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#### Contact Us:

#### Washington Certification Services

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[www.wacertservices.org](http://www.wacertservices.org)

Issue 9 - Summer 2015

*BATalk* - is an electronic newsletter sharing important certification program information with Washington's Backflow Assembly Testers (BAT).

#### IMPORTANT UPDATE

#### *ONLY 5 MONTHS LEFT TO PASS PROFESSIONAL GROWTH EXAM*



The clock is ticking and time is running out. BATs certified before January 1, 2013 only have until December 31st to pass the professional growth examination. Check your [professional growth status online](#) and [apply](#) for the examination now using the [new application form](#).

*If you don't pass the professional growth examination by December 31st your certificate will be inactivated.*

If you were certified after January 1, 2013 you have until December 31, 2018 to meet the requirement for the first time, but **there is still no need to wait**. You can meet your requirement ANY TIME between now and your 2018 professional growth deadline.

## EXAMINATION LOCATIONS



To make it more convenient to meet your professional growth requirement, Yakima and Bellingham have been added as new locations. September examination dates in the new locations are now open for enrollment and more may be scheduled in the future based on demand. Washington Certification Services is evaluating other new locations for administering occasional exams in addition to Auburn, Spokane and Vancouver. Check the [online schedule](#) for the most current exam dates and locations.

## ARE YOU A BAT EMPLOYER OR WATER PURVEYOR?

Washington Certification Services receives many calls from employers that are trying to enroll an individual in a BAT examination, and from purveyors with questions about the certification status of a tester. A section of our web page has information specifically designed to [answer your questions](#) and provide you with the information you need.

*Applications must be completed and signed by the applicant. All examination and certification-related information and communication are directed ONLY to the individual applying for or maintaining certification as a BAT, not to an employer.*

If an employer chooses to pay BAT examination or renewal fees, it is an agreement between the employer and an employee. It does not infer any additional rights to the employer related to an individual's BAT application or certification.

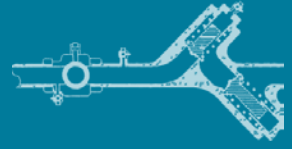
## DOH WELCOMES NEW CERTIFICATION PROGRAM STAFF



Department of Health is excited to welcome its new Distribution and Cross Connection Control Specialist. Bill Bernier comes to the Office of Drinking Water from Northwest Water Systems where he worked since 2006 as an Engineering Technician and certified operator. He is certified as a Water Distribution Manager and Cross Connection Control Specialist.

Bill's addition to the team will support the Department's expansion of its field presence offering new technical assistance opportunities to operators, water systems, and their decision makers. His efforts will be focusing on issues around distribution, cross connection control and the backflow prevention programs. Bill can be reached at 360-236-3562.

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