



Connecticut Water Pollution Abatement Association

Dedicated to the pursuit of pure water...

CWPAA Education Committee Continuing Education Program Update

Manager's Forum

November 17, 2016



Why a Continuing Education Program

- Chronically poor certification testing results
- Brain drain: aging workforce and retirements creating higher turnover in coming years
- Increasingly complex facilities require advanced knowledge to operate effectively and meet stringent discharge standards
- Major CWF investments need to be protected

2016 Operator Exam Results

	CLASS I	CLASS II	CLASS III	CLASS IV
	JANUARY	2016		
JANUARY 2016 All Examinees, Passed:	44% 15 of 34	67% 16 of 24	30% 9 of 30	18% 3 of 17
JANUARY 2016 Repeat Examinees, Passed:	0% 0 OF 15	33% 3 OF 9	19% 3 OF 16	33% 1 OF 3
	JULY	2016		
JULY 2016 All Examinees, Passed:	54% 21 of 39	75% 18 of 24	32% 10 of 31	16% 3 of 19



Potential Continuing Education Program

- CWPAA Education Committee coordinating with DEEP, CAC & CAWPCA
- Existing Wastewater Operator Certification statute needs to be amended
 - *Enact legislative amendment*
 - *Amend regulations to add new program*
 - *Fairly lengthy process (estimated 3 years)*
- CWPAA is drafting proposed changes to statute
- CAC oversees the certification program



Requirements in Other New England States

New England States						
Wastewater Operator Continuing Education Programs						
Summary of Requirements*						
State	Fee	Renewal Fee	Renewal Frequency (yr.s)	Cont. Ed. Reqmt. Hours	Program Administrator	Comments
Maine	\$175	\$75	2	18	JETCC (certification & renewal)	Training provided JETCC, NEIWPC, Maine Rural Water, ME Water Utilities; submit supporting documents w/renewal
New Hampshire	\$50	\$50	2	20	DES	Submit supporting documents w/renewal; training hours granted for Operator Exchange, Ops Challenge
Vermont	\$110	\$110	5	40	DEC	Operator licensing is encouraged but voluntary (emphasis on experience); training hours submitted by instructors to DEC
Massachusetts	\$80	\$70	2	20	NEIWPC (licensing & renewal)	Fees paid directly to NEIWPC; must document training hours in renewal application
Rhode Island	\$10	\$10	2	none	DEM	

* Prepared by CWPAA

CWPAA Proposed Continuing Education Program Details

- 1.8 CEUs (= 18 contact hours = 3 six-hour classes)
- 3 year renewal period
- Safety/CPR Renewals can be repeated, once each renewal period
- Provision for retaining license if not actively working in industry (require additional CEUs)
- Auditing for compliance
- Electronic examinations
- Cost: TBD
- Administration: TBD (Possibly outside organization)

CWPAA Proposed Continuing Education Program

- Requires support of management, for time out of plant & budgeting training costs
 - *This needs your support*
- Funds available from CWPAA to assist with training costs for CWPAA members
- Potential training partners NEIWPCC, ASRWWA, ConnOSHA, CAWPCA, CWPAA, NEWEA, others
- Eligible classes to be approved by CAC

CWPAA Proposed Continuing Education Program

- This initiative needs DEEP & CAC to support legislation
- This initiative needs DEEP & CAC to support development of the regulations
- Other stakeholders: CWPAA, CAWPCA
 - *Need commitment of the four stakeholders to actively work together for success*
- You need to make your opinion known



Questions & Discussion