

# Tennessee Backflow News

Summer 2024



## NEXT BOARD MEETING

October 16th, 2024

Last meetings  
minutes  
attached  
below -  
April's  
meeting.

## Upcoming Events

TBPA Conference  
October 17-18th  
2024

## INSIDE

TN Training Calendar ....3  
Board Meeting Updates.... 8  
Conference....9, 10, 11

## Letter from the President

Hello Fellow Members of the TBPA,

I want to say that recently it has been extremely hot and hope that all of you have been taking precautions to stay safe in this hot weather. Please take multiple breaks out of the heat to keep cool. And enjoy some clean water that you are responsible for keeping that way with your cross-connection expertise and stay well hydrated.

The TBPA would like for all our current members to spread the word about our association and encourage others to join too. We hope that you have marked your calendars and hope to see you at our conference, October 17th & 18th in Chattanooga.

Currently, we have Sgt. Backflow of South Carolina on our list of speakers. Along with Henry Chang with USC Cross Connection Control Foundation, Walter Idol from UT-Knoxville, Ben Rodriguez with Fleming Training Center who will also be speaking updates within the State of TN cross connection program too. Please join us in Chattanooga this fall.

Stay tuned for more information on our website and social media.

Be sure to check out our website [www.tnbackflow.com](http://www.tnbackflow.com) and our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/tnbackflow](http://www.facebook.com/tnbackflow) for news and information from the TBPA.

REMEMBER: This is your association and the success of it depends on you and your

Sincerely,  
Bill Jennings  
TBPA President

# TBPA Board Members



Name	Affiliation	Phone # - Email	Fax #
Bill Jennings President	City of Brentwood Water Services Brentwood, TN	615-371-0080 bill.jennings@brentwoodtn.gov	
David Risner Vice President	Murfreesboro Water & Sewer Murfreesboro, TN	615-848-3222 drisner@murfreesborotn.gov	615-848-3244
Jared Gowan Director, West TN	Jackson Energy Authority Jackson, TN	731-422-7347 jgowan@jaxenergy.com	
Catie Williams Secretary	Jackson Energy Authority Jackson, TN	731-422-7371 Cwilliams@jaxenergy.com	
Sherry Hayes Treasurer	Clarksville Gas & Water	931-553-2497 sherry.hayes@cityofclarksville.com	
Michael Robeson Director-At-Large / Membership	Morristown Utility Morristown, TN	423-317-6316 mrobeson@musfiber.net	
Josh Rau Director, Middle TN	Clarkville Gas & Water	931-553-2489 josh.rau@cityofclarksville.com	
Kent Bowman Director, East TN	Bowman Backflow	865-258-2800 kentbowman@comcast.net	
Brent Ogles Director-At-Large	TAUD	615-900-1011 brentogles@taud.org	615-898-8283
Troy Baird ABPA President	Bac-Flo Unlimited	210-698-0411 troybaird@gvtc.com	
Kathy Riley ABPA Vice President	Charlotte Water	980-226-4304 kathy.riley@charloettenc.gov	
Blake Anderson International Past President	West Bountiful City	801-381-1869 banderson@wbcity.org	
Joshua Legg ABPA Region 3 Director	City of Concord	704-920-5352 leggj@concordnc.gov	

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 \$85 annually. (Dues include \$65 for National and \$20 for Tennessee) National membership is required for Tennessee membership.

Mail membership dues to:  
American Backflow Prevention Association  
6672 S 1570 W  
West Jordan, UT 84084

For newsletter advertisements contact:  
Catie Williams - Jackson Energy Authority  
731-422-7405

## TBPA / ABPA MEMBERSHIP FORM

*Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association*  
*American Backflow Prevention Association*



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK ONE: RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ MEMBER # \_\_\_\_\_ NEW \_\_\_\_\_

**ABPA DUES: \$65.00**  
**TBPA DUES: \$20.00**  
**ANNUAL DUES TOTAL \$85.00**

**Remit Total to:**  
**ABPA**  
**6672 S 1570 W**  
**West Jordan, UT 84084**

*Includes ABPA quarterly e-newsletters and quarterly TBPA Newsletters. Pre-payment of dues is required to process application. Membership is non-transferable. ABPA membership required for TBPA membership.*

# Tennessee Training Calendar

**The Tennessee Association of Utility Districts (TAUD):** Offering classes for utilities, municipalities and other industry related businesses and contractors. Classes include Cross Connection Renewal and Basic, Confined Space Entry, CPR/First Aid, Flagger Safety, Trench Excavation and many others. Customized classes are also available. For more information please visit the Training Page at [www.taud.org](http://www.taud.org) or contact TAUD (615)898-8283.

## Cross Connection Basic (Classroom)

Class Fee: \$370 member \$390 non-member - class time: 8:30am-4pm

Chattanooga July 17th-19th  
Knoxville August 21st-23rd  
Murfreesboro September 4th-6th  
Jackson September 25th-27th

## Cross Connection Renewal

Duration: 1 day Class Fee: \$225 member \$260 non-member - class time: 8:30am-4pm

Knoxville August 20th  
Murfreesboro September 3rd  
Jackson September 24th

**The Fleming Training Center:** FTC offers Basic and Renewal and Cross Connection Classes to water systems and personnel throughout Tennessee. FTC is located at 2022 Blanton Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37129, phone: (615) 898-8090, fax: (615) 898- 8064. Hours of operation: Weekdays 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Central Time. For more information and a registration form visit: [www.state.tn.us/environment/fleming/](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/fleming/). Written registration and 30 days notice is required for the following classes:

## Basic Workshop

Duration: 3 days Class Fee: \$335

August 6th-8th FULL  
September 3rd-5th 1 LEFT  
September 17th-19th FULL

## Renewal Cross Connection Class

Duration: 1 day Class Fee: \$170

July 26th

## **Fleming Training Center Notice**

All registrations forms for classes and seminars must be accompanied by the required fee payment.

# Training Information

- **Plumbers and Pipefitters, Local 572, Nashville, Tennessee:** Backflow Classes for Apprentices and Journeyman: (615) 227-5542  
225 Ben Allen Rd., Nashville, TN 37207
- **Plumbers & Steamfitters, Local #43 JACT:** Contact Woody Evans, 3013 Riverside Drive, Chattanooga, TN 37406, (423) 365-9972
- **Knoxville Plumbers & Steamfitters, LU #102 JATC:** Knoxville, TN Contact Wayne Summers, 1218 N. Broadway, Knoxville, TN 37917 - (865) 525-6305 or lu102jatc@bellsouth.net
- **Plumbers Local Union #17:** For information on classes contact Lonnie Coomes at (901) 368-0900 or lonniec@ua17.org - 4229 Prescott Road, Memphis, TN 38118
- **Backflow Control:** Backflow Training and Certification Classes for Mississippi, Alabama & Tennessee. Contact Roger Crane at (662) 333-9007 -262 Boatner Road, Potts Camp, MS 38659



Lloyd Rainey  
lloyd@midamericamktg.com

901-795-0045 Phone	P.O. Box 750960
800-365-6154 Toll Free	Memphis, Tn 38175
901-795-0394 Fax	2831 Barris Dr.
901-619-1050 Cell	Memphis, TN 38132



## COMPACT BACKFLOW ASSEMBLY ENCLOSURES

Custom Designs  
Custom Sizes  
CAD Drawings

**Safe-T-Cover**  
by HydroCowl  
Nashville, TN  
Phone: 800-245-6333  
Fax: 615-259-4481

[www.safe-t-cover.com](http://www.safe-t-cover.com)



Order Desk:  
800-776-1464  
Fax:  
805-499-9084

KATHE FRAHM

**National Backflow Master Parts Distributor**  
ALL BRANDS: PARTS • KITS • DEVICES • ACCESSORIES  
GAUGE CALIBRATION & REPAIR

No Minimum  
Large Inventory

Same Day Shipping  
Technical Assistance

# WILKINS

## BACKFLOW PREVENTERS - REGULATORS

REPRESENTED BY

# FOX SALES

Phone 615-361-7711

Jason Fox Tim Hulan

**Backflow Specialty Co., Inc.**  
State Certified Testing & Repair Firm

**Brad Stinnett**  
President

BACKFLOWSPECIALTY@COMCAST.NET  
HTTP://WWW.BACKFLOW-SPECIALTY.COM

4605 CENTRAL AVE. PIKE  
P.O. Box 12162  
KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

(865) 688-3171 PHONE  
(865) 688-3110 FAX



## Backflow Devices Testing & Repair Company

"Together we can protect our drinking water."

Norman H. Zeller

Mobile: (423) 580-6084 Office: (706) 965-5951  
E-mail: backflowtester@gmail.com Fax: (706) 965-9326

**Tennessee's premier source of utility & industry training**



**Cross Connection** (Certification & Renewal)  
**Confined Space**  
**Trench Excavation**  
**CPR/AED First Aid**  
**Flagger Safety**  
 And more...



**TAUD**  
**Training Station**

*Keeping you on track!*

Convenient and reliable state approved training provided by qualified instructors with decades of expertise and hands-on experience.

For questions or more info on classes, please visit or call us today!

[www.taud.org](http://www.taud.org) 615-900-1000

**LABTRONX**  
 YOUR LABORATORY EQUIPMENT EXPERTS

**ADRIEN PRATT**  
 OPERATIONS MANAGER

APRATT@LABTRONX.COM  
 615.831.2554 (office)  
 615.691.0867 (cell)

[WWW.LABTRONX.COM](http://WWW.LABTRONX.COM)

**Your Complete Source for all Backflow Parts & Accessories**



**YOUR BACKFLOW PRODUCTS CONNECTION**

[www.bavco.com](http://www.bavco.com)

**WEST COAST**

LONG BEACH, CA  
 Toll Free: (800) 458-3492  
 Fax: (310) 639-0721  
 Email: [info@bavco.com](mailto:info@bavco.com)

**CENTRAL**

SAN ANTONIO, TX  
 Toll Free: (866) 318-0274  
 Fax: (210) 451-0824  
 Email: [bdnfo@bavco.com](mailto:bdnfo@bavco.com)

**EAST COAST**

CHARLOTTE, NC  
 Toll Free: (844) 202-1618  
 Fax: (704) 684-0028  
 Email: [ncinfo@bavco.com](mailto:ncinfo@bavco.com)

**BACKFLOW CONTROL**

**Mid-West Instrument**  
 Factory Authorized Service Center

**Differential Pressure Gauges**  
 Repair • Sales • Certified Calibrations

262 Boatner Rd.  
 Potts Camp, MS 38659

Office - 662-333-9007

Fax - 662-333-7544

*Roger Crane*  
 Instrument Technician

Backflow Preventer Drew Cook  
 7777 Walnut Grove Road  
 Memphis TN 38120  
 901-315-4860

[backflowpreventerdrewcook@gmail.com](mailto:backflowpreventerdrewcook@gmail.com)

Offering basic certification classes as well as renewal classes for Backflow certification Monday through Friday. 5:30-9:30 PM

# East Tennessee News

Hi Everyone,

I hope everyone is having a great summer so far. We all know it has been a hot dry summer so far with very little rain here in East Tn.

For me testing the irrigation backflows this year our spring was so wet that 50% of what I test in May and part of June was not on due to how wet the spring was and then starting the first of June no rain and then the high heat temperatures the customers were wanting them turned on and what I have heard from some irrigation companies they could not turn them on fast enough that they were weeks behind and in return now I and really behind now to go back to all that was off on my first trip. I have noticed over the 23 years I have tested backflows that when I go in June and then I go back to the ones that was not on in September many that was not on in June are on in September. (I am guessing 30% not on by the end of June are on in September) and for me if it is not on, I do not get paid so on some I will make 3 trips to see if it had been turned on in September. I have had some say if it is not on, I wouldn't go back especially if I didn't get paid anything if it wasn't on the first trip, but my job is to protect the water supply and I know how some people are, they see you in the area they will go turn it off in the ground or the #1 shutoff valve. It sometimes turns into a game of cat and mouse and over the years with the people who cut them off when they see me, I usually catch them on later. Years ago, I would start in the back of the subdivisions and work my way to the entrance because they never knew I was in there verses if started at the entrance, they would see me and go cut them off until I left that subdivision.

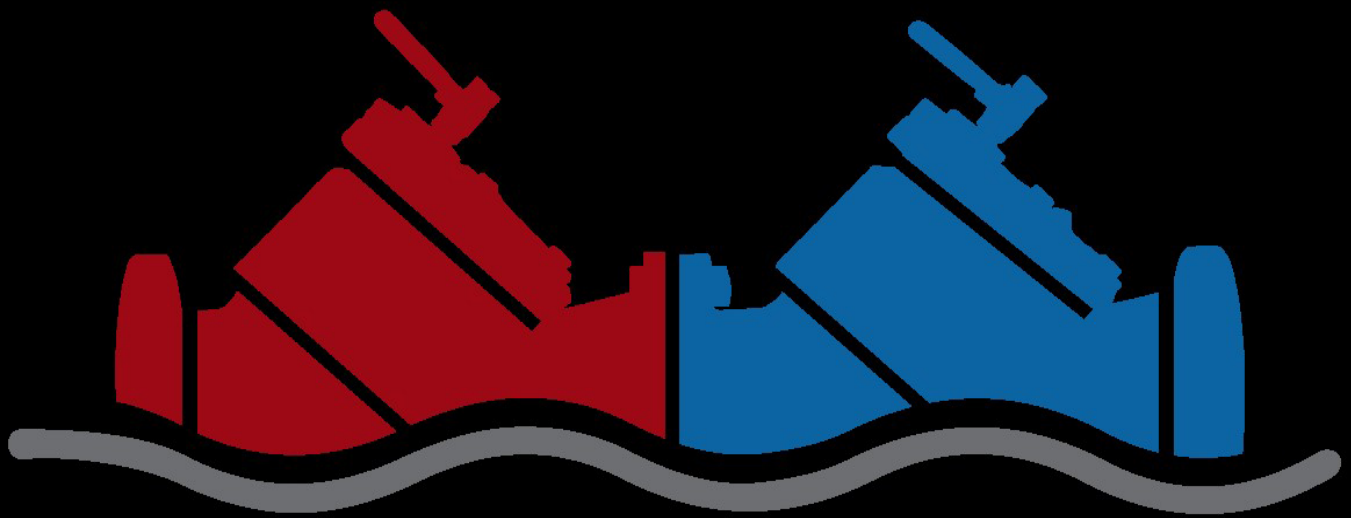
Also, I would like to say congratulations to Kathy Riley for being the new ABPA VP and Josh Legg for being the new Region 3 Director and I am sure both will do a great job in the new positions they now have. If anyone wants to run for the East Tn. director starting in January, you can reach out to me or anyone on the board.

Have a great and safe rest of the summer.

Kent Bowman

East Tn. Director TBPA

# West Tennessee News



NATIONAL  
**BACKFLOW  
PREVENTION**  
DAY

**AUGUST 16**



# TBPA Board Meeting Update - July 10, 2024

- **Treasurer's report:** Account Balance \$11,816.57 including savings (\$5.00)
- **Roll:** Bill J, Jared G, Catie W, Sherry H, Michael R, Kent B, Kevin, (virtual: Kathy B, Brianna, Brent O, and Josh L.)

## Old Business:

Conference updates - valet parking, \$23 per day fee to park, also other parking options/locations nearby for less

Confirmed speakers - Steve Fox (Sgt. Backflow) from South Carolina, Walter Idol from UT Knoxville, and Ben Rodriquez with TDEC-Fleming Training Center

Brent Ogles will teach the re-certification class on Friday for those wanting to renew their cross connection certification.

Bill J will contact Fox Sales in Nashville to teach a Wilkins repair class on Friday OR Kent will contact Jim with BAVCO if Fox Sales cannot.

David Risner and Sherry Hayes attended operator expo in Lebanon to operate TBPA booth on May 16th.

## New Business:

waiting to confirm if we can tour aquarium if not possibly a "round table/meet and greet with board members"

Meet and greet with vendors the night before conference

Get agenda for conference out by end of July if possible

Wilkins rubbers blistering/discoloring

- **Web site:** Ryan and Michael are continuing to make updates to the TBPA web site. Thank you Ryan and Michael for all of your hard work.
- **Facebook:** Make sure to stay up to date with our Facebook page! Thank you to Bill Jennings for acting as our social media ambassador. <https://www.facebook.com/tnbackflow/>
- **Newsletter:** All newsletters are being posted to our website. If you would prefer a physical copy, please contact a board member. Please direct any questions regarding changes or adjustments to editor, Catie Williams, [cwilliams@jaxenergy.com](mailto:cwilliams@jaxenergy.com)
- **Next Board meeting:** October 16th

# THANK YOU TO OUR VENDORS

**We would like to say a special "Thank You" to the Vendors that continue to support our association. The success of our association depends on you and we want you to know how much you are appreciated.**

**BAVCO**

**TAUD**

**Backflow Specialty Co., Inc.**

**Backflow Devices Testing & Repair Co.**

**Mid America Marketing (Watts / Ames /**

**Febco) Fox Sales, Inc.**

**Safe-T-Cover**

**Backflow Control**

**Astra Industrial Services, Inc.**

*thank you  
so much!*

## BACKFLOW LINKS

For more backflow information check out the American Backflow web site: [www.abpa.org](http://www.abpa.org)

Check Out Our Website!

[www.tnbackflow.com](http://www.tnbackflow.com)

Your Association working for safe drinking water in Tennessee

Visit Our Facebook Page!

<https://www.facebook.com/tnbackflow/>



**TBPA**