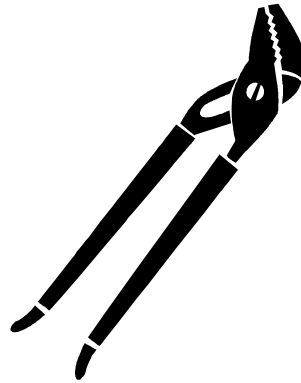




**Georgia
Association of
Water
Professionals**

GAWP Water/Wastewater Maintenance Technologist Certification Program Guidance Manual



August 2009

Administered By:

Georgia Association of Water Professionals

1655 Enterprise Way

Marietta, Ga. 30067

(P) 770-618-8690 * (F) 770-618-8695

www.gawp.org

OBJECTIVE:

Municipalities and water authorities have invested substantial sums of money in water and wastewater treatment plants and infrastructure. Recognizing that these investments need to be protected, the Georgia Association of Water Professionals has created and will be administrating a voluntary certification program for Water / Wastewater Plant Maintenance Technologists.

The goals of this program are to:

1. Insure the individuals maintaining and repairing the equipment and infrastructure components are competent to do so.
2. Elevate the professionalism of the maintenance technologist.
3. Appropriately maintain the equipment & infrastructure of the community through proper stewardship.
4. Assist in employee retention and further maintenance related career growth.

STEERING COMMITTEE:

Oversight of this program will be provided by the GAWP Maintenance Technologist Certification Program (MTCP) Steering Committee within GAWP. Any questions related to this program such as training requirements, certification issues and other items should be directed to the GAWP Office and will be forwarded to the MTCP Steering Committee. The steering committee will be comprised of the committee chair and four (4) additional members of the GAWP Maintenance Committee. A listing of the MTCP Steering Committee can be found on the GAWP website.

ADMINISTRATION:

The Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) will administer the GAWP Water/Wastewater Maintenance Technologist Certification Program utilizing examinations which will be provided by the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC). The certification and re-certification procedures for the approved programs in Georgia are described below.

Anyone taking their initial exam must complete a 24-hour (minimum) course approved by the MTCP Steering Committee prior to taking the exam; however, any personnel who currently hold a valid certification in one or more of the categories below would not be required to take the course prior to taking the Class IV Maintenance Technologist Exam. **

A Georgia State Certification in one of the following:

- Electrical
- HVAC
- Plumbing
- Water Treatment (Class III, II, I)
- Wastewater Treatment (Class III, II, I)

**** Program Startup – Grandfather Option for Current Maintenance Personnel:**

From this time until the renewal date of June 30, 2013, any person that is employed in the tasks of maintenance of water or waste water treatment plants, sewer conveyance and water distribution maintenance, if they feel qualified, can take the level IV Maintenance Technologist Certification exam without attendance of the 24-hour training. Should any individual pass the level IV test they will then be qualified to take the level III Maintenance Technologist Certification exam without time or training requirements, as currently documented in the Maintenance Technologist Certification progression document. This “Grandfathering Program Startup” will not be available after June 30, 2013.

APPROVED MAINTENANCE TRAINING FACILITIES:

Training facilities must be pre-approved by the MTCP Steering committee in order to receive credit for maintenance training toward the GAWP - Water/Wastewater Maintenance Technologist Certification Program. If you wish to be listed as an approved trainer and/or training facility, please submit a hard copy of the follow to the GAWP office.

- Instructor and/or Training Facility Resume
- All Instructor Training materials
- All Student Training Materials
- Any and all reference materials related to the training course
- Copy of any Power Point or any other type of media used in training course

Once the materials have been received by the GAWP Office, the materials will be distributed to the MTCP Steering committee for review and you will be contacted by our office.

Current Approved Training Facilities:

Georgia Water & Wastewater Inst.
301 Ole Hickory Trail, North
Carrollton, GA 30117
(770) 214-0153
www.gwwi.org

Additional Course providers are approved on a case by case basis. Contact our office to obtain the most up to-date list of approved training providers.

GAWP - *Water/Wastewater Maintenance Technologist Certification Program*
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CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Class	Education	Experience	Training
Class IV	High school diploma, GED, or equivalent	Six (6) months of acceptable maintenance experience in a water or wastewater system.	24 hours of maintenance related training from multi areas of <i>Needs to Know Criteria</i> .*
Class III	High school diploma, GED, or equivalent	One (1) year of acceptable maintenance experience in a water or wastewater system.	16 hours of additional maintenance related training from multi areas of <i>Needs to Know Criteria</i> .* (40 total hours of training)
Class II	High school diploma, GED, or equivalent	Two (2) years of acceptable maintenance experience in a water or wastewater system.	32 hours of additional maintenance related training from multi areas of <i>Needs to Know Criteria</i> .* (72 total hours of training)
Class I	High school diploma, GED, or equivalent	Three (3) years of acceptable maintenance experience in a water or wastewater system.	48 hours of additional maintenance related training from multi areas of <i>Needs to Know Criteria</i> .* (120 total hours of training)

*Needs to Know Criteria can be found at http://www.abccert.org/testing_services/need_to_know_criteria.asp

INITIAL EXAMS:

Georgia Water/Wastewater Maintenance Technologist Certification Program

These exams will be administered at various locations around the state to make it reasonably convenient to all applicants.

Written Examination Fees - \$125.00 (subject to change) – provided by the Association of Boards of Certification will consist of 100 questions. Candidate must score a minimum of 70% to pass.

RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Renewal Period – Every two (2) years on June 30th of every odd year

Recertification Fees - \$100.00 (subject to change) – Obtain appropriate number of non repeating recertification or training hours related to maintenance issues every two (2) years (see table below). This could include formal education and training, or attendance at conferences, workshops, seminars, that pertain to maintenance related issues and are relevant to the *Needs to Know Criteria*.*

Class IV	6 hours recertification
Class III	8 hours recertification
Class II	12 hours recertification
Class I	18 hours recertification

*Needs to Know Criteria can be found at http://www.abccert.org/testing_services/need_to_know_criteria.asp

EXPIRED CERTIFICATIONS:

If your certification expires, the technologist has three (3) months to meet all requirements for renewal and will be charged a penalty fee (in addition to the recertification fee) equal to 50% of the recertification fee.

If recertification is not processed within three (3) months of expiration date, the technologist will be required to re-take the certification exam and pay appropriate fees.

Individual technologist will be required to maintain all documentation in the event he/she is audited. This documentation should be retained for 12 months past the renewal date.

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