

Perspectives in Waterworks OpCert

Offered by Washington Certification Services (WCS)



Event Time: 9:00am - 12:30pm PST

Event Date: October 20th, 2025

[Link to Zoom Meeting](#)

Passcode: Water

CEUs Approved: 0.3

9:00-9:15 **Welcome & Introductions**

(15 min)

9:15-9:30 **"Growing Your Water Operator Career"**

(15 min)

Eric Shea - Washington Environmental Training Center (WETRC)

Explore professional development options through the lens of developing industry-specific competency.

9:30-10:00 **"The Certification Cycle: Strategies to Stay Ahead of Expiration"**

(30 min)

Wednesday Smith - City of Kirkland Public Works

Provide water operators with practical strategies to manage and maintain their professional certifications, such as BAT, CCS, and WDM.

10:00-10:15 Poll for Attendance

(15 min)

Questions

Break

10:15-10:20 **"Workforce Development: Water Quality and Technology"**

(5 min)

Caleb Trammell - Umpqua Community College

Quick overview of Umpqua Community College's Water Quality & Technology program

10:20-10:35 **"ERWOW Programs"**

(15 min)

Tracey Hunter - Evergreen Rural Water of Washington (ERWOW)

Gain insight on ERWOW's 2 year apprenticeship program, 1 year QUEST program and the new apprenticeship preparation program for high school students.

10:35-10:50 **"Building a Stronger Workforce: Tacoma Water's Apprenticeship Program"**

(15 min)

Shantel Broussard - Tacoma Water

This session will provide an inside look at how Tacoma Water's Apprenticeship Program supports operator certification. Attendees will gain insight on the structure, benefits and outcomes of the program.

10:50-11:05 Poll for Attendance

(15 min)

Questions

Break

11:05-11:20 (15 min)	"Washington State Department of Health Update" Bill Bernier - Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water (DOH ODW) This session will offer a "State of the Industry" from a regulatory perspective. Understanding the importance of certified operators and evaluating trends will allow participants to have a greater understanding of their role in the industry and what they can do to prepare for the future.
11:20-11:35 (15 min)	"Who's Who in Waterworks Opcert" Rachel Neville - Washington Certification Services (WCS) Gain understanding on how WCS supports certified waterworks operators and collaborates with DOH and WETRC to drive the operator certification program.
11:35-11:50 (15 min)	"BAT Program at WCS" Tiffany Miller - Washington Certification Services (WCS) Overview of the Backflow Assembly Tester program managed by WCS.
11:50-12:05 (15 min)	"Waterworks Application Tips & Tools" Evelyn Ramirez - Washington Certification Services (WCS) Everything from helpful reminders to spoiler alerts for upcoming changes in Washington state's drinking water certification application.
12:05-12:20 (15 min)	"Professional Growth for Waterworks Operators" Nicolette Peterson - Washington Certification Services (WCS) You're certified, now what? Learn ways to meet your professional growth requirement, access and understand your online transcript, and refresh on WCS/DOH fees, policies, and due dates.
12:20-12:30 (10 min)	Poll for Attendance Questions Wrap up