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Issue 2 - Fall 2013

WELCOME to **BATalk** - an e-newsletter designed to share important certification program information with Washington's certified Backflow Assembly Testers (BAT). Certified BATs that have provided Washington Certification Services (WCS) with an email address will receive BATalk several times a year.

BAT RENEWAL NOTICES ARE IN THE MAIL

It's that time of year again... annual **BAT Certification Renewal Notices** have been sent to all certified BATs via USPS mail, and by now you should have received your first notice. Remember to pay the \$42.00 fee by the first deadline date in order to avoid late fees and loss of your certification. Just return the bottom portion of the renewal notice with your check or money order payable to GRCC/BAT. We've included a self-addressed envelope this year to make it even easier! To request a replacement copy of your renewal notice contact WCS.

IMPORTANT UPDATE

The format of the BAT certification exam has changed.

Washington's BAT certification exam consists of two parts. Applicant must pass both parts to become certified. Starting in January 2014 the practical (hands-on) part of the examination will be administered by WCS. Applicants that pass the practical exam will be eligible to apply to take the computer-based (written) part of the exam administered by Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc. (AMP).

Learn more online about the changes to the [BAT certification exam](#) and [how to apply](#).

CERTIFICATION RULE REVISED

The [Waterworks Operator Certification Program Rule \(WAC 246-292\)](#) has been revised and is expected to be adopted in December 2013, with implementation beginning in January 2014. Most of the proposed changes to the Rule are simply putting into regulation what has already been in guidance for a number of years. However, two significant sections will directly impact backflow assembly testers; new section 034, "Duties of a BAT" and 036, "Backflow Preventer Inspection and Field Test Report Content." [Read more...](#)

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

The first year of the three-year professional growth period for BATs certified before January 1, 2013 is nearly over. BATs certified after January 1, 2013 have until December 31, 2018 to meet the requirement the first time. You can [check your certification and professional growth status](#) online.

BATs can apply for and pass the professional growth exam **any time during their reporting period**. Meeting the requirement earlier in your reporting period will not change the date of your next reporting period. With only two years remaining for most BATs, there is no need to wait!

[Apply for your professional growth exam](#) now.

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 the Waterworks Operator Certification Program.

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