

Tennessee Backflow News

Summer 2025



NEXT BOARD MEETING

Last meetings
minutes
attached below
- July Meeting

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Board Meetings:

September 24th (night before conference)

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Letter from the President

Hello members of the TBPA,

Well, it's summertime now, as the extreme heat we have been experiencing lately tells us that for sure. And that means that irrigation systems are running wide open. Which poses another great reason to keep testing those backflows and ensuring they are working properly to protect the water we drink.

The TBPA is currently working on finalizing the details for our annual conference again this Fall – Sept 24th-26th in Gatlinburg at Embassy Suites. So, keep an eye on our website, Facebook page and your email for more information within the next week or so.

A question for all our members, is there something that the TBPA can do to help our members with some information, training, etc. to make your membership worth getting more members to join our association. And to keep our current members interested as well. We want to hear If you have any input or ideas as to something the Association can do, please let us know by email or social media. I want to thank each one of you for being a member of the TBPA and your help in the pursuit of keeping our water clean and safe from any and all possible contaminations. And remember this is your association and we all need to work to make this a great organization to be a part of.

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	
David Brown Director, Middle TN	Murfreesboro Water and Sewer	davidbrown@murfreesborotn.gov	
Brianna Baxter Director, East TN	Loudon Utilities Loudon, TN	865-458-7527 brianna.baxter@loudonutilities.orh	
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 troy@speackbackflow.com	
Kathy Riley ABPA Vice President	Charlotte Water	980-226-4304 kathy.riley@charlottenc.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



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CHECK ONE: RENEWAL _____ MEMBER # _____ NEW _____

ABPA DUES: \$65.00

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ANNUAL DUES TOTAL \$85.00

Remit Total to:
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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 or contact TAUD (615)898-8283.

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/. Written registration and 30 days notice is required for the following classes:

Cross Connection Basic (Classroom)

Duration: 3 day - Class Fee: \$370 member \$390 non-member - class time: 8:30am-4pm

Knoxville - August 20th-22nd
Murfreesboro - September 3rd-5th
Jackson - September 24th-26th

Basic Workshop

Duration: 3 days Class Fee: \$335

August 13th-15th
August 27th-29th
September 10th-12th

Cross Connection Renewal

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

Knoxville - August 19th
Murfreesboro - September 2nd
Jackson - September 23rd

Renewal Cross Connection Class

Duration: 1 day Class Fee: \$170

September 16th
September 17th

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

901-619-1050 cell

901-795-0045 office

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Memphis TN 38120
901-315-4860

backflowpreventerdrewcook@gmail.com

**Offering basic certification classes as well as renewal
classes for Backflow certification
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West Tennessee News

Hello members of the TBPA,

I hope everyone is having a great summer thus far, even with the insane temperatures we are having this year.

I am excited to see any members that are planning on attending the TBPA conference this year in Gatlinburg dates September 25th-26th at the Embassy Suites by Hilton. It is not too late to sign up if anyone is still interested. We are hoping for a good turnout and will have lots of good information shared as always.

I encourage each of you to encourage people to become members for the future of our association to strive. I look forward to meeting any new members/people this year at our conference.

Jared Gowan, West TN Director

East Tennessee News

Hello everyone!

Hope your summer is going great! This time of year keeps many of us busy, but it's also a good reminder of how vital backflow prevention is in protecting our water systems.

I just got back from vacation and had some fun spotting backflow preventers and cross-connections with my fiancé—he's gotten so good, he even pointed a few out before I did!

Thanks for all the important work you do in the field and in your communities. I'm proud to be part of this group and look forward to seeing everyone at the fall conference—and at the WPC in Knoxville next week!

Stay safe and stay cool!

Thanks,

Brianna Baxter

TBPA East TN Director

TBPA Board Meeting Update - July 9th 2025

- **Treasurer's report:** Account Balance **\$13,080.70** including savings **(\$5.00)**
- **Roll:** Sherry Hayes (online) Michael Robeson (online), Catie W. (online), Briana B. (online), Davis Risner, Bill Jennings, Cavin D., Adrian P., and David Brown.

Old Business:

Vendor invoices being sent out for yearly advertisement (delayed)

Vendor registration forms updated/being sent out

Hotel rate for conference is \$110 a night while they last

Conference speakers – suggestions and current commitments

Conference giveaways – suggestions and rules

Operator EXPO attendees May 15th – Lebanon

New Business:

Operator expo went well - had a good turn out

Conference speakers decided mostly other than a few TBD (Ben R., Bill J., and David will be checking with a few people - Round table option also discussed if needed

Brent O. got us set up for behind the scenes of the aquarium (Thursday afternoon)

Giveaway options (Adrian P. will be donating some giveaway items)

Vendors will not be in drawing for door prizes

Bill going to work on registration forms with Paypal notes/reminders

Reminder for all members to be current on memberships before registering

- **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
- **Next Board meeting:**
September 24th in Gatlinburg, TN (Wednesday night @ 5pm)

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.

Mid America Marketing (Watts / Ames / Febco)

Fox Sales, Inc.

Safe-T-Cover

Backflow Control

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Labtronx

Backflow Preventer Drew Cook

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*thank you
so much!*

BACKFLOW LINKS

For more backflow information check out the American Backflow web site: www.abpa.org

Check Out Our Website!

www.tnbackflow.com

Your Association working for safe drinking water in Tennessee

Visit Our Facebook Page!

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