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Issue 1- Summer 2013

WELCOME to the first issue of **BATalk** - a new way of sharing information with you about Washington State's Backflow Assembly Tester (BAT) certification program. Certified BATs that have provided an email address to Washington Certification Services (WCS) will receive this electronic newsletter several times a year.

ABOUT WASHINGTON CERTIFICATION SERVICES

WCS is a division of Green River Community College in Auburn. As a partnering state agency, we are authorized to administer the State of Washington's BAT certification program and examinations following regulations, policies and procedures established by Washington State Department of Health (DOH) Office of Drinking Water and Waterworks Operator Certification Program.

IMPORTANT UPDATE

Some certified BATs are NOT ELIGIBLE to test assemblies

Effective January 1, 2013 only certified BATs that have passed Washington's practical examination under the USC 10th Edition Field Test Procedures are eligible to test assemblies and submit test report forms to water purveyors. Check the most current online list for BATs holding a 2013 validation card that are not yet eligible to test assemblies. These BATs are still certified, but only under the 9th Edition Field Test Procedures.

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

Professional growth requirement reporting periods

BATs certified before January 1, 2013 have until December 31, 2015 to meet the professional growth requirement. Anyone that became certified after January 1, 2013 has until December 31, 2018 to meet the requirement the first time.

You can check your certification and professional growth status online.

Why wait? Take your professional growth exam now!!

BATs can apply for and pass the professional growth examination **any time during their reporting period**. There is no need to wait... apply for your professional growth exam soon and take advantage of the benefits.

- **Less stress!!** Pass the exam early and forget about it until your next reporting period
- **Retain more of the knowledge and skill** from your last exam and from training you may have already taken
- Have **more flexibility** in selecting an exam date and location
- If you do not pass you have **plenty of time for additional practice** or training

UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION

Keep your contact information current

To make sure you always receive important information from WCS and DOH about your certification, notify WCS any time there is a change to your contact information. To update your email address or other contact information you must complete and **Information Change Form** and mail it to WCS.

Washington Certification Services (WCS)
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