

Your Association
working for safe
drinking water
in Tennessee

Check Out Our Website!
www.tnbackflow.com

BACKFLOW LINKS

For more backflow information check out these web sites:

** Information about backflow prevention:

www.abpa.org/backflow.htm

** Information about water quality:

www.epa.gov/305b/sum1.html

** Safe Drinking Water Act guidance documents:

<http://tis-nt.eh.doe.gov/oepa/guidance/sdwa.htm>

** Backflow incidents and articles:

www.abpa.org/incidents.htm

Tennessee Backflow News

TBPA Mission Statement

The mission of the Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association is to protect drinking water quality in the State of Tennessee by providing for education, statewide training, standardized certification, technical assistance and resources to our membership and the general public.

President's Message

By Steve Beene

Hello fellow TBPA members! I hope everyone is having a good 2006 so far.

The make up of our TBPA Board of Directors has changed some from 2005. Eddie O'Neill has moved from President to Immediate Past President, Larry Stinnett from Past President to Vice-President and I moved from Vice-President to President.

The biggest change is a sad one with Brent Ogles resigning as one of our Directors-At-Large. I believe everyone knows Brent and is aware of all that he does for the cross connection program in the state. His presence on the Board will be greatly missed. I hope he will stay in touch and can still find time to attend some of our meetings. To replace Brent we welcome Travis Aslinger to the Board. Travis holds the position with the State of Tennessee that Robert Lashlee held for so many years. Travis is a very energetic young man and you will be hard pressed to find a nicer person. I look forward to working with Travis for the next couple of years.

Our next Board of Directors meeting is April 5th at 10:00 AM at the JATC Building in Nashville. I want to personally invite and encourage all TBPA members to attend. See you there.

Winter 2005



NEXT BOARD MEETING

10:00 AM

Wednesday

April 5, 2006

JATC

225 Ben Allen Rd.
Nashville, TN

(For info call 615-227-5542)

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
Liba Ford
c/o Jackson Energy Authority
P.O. Box 68
Jackson, TN 38302-0068



TBPA



Check Out
Our Website!

www.tnbackflow.com

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ABPA President's Message

By Rich Koeing

In the November/December ABPA News Rich Koeing mentions the TBPA. If you did not have a chance to read it, the following is a portion of his article:

I find myself writing this message to you, the membership, as I return from attending the Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association Conference. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to attend this conference. The hospitality exhibited by the Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association (TBPA) was unbelievable. From the TBPA Board of Directors meeting, to the Conference, the effort and professionalism exhibited by the TBPA members reinforced my conviction in the strategic plan and goals that our Association has set forth....

While attending the TBPA Board meeting, a common issue was raised regarding our Association. This issue has consistently been aired at numerous meetings that I have attended since becoming President of this Association. Hopefully by bringing this issue forward and letting everybody know what processes are in place, we can prevent this issue from hindering the growth of our Association.

The issue is communication. Communication is critical to the survival of any Association. However, communication is a two way street. In order for the Board of Directors to resolve any

Continued on page 5...

Upcoming Events

TBPA Board Meetings

April 5th
July 12th

ABPA 2006 International Conference & Tradeshow

April 10th - 12th
Crowne Plaza Riverwalk
San Antonio, Texas
(Reservations: 888-623-2800)

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association

Name	Affiliation	Phone # e-mail	Fax #
Steve Beene, President	Hixson Utility District Hixson, TN	423-875-6495 x1230 sbeene@hixsonutility.com	423-875-3116
Larry Stinnett, Vice-President	Backflow Specialty Co., Inc. Knoxville, TN	865-688-3171 backflowsp@bellsouth.net	865-688-3110
Eddie O'Neill, Immediate Past President	Jackson Energy Authority Jackson, TN	731-422-7214 eonell@jaxenergy.com	731-422-7584
Liba Ford, Treasurer/Membership & Newsletter	JEA Jackson, TN	731-422-7517 lford@jaxenergy.com	731-422-7530
Angel Goike Secretary	City of Clarksville	931-553-2489 agoike@clarksville.com	931-553-2490
Lloyd Rainey, Director, West	Mid America Marketing, Inc.	800-365-6154 lloyd@midamericamktg.com	901-795-0394
Charlie Fox Director, Middle	Fox Sales Inc. Hermitage, TN	615-361-7711 foxsales@aol.com	615-361-8333
Kent Bowman, Director, East	First Utility District of Knox County	865-966-9741 fudkbow@tds.net	865-675-4955
Travis Aslinger, Director-At-Large	Fleming Training Center Murfreesboro	615-898-8090 james.L.aslinger@state.tn.us	615-898-8064
Mike Trigg, Director-At-Large	Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 572	615-227-5542 local572jtc@msn.com	615-227-5892
Ronnie West ABPA Region 3 Director		910-947-1115 rwestinfotec@earthlink.net	910-947-2496
Rich Koenig ABPA President	Nebraska Dept. of Health Norfolk, NE	402-370-3114 rich.koenig@hhss.state.ne.us	402-370-3493



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 \$70 annually**, and are payable to the TBPA Treasurer. Annual dues include \$20 for Tennessee and \$50 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 38302

All other info requests, inquiries, and newsletter advertisements contact:

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

TBPA West Section News

Ounce of Prevention

Last year's devastating earthquake and subsequent tsunami in the Indian Ocean reminded the world just how deadly those natural forces can be. It also reminded Memphians that they live in the New Madrid fault zone— an area labeled as a high hazard region should an earthquake strike. Experts say it's only a matter of when—not if—the area will suffer another massive earthquake like the ones in 1811-1812, during which the Mississippi River actually ran backwards for a time and the 13,000-acre Reelfoot Lake was formed. While the effects of the next earthquake are hoped to be a long way off, this potential for danger already impacts new construction projects in the Memphis area though seismic mitigation requirements in local and state building codes. And with revisions likely for state and Memphis codes this year, building safely could get a little more expensive, a Memphis structural engineer and an earthquake expert say.

Traditionally, politicians, developers and building owners have resisted code changes, claiming the high cost would make it too expensive to build and would halt economic development. This argument was made in the early 1990s before a previous code revision, says Gary Patterson, the information services director for the University of Memphis' Center for Earthquake Research and Information. "And based on the building boom of the late 1990s, building starts were not adversely impacted by stricter building codes," Patterson says. State officials have been studying the possible adoption of even more stringent building codes as the newer International Building Code.

While cities must abide by any code adopted by the state, Memphis and other larger municipalities can make local exceptions, Patterson says. Memphis officials who are responsible for recommending code changes to local government officials are one such alteration for the seismic requirements of the new IBC code, says structural engineer and seismic mitigation consultant Richard Howe. These officials are waiting until studies or sufficient experiences with the seismic provisions of the new code are available to show if the more stringent requirements have merit, Howe says. "These studies will also shed light on what can be done to minimize cost impact while producing better, safer construction," Howe says.

The new code's impact on final project price for new construction may vary greatly, Howe says. Factors include exact location, building materials and how seismic premiums are defined and determined, especially how costs are determined from a contractual approach, he says. Some sources put the estimated impact on the bottom line at zero to 2%, while others say it could be as high as 20%. "That's too huge a range to even discuss," Howe says. "It all depends on the project and how it is paid for." Howe has had 30 years of experience in structural engineering and has been a vice president and regional manager for the Memphis office of ABC Consulting, an internationally prominent seismic risk management firm. He has worked on well-known Memphis landmarks, such as the FedEx Forum, the National Civil Rights Museum, AutoZone Park and AutoZone's corporate headquarters. AutoZone's building, built 10 years ago, was the first seismically base-isolated building in the central and eastern United States. Base-isolation technology dampens the effect of the ground's movement on the building.

From a seismic risk standpoint, Memphis and the New Madrid area are considered to be a low probability/high risk area, Howe says. This means an earthquake is going to be a rare occurrence here, but it will cause a lot of damage when it does occur. "And it's human nature to be more concerned about risks that are more likely to happen," Howe says. "The key to dealing with it is to recognize the issue on the front-end of a project and deal with it early, so you are not trying to struggle to meet code later in the game."

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Lloyd Rainey
West Section Director

TBPA Board Meeting Update

January 11, 2006

New Officers

New Officers for TBPA were welcomed and took over their offices at the January Board Meeting. They are: Steve Beene - President, Larry Stinnett - Vice President, Kent Bowman - East Director and Lloyd Rainey - West Director. Congratulations to our new officers. Thank you for agreeing to serve in these positions. Also, Thanks to everyone who mailed in ballots.

Welcome to guest Don Bruce from American Contractors, who is now teaching cross connection classes across the state.

Treasurer's report

Balance \$8,052.62 - Annual report presented.

Helmets to Hard Hats Program

Mike Trigg presented information on this program to begin February 17th. This is in support of the military returning from overseas. TBPA may look into setting up an information booth.

Director-At-Large Position

Brent Ogles resigned his position as Director-At-Large to the TBPA Board. Motion was made and passed to appoint Travis Aslinger to fill the position. Travis accepted.

Dues Payment

Motion was made and passed to pay the annual TBPA and ABPA dues for the State representative to the TBPA Board.

National Committee Representative

Eddie O'Neill has been asked to represent TBPA on The Administrative Contract Review Committee. Motion was made and passed. Eddie will attend meetings on behalf of TBPA.

Proctor Classes

Proctor Classes are set to begin in 2006.

Web Site

Wayne Cook will attend classes on web site maintenance and will begin to maintain the TBPA web site.

State Minimum Policy

Travis reported that EPA is starting a regulation proposal for backflow. He is collecting data from other states on their minimum policies. The new Cross Connection Control Manual will be on the State web site by the end of January 2006. Included in July will be Sample plans and the new minimum policy. Board members need to collect information from utilities and backflow personnel on what they would like to see as minimum requirements and bring to the April Board Meeting.

Conference 2006

Tennessee is a possible site for a Regional Conference. More information is needed before we make a decision. Kent and Charlie will continue to check on dates for TBPA's Annual Conference in Nashville or Knoxville.

Newsletter

Liba will continue to produce the newsletter at a cost of \$150 per issue.

Next Board Meeting Date April 5, 2006.

TBPA/ABPA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
American Backflow Prevention Association

NAME: _____
COMPANY: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY/ST/ZIP: _____
PHONE: _____
FAX: _____
E-MAIL: _____

CHECK ONE: RENEWAL: _____ MEMBER # _____
NEW: _____



ABPA DUES: \$50.00
TBPA DUES: 20.00
ANNUAL DUES TOTAL: \$70.00

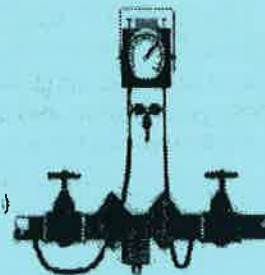
Please remit total to:
Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association

Liba Ford
c/o JEA
P.O. Box 68
Jackson, TN 38302

*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*

Backflow Prevention Assembly Repair Class & Administration and Survey Classes

Who: Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association and Fleming Training Center
What: 2006 Repair Classes & Administration and Survey Classes
When: November 8, 2006 8:00-5:00 Admin. & Survey Class
 December 14, 2006 8:30-4:30 Repair Class
Where: Fleming Training Center, 2022 Blanton Drive, Murfreesboro, TN 37129
Contact: Brent Ogles at (615) 898-8090 or Wayne Cook at (931) 684-5998




Some of the information presented:

- Double Check Valve Assemblies, Reduced Pressure Principle Assemblies, Vacuum Breakers
- Repair of varying device sizes from 3/4" to 4"
- Drawings and handouts available.
- Explanation of assemblies and parts used in repair
- Complete repair of devices and tools needed
- When to repair and when and what to replace
- Starting a Cross Connection Control Program
- Forms and documents for program administration
- Survey instructions and advice
- CD with all covered information
- Continuing Education Credits will be given

Don't miss the opportunity to expand your knowledge on these valuable topics regarding CCC Programs and Assembly Repair.

No cost but class size is limited and **registration is required.**

Please use registration form below, indicating the date (or dates) you wish to attend.

 <p>DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION Training Class / Seminar Registration</p> <p>REGISTRATION REQUIRED Only <u>One</u> Person and <u>One</u> Class/Seminar Per Registration Form!</p>			
<p>Register early! Written registration is <u>required</u> for <u>all</u> classes and seminars. Registrants will be mailed specific information as to location, times, etc., approximately three (3) weeks prior to class. Complete the form below and mail or fax at least thirty (30) days prior to class to: Fleming Training Center - 2022 Blanton Drive - Murfreesboro, TN 37129 Fax: (615) 898-8064 (All faxes should be printed or type written.)</p>			
N/A			
COURSE NUMBER (Mr./Ms)	TITLE OF COURSE	DATES OF COURSE	
NAME	SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER*		
E-MAIL ADDRESS	HOME PHONE		
MAILING ADDRESS: STREET OR PO BOX	CITY	STATE	ZIP
EMPLOYER	WORK PHONE		
PWSID # OF FACILITY WHERE EMPLOYED (if applicable)	NPDES # OF FACILITY WHERE EMPLOYED (if applicable)		
EMPLOYER ADDRESS: STREET	CITY	STATE	ZIP

*In order to complete our administrative activities, we have to ask for certain personal identifying information. It is required that you submit this information under state and federal law, T.C.A. §36-5-711 and 42 USC §654a. This information is for the use of the department and is not disclosed to the public. Your social security number is required for registering or enrolling in classes when the registrant is a certified operator. It is optional whether you comply with any other request we make for a social security number.

Preventing Backflow is Good-Bad on Gardening

By Tony Bertauski

The following article appeared in the Charleston, SC Post & Courier on Sunday 1-29-06.

Some things in life are a good-bad thing. Take my dentist, for instance. She keeps my teeth fixed and cavities filled, but then she sticks a needle into my gums and doesn't let me spit when I have to. It's the price I pay for good teeth.

Another good-bad thing is backflow prevention on irrigation systems. It would seem that an irrigation system is plenty easy, just hook some pipes up to your water line and turn them on. However, this set-up creates a cross-connection, which could potentially pollute or contaminate the integrity of potable water. Your potable water supply, which is water fit to drink, is now connected to a source of contamination. Fertilizer and pesticides can collect around a sprinkler, and if backflow should occur these contaminants can be sucked back through the pipes and into the potable water supply. That's not a good-bad thing, it's all bad.

Backflow is the reversal of the normal direction flow of water. One way this phenomenon can happen is backsiphonage. If you've ever cleaned a fish tank, you know all you need is a hose filled with water with the fish tank higher than the bucket. As long as air doesn't get into the hose, gravity and vacuum draws the water out of the tank.

Here's another example. Say you have one of those really old claw-feet, porcelain bathtubs with the faucet below the rim. You're soaking in the tub, letting the water run, and fall asleep. The water level gets above the faucet at the same time a construction crew breaks the city water main. Now there's a reversal of water flow out the water main, and it siphons all the dirty water out of your bathtub back into the water lines. They stop the leak and patch the pipe. Now when you turn on the sink, you're going to get yummy glass of bathwater.

A more serious example is when you're filling a pesticide sprayer and leave the garden hose submerged in the tank when there's backflow. You'll be sucking Round-up into your house (by the way, a \$7 hose-bib vacuum breaker can be attached to your faucet to prevent this).

In both of these examples, all that's needed to stop the bathwater and pesticides from being sucked into the water supply is air to break the vacuum. But there's another type of backflow called backpressure. This occurs when water is forced back through the pipes. Elevation creates pressure. Every foot of elevation creates about half a pound of water pressure (0.433 PSI to be exact). That's the whole science of water towers - once water is pumped up into the tower, gravity provides free pressure. With backpressure, contaminants will flow back through the pipes until something stops it, whether air is introduced or not. In this case there needs to be a check valve, or what we call a backflow prevention assembly.

In the Charleston Water System service area (formerly the CPW, or Charleston Commissioners of Public Works, which serves about 430,000 customers), there are only two types of backflow-prevention assemblies recognized for lawn irrigation sprinkler systems: Reduced Pressure Principle assembly (RP) and a Pressure Vacuum Breaker (PVB). Here's the good thing about backflow prevention assemblies: When properly installed, they both will prevent the potable water supply from being contaminated.

Here's what many people consider the bad. Both of these components need to be installed above ground with copper pipe. The RP is

required to be at least 12 inches above ground. The PVB has to be installed 12 inches above the highest sprinkler in the system because it is not equipped to handle backpressure. If the highest sprinkler is 10 feet above a PVB, there will be about 5 pounds of backpressure should backflow occur. Now you have an unsightly copper thing sticking up in your yard. You can hide it with shrubs or cover it with one of those fake rocks, but either way, don't forget to insulate it when freezing temperatures get here or you'll end up with a leak.

In order to ensure the protection for everyone connected to the water supply, it is a plumbing code requirement and a CWS ordinance to have a backflow prevention assembly installed and maintained on your irrigation system. The Cross-Connection Control Program here in the Low country is considered a benchmark that other programs follow.

You also are required to have a certified backflow prevention assembly tester to check it every year to be sure it is working properly. To get a list of CWS certified testers or answer any other backflow-related questions, call CWS Cross-Connection manager Dale Strong at 727-6981.

One more good-bad thing. Dentists used to give us jewelry after a teeth cleaning. I loved those things, even if they turned our fingers green.

Tony Bertauski is a horticulture instructor at Trident Technical College.

Web Page: <http://www.charleston.net/stories/?newsID=67717§ion=garden>

Continued from page 1...

concern, that concern has to be communicated to them. The same goes for any action that the Board of Directors may take. The action item has to be communicated back to the membership.

There are two processes in place for the Board of Directors to use to communicate with the membership in their respective Regions. The first process is the Association publication, ABPA News. Each elected Regional Director has the opportunity to use their Directors report as a avenue to keep you, the member, informed about what is transpiring in that respective Region. The other process is their annual visit to the Chapter(s) in their respective Region.

How many of you, the members, knew that your Regional Director is supposed to visit the Chapter(s) in their respective Regions annually? This is just one of the many tasks assigned to your Regional Director.... The Chapter should have all the current information regarding what has happened at the Board of Directors meeting, what the Association Office is doing and what is happening in the various Committees. This information is supposed to be disseminated to the Chapter by their Regional Director.

Each region elected their Regional Director as their representative to the Association Board of Directors. As such, it is that regions responsibility to ensure that they, the entire region, are properly represented by their Regional Director.

I sincerely hope that this will resolve a very serious issue. A failure by any organization to communicate with its members can lead to serious problems in that organization. This Association is only as strong as you the members make it. By communicating with your representatives, we can become even stronger.

NEW TBPA Members

Welcome to the newest members!

Doug Alderman
Josh Creswell
Donnie Ford
Tommy Knowles
Melvin Riddle
Eddie Smith
Randy Wallace

West Knox Utility District
City of Lebanon
Kingsport Water Dept.
Gladeville Utility District
Premier Fire Protection
City of Pulaski Water Dept.
City of Saint Joseph

Knoxville, TN
Lebanon, TN
Kingsport, TN
Lebanon, TN
Bristol, TN
Pulaski, TN
Saint Joseph, TN



Backflow Specialty Co., Inc.
Larry Stinnett
P.O. Box 12162 (865) 688-3171
4611 Central Ave. Pk. Fax: (865) 688-3110
Suite H Mobile: 388-7112
Knoxville, TN 37912 Email: bacflosp@aol.com

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Fax - 662-333-7544 Instrument Technician

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"Together we can protect our drinking water."
Norman H. Zeller Katherine P. Zeller
Mobile: (423) 580-6084 Office: (706) 965-5951
Toll Free: 866-606-9775 Fax: (706) 965-9326
E-mail: backflowtest@catt.com

UA Plumbers & Pipefitters L.U. 572
Joint Apprenticeship Training Program
Nashville, TN
MIKE TRIGG
Training Coordinator
225 Ben Allen Road Bus. Phone: (615)227-5542
Nashville, Tennessee 37207 Fax: (615)227-5892
www.uatn.org/572/572.htm local572jate@mindspring.com

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/>

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) (3 days)
(Textbook: None) Classes are at the Fleming Training Center in Murfreesboro unless otherwise indicated. See Schedule Below.

Cross Connection Control Workshop (RENEWAL) (1 day)
(Textbook: None) Classes are at the Fleming Training Center in Murfreesboro unless otherwise indicated. See Schedule Below.

Cross Connection Control Classes	
No.	Course Name
2103	Cross Connection Control Workshop (BASIC) (3 days) (Textbook: None; approved procedure sent with confirmation letter) • April 25-28 -Kingsport • May 23-26 -Knoxville • July 18-21 -Jackson Change to Fleming Calendar • August 1-4 • August 15-18 - Kingsport • September 19-22 - Knoxville • October 10-13
3102	Cross Connection Control Workshop (RENEWAL) (1 day) (Textbook: None; approved procedure sent with confirmation letter) • April 4-5 - Memphis • April 24-25 - Kingsport • May 22-23 - Knoxville • June 7-8 - Memphis • June 12-13 • July 17-18 - Jackson Change to Fleming Calendar • July 31-Aug.1 • August 14-15 - Kingsport • September 18-19 - Knoxville • October 3-4 - Memphis
	CCC Seminar • November 8 - Administration and Survey Class (1 day) • December 14 - Assemble Repair Class (1 day)

- **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
- **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 eoneill@jaxenergy.com

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ISO 9001 CERTIFIED

TBPA BOARD MEETINGS
APRIL 5TH AND JULY 12TH~ JATC Building, 225 Ben Allen Rd., Nashville, TN
Call 615-227-5542 for information. All Members Welcome.