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Issue 4 - Spring 2014

WELCOME to **BATalk** - an e-newsletter designed to share important certification program information with Washington's certified Backflow Assembly Testers (BAT) with an email on record with Washington Certification Services (WCS). For more information about the topics in this issue, just click on the link in each article. To update your email address you must complete an **Information Change Form** and mail it to WCS.

IMPORTANT UPDATE

Information BATs need to know about field test kits

Does your lab meet standards for verifying accuracy?

WAC 246-292-034 requires a BAT to use a field test kit that has been evaluated for performance, pressure-tested, and checked for accuracy:

- At least once within the twelve month period before the inspection and field test date; and
- By an independent laboratory that meets criteria and uses procedures specified in Appendix A, Section A.7 of the *Manual of Cross Connection Control, 10th Edition* published

by [University of Southern California](#).

What does the water purveyor require?

BATs must submit laboratory-issued documentation to the purveyor that verifies the accuracy of the field test kit and provides the results of the pressure testing.

What test kits can be used during a BAT exam?

WCS provides field test kits for applicant use at each examination site. Learn more online about the types of [test kits](#) available, including the new lighter test kit, and the requirements for applicants that want to use their own test kit.

FREE ONLINE LIST OF APPROVED ASSEMBLIES

DOH no longer publishes a list of approved backflow assemblies. The [list of DOH-approved backflow assemblies](#) can now be viewed online and downloaded directly from the University of Southern California. BATs can access the information needed to complete a field test report while they are onsite from a mobile device. The Excel version of the list can be filtered to provide only the exact data needed, such as a specific type of assembly.

MINIMUM EDUCATION REQUIREMENT IN NEW RULE

[WAC 246-292-060](#) now requires applicants for the BAT certification examination to meet a minimum education requirement. A high school diploma or GED (twelve years of education) is required to be eligible to take the examination, but some substitutions may be accepted. Learn more online about [substituting water-related experience](#) for education through twelfth grade.

WATER PURVEYOR RESPONSIBILITIES OF BACKFLOW TESTING

WAC 246-290-490 specifically requires water purveyors to ensure the inspection and testing of backflow assemblies that protect the public water system. If a purveyor suspects a BAT of fraudulent testing, it is their responsibility to take appropriate action. Water purveyors and employers of BATs can **[learn more on the WCS web page](#)**.

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