate for annual testing. In Mr. Draughon's letter he affirmed that "recent events have led Division staff to believe that there is a misunderstanding with regard to the Plumbers Cross Connection Certification Program ... The Plumber's Certificate does not replace or supplant the division's full Cross Connection Testing Certification. It cannot be used as the certification for the purpose of conducting the required annual testing of backflow preventers. Due to this misunderstanding regarding the purpose of the Plumber's Certification, the Division has learned of a number of incidents where annual testing is being conducted by persons holding the Plumber's Certification. These test results are unacceptable." Over the years, the two separate certificates were inadvertently communicated as being one-in-the-same. Fortunately, these errors have been brought to light and are now being corrected.

By looking at a certificate, it is evident whether it is a Full Cross Connection Certificate or a Plumber's Cross Connection Certificate. Directly above the certificate number a Plumber's Certificate will state "Plumber's". If a person has a Plumber's Certificate and desires a Full Cross Connection Control Certificate, several options are available. These options are outlined below.

I. Attend a Basic Cross Connection Course

If you have never obtained a Full Cross Connection Certificate and need to perform annual testing, attending a Full Basic Cross Connection Course and successfully completing both the written and practical exams is the only option.

II. Have Your Plumber's Cross Connection Certificate "converted" to a Full Cross Connection Certificate

If you originally attended a Full Basic Cross Connection Certification Course and have since then taken a Plumber's Cross Connection Course in an attempt to renew your Full Certification, you no longer hold a Full Certification. However, due to the misunderstanding surround the Plumber's course, the TDEC is allowing a one-time conversion of your Plumber's Certificate back to a Full Cross Connection Certification. Simply attend a Full Cross Connection Renewal Course and pass the practical exam. Your certificate will then be converted and valid to perform annual testing. You will need to renew again in three years.

III. Have your Plumber's Cross Connection Certificate "validated"

If you originally attended a Full Basic Cross Connection Certification Course, and have since then taken a Plumber's Cross connection Course in an attempt to renew your Full Certification, you no longer hold a Full Certification. However, due to the misunderstandings surrounding the Plumber's course, the TDEC is allowing a one-time validation of your certificate. Simply contact Mr. Brent Ogles and set up a test date. When you have successfully completed the practical exam, your certificate will be valid to perform annual testing. The expiration date of your certificate will not change.

If you are unsure of your certification or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at rebekah.ciekowski@state.tn.us or (615) 898-8090. Anyone interested in attending a Full Basic Cross Connection Course or a Full Renewal Course should contact one of the agencies listed in the Training Section of this newsletter. Any plumber only needed to perform initial installation and repair testing and, therefore, needing a Plumber's Certificate will need to contact TAUD.

TBPA BOARD MEETING UPDATE JULY 16, 2002

All future Board Meetings will be held on the 1st Wednesday of each quarter in Nashville at the JATC Building at 10:00 AM. If that date is a holiday, the meeting will be held on Wednesday of the following week.

The Newsletter will be mailed Quarterly on the 2nd of the Month before the Board Meeting. For example, September 2nd before the October Board meeting. A Newsletter committee was formed to choose a printing for the publication. The September edition will be late due to set up time. The printer will be used for one year and then evaluated.

Advertising in the Newsletter is \$25.00 per Quarter.