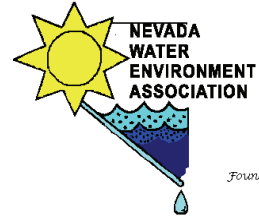




CERTIFICATION NEWS



Volume 1, Issue 3

November 2003

The Grade V Wastewater Operator Exam Eliminated

On September 11, 2002, the State of Nevada Environmental Commission met in Reno. The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection presented regulation changes that would eliminate the Wastewater Grade V certification exam from the Operator Certification program. Leo Drozdoff presented for NDEP and Starlin Jones represented the certification board.

After a few questions were entertained, the Environmental Commission voted unanimously to amend regulations NAC 445A.292 and 445A.90 to eliminate the Grade V Wastewater Operator Certification Exam. Minor language changes and NAC statuettes regarding persons in responsible charge were also amended.

A new brochure with all the

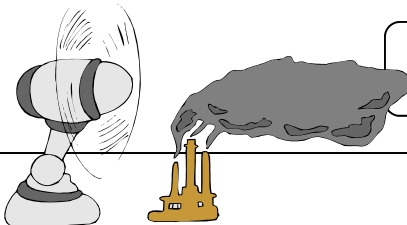
regulation changes has been created. The new updated Certification brochure will be distributed throughout treatment facilities in Nevada.

Anyone who is currently certified as a Grade V in Nevada, will stay certified at that level; however, the certificate must be renewed every two years.

This has been a long process, we thank all persons involved.

Special Thanks to Diane West

The certification board would like to recognize and give special thanks to Diane West for her 20 plus years of dedication and service to the Nevada Water and Environment Association and the Certification Board. Diane is employed at the Las Vegas Valley Water district while at the same time worked as the Assistant Program Administrator for Certification Board. Diane's hard work and commitment throughout the years helped make the certification board a success. We will miss Diane and wish her the best.



Industrial Waste Inspector Exams

John Solvie is employed for the City of Las Vegas Water Pollution Control Facility. John has been working diligently on changes to the Industrial Waste exams.

In the past, some of the exam questions were determined to not quite meet an industrial waste inspectors job description. The

questions on the exams were repetitive. There were also some other deficiency's that were noted.

Since John is one of the few Grade IV Industrial Waste certificate holders, he volunteered to work with the Association of Boards of Certification and is in the process of reviewing all exam levels.

The new and improved In-

dustrial Waste Exams were given in October 2002. I had the opportunity to ask an examinee what they thought of the exam. The person found the exam to be applicable to the job and had no complaints.

John also attended the ABC conference in New Mexico this past January. John will continue to review and fine tune the exams. The Board thanks John for

Wastewater Operator Test Questions

Grade I

1. A wastewater treatment plant receives an influent flow. At what velocity does grit settle out?
 - A. 2-3 ft/sec
 - B. 4-5 ft/sec
 - C. Less than 2 ft/sec
 - D. Greater than 5 ft/sec

Grade II

2. Which of the following best describes the most important element of a safety program?
 - A. Having an onsite safety officer
 - B. Developing proper employee attitudes
 - C. Reprimanding employees for unsafe acts
 - D. Holding tailgate meeting and issuing safety bulletins.

Grade III

3. Which microscopic organisms will be found in a stable activated sludge process?
 - A. Nematodes, rotifers, ciliates, flagellates and amoeboids
 - B. Flagellates, and amoeboid organisms
 - C. Flagellates and free-swimming ciliates but no stalk ciliates
 - D. Free-swimming ciliates, some flagellates and rotifers

Grade IV

4. What is the most likely cause of a tertiary filter problem given the following data?

Data:

Filter level is normal

Influent valve is normal

Effluents valve is 60% open

Rate of filter flow is 20%

 - A. Filter needs backwashing
 - B. Effluent valve open too much
 - C. Rate of flow is too low
 - D. Filter needs new media

What is the best resource available for certified professionals in the Nevada?

Answer your certification needs?

Visit!!!!

NVWEA.ORG

Go to the Nevada Water and Environment Association Website certification link to get information and download applications. Plus much more!



The NWEA website is a great resource! The website is updated more frequently, check out the What's New Section hyperlink. The certification link has a list of all the certified wastewater professionals in Nevada and has contact people that may provide information you may need. A link exists with the Association Boards of Certification.

The certification home page has a hyperlink Contact Us: click on it and you will be able to contact the board. The NWEA home page has a hyperlink calendar that lists upcoming educational opportunities and events. Enjoy this valuable resource. ITS FREE !!

Certification Board News



The certification board is made up of volunteers from different geographic locations and

facility sizes throughout the state.

The State of Nevada Certification Board meets once every quarter, two times in Reno/Carson City and

twice in Las Vegas.

We discuss issues that arise and strive to improve the quality of service to the people we represent: Wastewater operators, Industrial Waste inspectors and Quality Analysts.

This past year we reviewed the testing process and exams. The Grade I wastewater exam was reviewed and the board determined to use the new standard exams as opposed to the prescriptive exams.

The prescriptive exams are made up from a pool of questions that a designated board member may chose. Standardized exams are made up by ABC. The standardized exams are used in a high percentage of states.

ABC reviews the exams once a year and updates test questions that selected people review. This new standardized test will improve Nevada's testing program.

Certification Board

Chairman

Leo Drozdoff (775) 687-9416
ext 3142

Vice Chairman

Tim Smith (702) 565-2048

Program Administrator

Bill Shepherd (702) 450-4417

Vice Program Administrator

Jennifer McMartin (775) 465-2045

Board Members

Steve Cottrell (702) 293-4134
Harvey Johnson (775) 832-1289
Starlin Jones (775) 861-4104
Pete Rozis (775) 289-2150
Diana Silsby (775) 687-9438

Certification Fees

Make checks payable to NWEA.
mail checks, correspondence, applications and renewals to the:

**Certification Board
P.O. BOX 190
Smith, NV 89430**

Renewals \$30

Renewal notices are mailed at least 30 days before expiration; please call the Hotline if you don't receive the fee extends certification for two-year period

Examinations \$60

Proctored in Las Vegas, Reno, and Ely on the second Thursday of March, June, September and December, Elko is by appointment only; application deadline is 30 days prior to exam dates.

Reciprocity \$75

Be sure to include a copy of your certificates that clearly show the expiration date

Operator-in-Training \$60

Valid for two years and renewable after that. Includes cost of Grade I exam. Converts to Grade I with proof of one year's experience and 6 CEU's.

Replacement Certificate \$20

Certification Calendar

Note: All exams Have been moved back one month effective 12/03

March 11, 2004

March 12, 2004

April 22, 2004

May 10, 2004

May 24, 2004

June 02, 2003

June 10, 2004

July 22, 2004

August 9, 2004

August 23, 2004

September 1, 2004

September 9, 2004

October 21, 2004

November 9, 2004

November 23, 2004

December 1, 2004

December 9, 2004

January 20, 2005

February 10, 2005

February 24, 2005

March 2, 2005

Examination

North NRWA Conference

Notification of pass or Fail

Application deadline for June exam

Test approval/denial notification

March certificates mailed

Examination

Notification of pass or Fail

Application deadline for Sept. exam

Test approval/denial notification

June certificates mailed

Examination

Notification of pass or Fail

Application deadline for Dec. exam

Test approval/denial notification

September certificates mailed

Examination

Notification of pass or Fail

Application deadline for March. exam

Test approval/denial notification

December certificates mailed

The Certification Board Welcomes Jennifer McMartin

We are pleased to announce Jennifer McMartin as the new Assistant Program Administrator replacing Diane West, May 2003. Jennifer was previously employed by NDEP in the Compliance Section. She has previous Certification Board Experience and is a great addition to the Board.



NEW HOTLINE

(775) 465-2045



The Hotline is available weekdays M-F. If Jennifer is not available to take your call, please leave a message and she will get back to you usually within 24 hours. The Hotline is also able to receive faxes at the same number. Check out the website nvwea.org

COMING SOON !

Nevada is going to offer Collection System Operator and Industrial Waste Operator Exams in the near future. The Board is working on the brochure. The exams will be ABC Standardized exams.

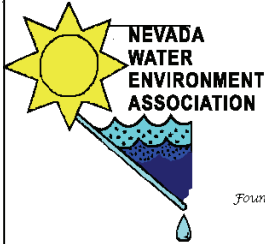
Stay tuned for more details!

(FYI) This is the last time the Certification Newsletter will be mailed out in a paper format. In the future you will receive this newsletter either by e-mail or can download it from our website.

Nevada Water Environment Assoc., Inc.
 Certification Board
 5740 S Eastern Ste 120
 Las Vegas NV 89119-3049

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The Certification Board extends their appreciation to the Nevada Water and Environment Association for contributing the website modules and funds to buy the operator pins.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE WHO PASSED THEIR EXAMS IN 2003!

Exam Statistics

WW Grade OIT/I

Darel C. Barlow
 Tony Buttram
 Sandy Davis
 Ray A. Dummar
 Tim Farquhar
 Jonathan Farnsworth
 Paul F. Garcia
 Bryan Hickstein
 Andrew L. Joyner
 Janene VanDeroef
 Joseph Marquez
WW Grade I
 Nathan R. Adams
 Bryan R. Ambrose
 Gary Blackwelder
 Curtis L. Duff
 Lyman E. Ellis
 Joe E. Elsea
 Thomas Glab
 Jeffrey Hansen
 Robert Hopkins
 Adrian Johnson
 Travis Jones
 Stephen Long
 Joseph Maez
 Michael Oberlin
 Adrian Sandoval
 Edward Shafer
 Kurt A. Wright
 Jeffrey Aston
 Mathew Brower
 Robert Cummings
 Tim Gibson,
 Mahaney, John
 Daniel Van Dyke
 Albert Van Dyke

WW Grade II

Deborah J. Chilcote
 Casey L. Kelly
 Robin Dunham
 Stephen Long
 Timothy G. Sheets
 Mary Kathleen Webb
 Curtis Duff
 David Sarti
 Albert Van Dyke
 Ricky Woodard

WW Grade III

Karl P. Gieszl
 Daniel Grillett
 Kylie Hatch
 Noel W. Huber
 Fritz-Peter Sawyer
 Thomas A. Wurth
 Michael Haddenham
 Russ Lindell

WW Grade IV

Wesley Keith Johnson
 Mitchell A. Kidd
 Dean A Welch
 John Edenburn
 Ken Mallory
 Ronald Sahlberg

Quality Analyst I

Michael E. Arrasate
 Rajayee F. Sayegh

Quality Analyst II

Michael Arrasate

Quality Analyst III

Lillie A. Fleming

Answers to quiz:
 1= C, 2 = B, 3= A, 4 = A

IW Grade OIT/I

Alan W. Hart
 Kim C. Laber
 Fritz-Peter Sawyer
IW Grade I
 Michael Lupan
IW Grade II
 Thomas Rura

NEW!!!

Certified Operator, QA and IW Inspectors, self laminating wallet ID cards are being distributed when you renew your certification or reach a higher grade level. If you renewed before six months ago, you will have to wait until your next renewal to receive an ID card. Enjoy!

2003	Grade	No. of	Passed
WW Treatment Operator	I	60	53%
	II	18	56%
	III	30	27%
	IV	19	32%
Total		127	44%
WW Quality Analyst	I	3	67%
	II	3	33%
	III	1	100%
	IV	0	0
Total		7	57%
Industrial Waste Inspector	I	4	80%
	II	1	100%
	III	0	0
	IV	0	0
Total		6	83%

IMPORTANT REMINDER! If you have changed addresses it is your responsibility to notify the Assistant Program Administrator of your new mailing address. If your address changes and we are not notified, the renewal notice comes back. The Board has no way of notifying you. After one year, your certificate will be decertified. Once your certificate is decertified you must reapply plus take and pass the grade level you were previously certified.

Please don't let this happen to you!