

Tennessee Backflow News

Winter 2020-2021



NEXT BOARD MEETING

Jan. 13, 2021

Teleconference

+1 862-294-2638

Conference ID:
663 541 400#

Upcoming Events

**TBPA
Conference
Postponed**

**Schedule Change:
National Conference
Charlotte, NC
April 2021**

**More information on
website**

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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

Hello Members of the TBPA,

I hope that all of you, your families, and your co-workers are staying COVID free and healthy in our current situation! I know it has been a trying time for all of us and hope that 2021 is a much better year.

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 all possible contaminations. I wish you all a safe and happy Holiday Season!

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

For news and information from the TBPA, check out our website www.tnbackflow.com and our Facebook page www.facebook.com/tnbackflow.

*Happy
Holidays*



TBPA Board Members



Name	Affiliation	Phone # - Email	Fax #
Bradley Tomlin Past President	Jackson Energy Authority Jackson, TN	731-422-7531 btomlin@jaxenergy.com	731-422-7221
Bill Jennings President	City of Brentwood Water Services Brentwood, TN	615-371-0080 bill.jennings@brentwoodtn.gov	
Jared Gowan Vice President	Jackson Energy Authority Jackson, TN	731-422-7347 jgowan@jaxenergy.com	
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Michael Robeson Director-At-Large / Membership	Morristown Utility Morristown, TN	423-317-6316 mrobeson@musfiber.net	
David Wright Director, West	MLGW Memphis, TN	901-528-4449 dwright@mlgw.org	901-334-5434
David Risner Director, Middle	Murfreesboro Water & Sewer Murfreesboro, TN	615-848-3222 drisner@murfreesborotn.gov	615-848-3244
Kent Bowman Director, East	Bowman Backflow	865-258-2800 kentbowman@comcast.net	
Brent Ogles Director-At-Large	TAUD	615-900-1011 brentogles@taud.org	615-898-8283
Kathy Riley ABPA Region 3 Director	Charlotte, NC	704-293-6859 kriley@ci.charlotte.nc.us	
Frank Snyder ABPA President	Snyder Testing Pleasanton, TX	830-399-3431 snyder75@karnesec.net	

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:
Kimberly Pritchett
109 Wiehl Street
Chattanooga, TN 37403

TBPA / ABPA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Tennessee Backflow Prevention Association
American Backflow Prevention Association



NAME _____

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____

FAX _____

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CHECK ONE: RENEWAL _____ MEMBER # _____ NEW _____

ABPA DUES: \$65.00
TBPA DUES: \$20.00
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 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:

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 Tonia Pass at (615) 900-1000 or ToniaPass@taud.org.

2103 Cross Connection Control Basic Workshop

Duration: 3 days • Class Fee: \$275

(full time employees of public water systems are exempt)

Testing Fee: \$60 (no exemptions)

Murfreesboro

Jan. 20-22 Aug. 18-20

Feb. 10-12 Sep. 15-17

Mar. 24-26 Oct. 13-15

May 12-14 Nov. 17-19

Jun. 9-11 Dec. 1-3

Jul. 14-16 Dec. 15-17

Alcoa

Apr. 13-15

Sep. 28-30

Cookeville

Jun. 22-24

3102 Cross Connection Control Renewal

Duration: 1 day • Class Fee: \$110 *(full time employees of public water systems are exempt)*

Testing Fee: \$60 (no exemptions)

Murfreesboro

Jan. 19 Aug. 17

Feb. 9 Sep. 14

Mar. 23 Oct. 12

May 11 Nov. 16

Jun. 8 Nov. 30

Jul. 13 Dec. 14

Alcoa

Apr. 16

Oct. 1

Cookeville

Jun. 25

Fleming Training Center Notice

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

Basic Cross Connection Class

Murfreesboro

Jan. 6-8

Mar. 29-31

Jun. 23-25

Sep. 8-10

Nov. 17-19

Memphis

Feb. 3-5

Jun. 2-4

Oct. 6-8

Knoxville

Apr. 14-16

Aug. 25-27

Jackson

Sep. 22-24

Kingsport

Mar. 17-19 Oct 20-22

Chattanooga

Feb. 17-19 Jul. 7-9

Clarksville

Jan. 13-16

Renewal Cross Connection Class

Murfreesboro

Jan. 5 Jun. 22

Apr. 1 Sep. 7

Nov. 16

Clarksville

Jan. 12

Memphis

Feb. 2

Jun. 1

Oct. 5

Jackson

Sep. 21

Kingsport

Mar. 16 Oct. 19

Chattanooga

Feb. 16 Jul. 6

Knoxville

Apr. 13 Aug. 24

TAUD Backflow Troubleshooting & Advanced Testing
Dates TBD

Memphis Light Gas & Water

For information and to register for classes contact David Wright at 901-528-4449 or dwright@mlgw.org

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 Howard Burgess at (901) 368-9099 or howard@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
- To list or update your training classes contact Kitty Vaughn at kitty.banks@amwater.com.



Lloyd Rainey
lloyd@midamericamktg.com

901-795-0045 Phone	P.O. Box 750960
800-365-6154 Toll Free	Memphis, Tn 38175
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E-mail: backflowtester@gmail.com Fax: (706) 965-9326

TBPA Board Meeting Update - Oct. 7, 2020

- **Treasurer's report:**
Account Balance \$8,061.43

- **National Conference:**
Conference rescheduled to be held in Charlotte, NC in April 2021.

Old Business:

State response to and requirements concerning COVID-19: Document and return the next month if businesses are closed or are not allowing people in to test (such as at nursing homes)

Many utilities are still not shutting off service for noncompliance. Many are experiencing a fall in the number of tests they are receiving, and are going to start fresh next year. No news from companies currently on travel restrictions due to COVID after the first of the year. It is expected that many will still be working from home.

- **Newsletter:**
All newsletters will now be 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, Abbie Woodson, at abbie.woodson@amwater.com.
- **Next Board meeting:**
Teleconference - January 13, 2021

- **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/>

New Business:

Repair class to be hosted in Memphis when COVID precautions are lifted. Online repair classes in the works. More info to come.

Sanitary Surveys are widely being delayed.

Discussions surrounding the ABPA conference in 2021 are leaning toward an online gathering open to all members in Region 3. Possible reps to include University of California.

TAUD classes have resumed. 35 max. capacity in renewal class in Knoxville; 15-20 max. capacity in Murfreesboro.

TAUD Expo was able to accommodate a sizeable turnout while maintaining social distancing and COVID precautions. Thank you to all who safely participated.

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For questions or more info on classes, please visit or call us today!
www.taud.org 615-900-1000

TAUD Training Station
Keeping you on track!

East Tennessee News

As 2020 comes to an end, I am reflecting back on what a crazy year it has been! The Covid-19 Pandemic has affected all of us in ways we never could have previously imagined. Staying home away from family and friends, work, and normal life in general; and sadly the loss of loved ones and friends due to the disease. I do my best to just keep positive thoughts in my mind and know that I am still blessed!

As we have continued throughout the pandemic to test and repair backflow assemblies, it has been a challenge to gain access to places that have shuttered their doors due to Covid-19. Everyone in the state has to work together in order for us to get our job done. Even though it may have taken us longer to do our job, I think we made the best of our situation and showed tremendous effort in order to show up for the public. Our job is to protect the public water, but also to protect the people around us and ourselves from the spread of Covid. I have a very good friend that works in the Radiology Department of the UT Hospital. Knowing the precautions they take in order to protect the public and their staff is unbelievable! This virus does not discriminate- it can affect us all! Much like my friend and her coworkers, our job is to protect the public. Please be as safe as you can during these times and take the proper precautions!

I have worked a couple of repairs in the past few months where I have found small grains of sand in the valve. This brings up the question: When should we be cleaning the wye strainer, if at all? I have had customers ask me this question for years. In all honestly, if the backflow assembly passed, I really don't have a good answer. Is it like the old saying, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it"? Or is it preventive maintenance? I would love to hear feedback from our reps in our next newsletter! Also remember, what we pass on to the public about backflow prevention is important, so take time to explain to customers if they are unsure about backflow testing or repairs.

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and hope 2021 will be a blessed year for everyone! Stay safe!

-Kent Bowman
East TN Director, TBPA

BOWMAN BACKFLOW

Kent Bowman

Testing and Repair

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Tennessee Backflow Association
TN State Certification #4572*

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THANK YOU TO OUR VENDORS

We would like to say a special "Thank You" to the Vendors that have supported us through this crazy year! The success of our association depends on you and we want you to know how much you are appreciated.

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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!

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

ABPA Harrington / Arthur Memorial Scholarship

2020 - 2021 Essay Contest Topic: *Describe the meaning of backflow prevention and how we can keep our drinking water safe through cross connection control. Identify potential hazards commonly found in a typical residential household and discuss actions needed to correct them.*

Deadline: February 28, 2021

The ABPA Harrington Memorial Scholarship Essay Contest was established to reward students who seek to increase their knowledge and understanding of how cross connection control and backflow prevention help ensure safe drinking water. The Scholarship is available to any high school student 13 to 18 years of age as of December 31st who is a legal resident of the United States or Canada. The essayist is NOT required to be college bound! Award monies can be used for any type of advanced education.

Essays must be submitted based on the required topic with an official application form and must contain 700-1200 words. The winner will receive a \$1,500 scholarship for higher education. Previous winners of the ABPA Harrington Memorial Scholarship Essay Contest are not eligible to be awarded again. Visit the website for Complete Rules and Content information - <https://www.abpa.org/page/Scholarship>



TBPA

Tennessee Backflow Prevention
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Abbie Woodson
c/o Tennessee American Water
109 Wiehl Street
Chattanooga, TN 37403