



PATRICK DWYER, DIRECTOR
FLEMING TRAINING CENTER
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April 9, 2020

Dear Certified Backflow Assembly Tester,

You are receiving this letter because you are certified as a Cross-Connection Control and Backflow Assembly Tester whose certification has expired or will expire soon. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 virus, the Fleming Training Center and other approved training providers have postponed or limited Cross Connection Control training courses. Due to this, many Certified Cross-Connection Control & Backflow Assembly Testers (testers) were not able to attend the required Cross-Connection Control renewal course for recertification prior to their expiration.

Because cross-connection control and backflow assembly testing is a critical component of protecting public health and environment, the TN Department of Environment and Conservation (the Department) is granting an extension to all certificates with an expiration date of March 1, 2020 or later until September 30, 2020. This extension of the expiration of these certificates is in response to the reduced recertification training opportunities. This extension will allow certified testers to continue to conduct required evaluations of backflow prevention assemblies until September 30, 2020.

In addition, all certificates with Grace Periods ending March 1, 2020 or later will be granted an extension of the Grace Period until September 30, 2020. This extension only applies to the Grace Period for these certificates and does not make the certificate active. A certified tester in their Grace Period has exceeded the three year issuance of the certificate and is not allowed to conduct backflow assembly testing. Since recertification training opportunities are limited at this time, the Grace Period extension will allow additional time for a tester to renew their certificate by attending a state approved renewal course by September 30, 2020.

Between now and September 30, 2020, you are required to attend a state approved Cross-Connection Control Renewal Course to renew your certification. Your successful completion of this course will renew your certification effective on that date. As of October 1, 2020, all testing certificates affected by the expiration extension that have not been renewed will expire. As of October 1, 2020, all testing certificates affected by the Grace Period extension shall become invalid.

The Department appreciates your contribution to protecting public health and environment in Tennessee. If you have questions, please contact our office at 615.898.6508 or via email at Benjamin.Rodriguez@tn.gov.

Sincerely,

Patrick Dwyer