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BATalk - is an electronic newsletter sharing important certification program information with Washington's Backflow Assembly Testers (BAT).

IMPORTANT UPDATE

BAT CERTIFICATION RENEWAL REMINDER

In November renewal notices were sent via email to all certified BATs followed by reminder emails in December and January to those that had not yet paid. A direct link to the [BAT Renewal web page](#) was included, so all you have to do is click and pay by credit or debit card. Payment by check or money order is no longer accepted.

You must pay your BAT renewal fee online before midnight on February 28th or your certificate will be inactivated.

BATs that did not pay by the first renewal deadline on January 20th have been sent a second and final notice both by email and first class mail. This second notice assesses a late fee. Remember - if you do not pay your 2017 renewal fee before midnight on February 28th your certificate will be inactivated. To become certified again you will have to apply, pay all applicable fees, and pass both parts of the

BAT certification examination.

NON-ILLUSTRATED FIELD TEST PROCEDURES DISCONTINUED

University of Southern California Foundation for Cross Connection Control and Hydraulic Research (USC) is no longer publishing the Non-Illustrated Field Test Procedures. Beginning in 2011 Washington Certification Services was authorized to purchase and distribute one copy to an applicant upon request at no cost through an agreement between USC and Washington State Department of Health (DOH).

A copy of the Non-Illustrated Field Test Procedures will still be available to applicants during the practical examination.

However, since it is no longer being published DOH directed WCS to discontinue distribution to applicants effective January 1, 2017. All BATs certified before January 1, 2017 have already had an opportunity to request a copy of the procedures when applying for a certification or professional growth examination. The procedures are still available in the USC Manual of Cross Connection Control 10th Edition which can be **purchased directly from USC**.

HELP DOH WITH A NEW PROJECT

Washington State Department of Health (DOH) is working on a special project to create a Cross-Connection Control Reference Manual. They are collecting photos of water-using equipment where they are commonly found, and working with their Plumbing Code partners to specify the appropriate backflow protection, if any, for those water uses.

DOH knows that you are on the front line in backflow protection and wants to utilize your knowledge and exposure to make this project a success. This is an opportunity for all BATs and Cross Connection Control Specialists to benefit from your experience and improve public health for everyone.

How can you help? As you test backflow assemblies installed on unusual equipment, please take

photos and send them to Bill Bernier at CCCProgram-2@doh.wa.gov or contact him at 360-236-3662 if you have any questions.

FIND ANSWERS ONLINE TO YOUR BAT PROGRAM QUESTIONS

The BAT section of the [Washington Certification Services web page](#) provides a wealth of information about all aspects of Washington's BAT certification program and examinations. Access services and find answers to your questions online 24/7.

There is information online just for water purveyors and employers of BATs that will answer many of their questions about the program.

Follow the easy steps on [how to become certified](#) in Washington and [how to meet the professional growth requirement](#). See the [instructions](#) that are read to each applicant before the hands-on examination. Apply for a [certification examination](#), [professional growth examination](#), or [renew](#) your certificate and pay by credit or debit card. Check your [certification status](#) and your professional growth deadline. Are you a water purveyor or an employer of a BAT? There is even a [section just for you](#) with information designed to answer questions you might have about the program.

Still have questions or need additional information? Give us a call at 253-288-3357! WCS staff is happy to assist.

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