



## **CROSS CONNECTION SPECIALIST UPDATE COURSE COURSE OUTLINE AND AGENDA**

### **Course Description**

The course is intended to provide the currently certified cross connection control specialist with the information required for renewal of their Cross Connection Specialist certification from the State of Oregon, Oregon Health Authority, Cross Connection/Backflow Prevention Program. This course is also applicable to water distribution operators and water treatment operators to understand the hazards associated with cross connections to the public water supply and to meet Drinking Water Services Oregon Administrative rules for establishing and maintaining cross connection control programs within their water systems.

### **Objective**

This course is also designed to meet the regulatory agency requirements for renewal as specified under Oregon Administrative Rules or for an individual certified as a Specialist in another state to apply for certification in Oregon through the OHA reciprocity rules. This is an update course designed to review rule changes, testing procedures and safety awareness. Current issues, industry standards and trends are presented to keep specialists up to date. Questions and discussions about unique situations are encouraged.

### **Instructors**

- Garrett Yates
- Ray Johnson
- Mary Howell

### **Target Audience**

1. Cross Connection Specialists renewing their OHA-issued certification.
2. Cross Connection Specialists from other states applying for Oregon Specialist certification under reciprocity rules in Oregon.
3. Plumbers and plumbing inspectors needing to update their knowledge about cross connection control, survey techniques and testing requirements.
4. Water distribution managers and water treatment operators to understand the hazards associated with cross connections to the public water supply and to meet rules for establishing and maintaining cross connection control programs within their water systems.

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## Text manuals and materials

- Chapter 6, “Water Supply and Distribution”, *Uniform Plumbing Code*, Int’l Assoc. of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, current Oregon adopted Edition.
- Hand-out of current state regulations and cross connection control requirements as specified by the regulatory agency, OHA.
- Overhead projection of text materials, samples of various backflow prevention assemblies and devices, posters of assemblies as schematics and also under operating conditions with failures illustrated.
- “Summary of Backflow Incidents”, PNWS-AWWA, and other current backflow incident documentation.
- Available reference materials: USC Manual of Cross Connection Control, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition; Backflow Prevention Theory and Practice University of Florida TREEO; Recommended Practice for Backflow Prevention and Cross Connection Control M14 AWWA; Cross Connection Control Manual 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, PNWS-AWWA; and Cross Connection Control Manual EPA.

## **Course Agenda** - 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, 1 hour lunch, 2 – 15-minute breaks

1. Discussion and review of current federal, state and local regulations as they apply to cross connection specialists and backflow assembly testing. Handout of most current OHA Administrative Rules. **1 Hour**
2. Discussion and review of recent backflow incidents, survey techniques, specialist safety and current topical issues and trends in the industry. **1 Hour**
3. Review of state requirements such as cross connection control ordinances, written program plans, water system annual fees and annual summary reports. **1 Hour**
4. Question and answer period to address student experiences and concerns. **1 Hour**
5. Discussion of customer relations, preparing staff to understand and answer customer questions. Discussion about public education materials and distribution options. **1 Hour**
6. Review of new industry information, current test procedures, backflow products and approvals. Discussion on managing a quality assurance/quality control tester program. **1 Hour**

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