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President's Message

Bill Christ

This is an article from Jim Olszynski that was first published in the Plumbing & Mechanical magazine in October, 2010. It is with his permission that I have it reprinted for you.



You won't often find in this space praise for government bureaucrats, but let's give credit where it's due. Late last July California's Contractors State License Board (CSLB) mounted an undercover sting operation in conjunction with San Diego law enforcement agencies and the California Department of Insurance that nabbed 13 violators of the state's home improvement licensing laws. Four HVAC contractors and one plumbing contractor were among them. Bravo!

Sure, a cynic could point out that the busted trades people represent on a miniscule percentage of unlicensed contractors operating in the state or even in the San Diego area. Yet by publicizing the sting to both the trades press and general news media, the CSLB's action makes it reverberate far beyond the individuals who got caught. Publicity causes all unlicensed contractors to look over their shoulders. This is the type of activity that licensing boards ought to be doing more of, along with publicity campaigns that inform home and building owners about the dangers

of using unlicensed trades people and how to turn them in.

Unlicensed operators typically do not carry workers; compensation and professional liability insurance. Owners may be held liable if a worker is hurt on their property and left without financial recourse if something goes wrong with the project. Most property owners are totally in the dark about such things in their quest to find someone who works cheap. Some jurisdictions have mounted public awareness advertising campaigns to educate the public about the potentially costly consequences of using unlicensed trades people. Often these advertisements are considered public service announcements and are run for free by local media outlets.

I've also seen ads in some states notifying homeowners they are under no legal obligation to pay for work performed by unlicensed people. If this tactic became widespread, we'd likely see a steep decline in unlicensed work.

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Sting operations are more complex undertakings that require considerable resources in both money and manpower. That's why they are so rare. But it's a better use of licensing agency resources than what most of them do.

This amounts mostly to a lot of paper shuffling and harassment of licensed contractors who fail to dot an "I" or cross a "t". Skewed enforcement priorities come about because contractors who play by the rules are easy to identify and scrutinize.

If you qualify for a license, pay the fee, pull required permits and call for inspections, it's easy to keep track of your activities and nitpick your jobs. It takes much more effort to uncover illegal work taking place and mete out penalties sufficient to discourage it. In many jurisdictions the most severe penalty for trade malfeasance is loss of license, but what does that matter to someone who never bothers to get one?

Licensing bureaucrats and their trade allies constantly complain about lack of funds to hire enough inspectors. However the real problem with most licensing agencies is not so much a lack of firepower as aim. Just as communities can't afford to put a cop on every street corner, there will never be enough money to inspect every jobsite, and funding shortages will only get worse given the dire state of public finances throughout the country. Instead of crying poverty, licensing authorities need to be more imaginative in finding ways to get the biggest bang for their bucks. Public awareness campaigns and sting operations can achieve more than a couple of extra inspectors in protecting the public and knocking unlicensed tradespeople out of their comfort zone.

Laws that go unenforced are worse than no laws at all, because they engender disrespect for the law. Where licensing laws are routinely circumvented with little threat of penalty, those jurisdictions might be better off with no licensing at all. At least that way the conscientious contractors would have a level playing field with those who don't give a hoot.

Let's also remind ourselves that the ranks of inspectors could be increased by tens of thousands at no additional cost if duly licensed contractors would take it upon themselves to self-police their trades. Legitimate contractors and their crews are plugged into the local grapevine and often know of work that's taking place on the sly by people without proper credentials.

There's a time and a place for "mind your own business," but this isn't one of them. Take a deep breath and start blowing that whistle. Your industry, your business and public health and safety will all be better off because of it.

Editor's note: MPMCA has addressed the problem of unlicensed contractors by sponsoring and enacting in 2002, Act 733 P.A. 2002. These major revisions to the plumbing licensing statute in Michigan have led to an extensive number of license revocations, suspension, restitutions, and prosecutions of unlicensed persons. The Plumbing Division of the Bureau of Construction Codes has indicated the revision to the Plumbing licensing act are to be credited for these improvements. We continue to encourage plumbing contractors to be observant of local unlicensed activities and report such activities to authorities.

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West Michigan MCA



- Mark Matteson spoke to three different audiences on “Technician Sales & Lead Generation without Increasing Overhead” and “Shifting Gears: How to Prosper in a Down Economy.” Workshops began at 7:30 in the morning and went past 8 pm! Mark has been called ‘A Street Scholar’, ‘an Idea Reporter’ and ‘Edutaining Humorist’. Workshop participants completed the workshops with notable take-aways to apply to their careers & businesses!
- The WMMCA offices moved 1.38 miles east to 3221 Three Mile Rd NW Grand Rapids, MI 49534; doubling our square footage of office space, adding parking and much more! (Other contact information remains the same.) Stop by our new offices when in the area!
- The WMMCA Christmas Party was held at the B.O.B., downtown Grand Rapids; with 99 contractors, spouses and special guests including UA174 management: Mark Mangione, Jeff Wilkerson, Nate Phillips, retired WMMCA Executive Director Ted Vanderson and wife Shirley, and MPMCA Executive Director Cindy Maher and husband Mitch. This event is a great opportunity for contractors, spouses and UA174 management to network. Ruth Ekkens, wife of WMMCA President Rick Ekkens, hosted the WMMCA’s annual luncheon for UA174 clerical staff: Teri DeWeerd, Terra Maycroft, and Sharon Christopher.
- Kathy Crosby, president & owner of C² Consulting Inc, a firm that provides financial, safety & other consulting services and training presented workshops to over 50 participants at the UA174 Hall. Her morning workshop was titled “Managing Project Risk Through Solid Documentation”. Jerry Hines, UA174 Training Coordinator, remarked “Kathy is very knowledgeable. I encouraged journeymen and apprentices to participate in her workshops.” Kathy’s afternoon workshop focused on “Knowing the Score”:
- The WMMCA appreciates the use of UA174 facilities for seminars and workshops.
- Rick Ekkens, WMMCA President; Mark Mangione, UA174 Business Manager; Jeff Wilkerson, UA174 Assistant Business Manager; and Cindy Morse, WMMCA Executive Director participate in monthly Labor Management meetings to discuss industry relevant issues.
- The WMMCA website, <http://wmmca.org/>, has been enhanced to include the UA174/ WMMCA collective bargaining agreement, manpower request form, substance abuse policy and employee termination notice.
- The West Michigan Mechanical Contractors Association was established to represent and service, its members in Grand Rapids, Muskegon and the Lakeshore areas of Michigan. Association members dedicate themselves to quality, dependability, safety, education and community service as they serve as the primary liaison for labor relations and multi-employer collective bargaining.



MCA DETROIT'S HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Contractors and their guests celebrated the holiday season on Friday, December 10th, at the Metro Detroit Plumbing Industry Training Center in Troy, Michigan. Attendees were entertained with music by The Sunset Boulevard Band. One of the highlights of the evening was a proclamation from State of Michigan's Governor Granholm presented to Master Plumber Adrienne Bennett by Barbara Jean Johnson, Director of Community Affairs for the State of Michigan, in recognition of Adrienne's achievements in her chosen career in the plumbing field. Adrienne was acknowledged for being our first female Training Center graduate licensed by the state.



Bill James, Jim Bruner, Adrienne Bennett



John Nussbaum, Barbara Jean Johnson and Adrienne Bennett



Tom Lisowski and Bob Caraway



Jennifer Medford, Tom Storey, Gaile Dedinas, Franz de Raad



Joe Sposita, Rich Gabor and Dennis Pasqual with Local 98



Bill James III, Pete Molloy, Chris Fitch



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LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

Greater Michigan PMCA



Annual Inspector's Luncheon

The Greater Michigan PMC held its Annual Inspector's Luncheon in December. The luncheon program was emceed by Jeff Darr, Boone & Darr, Inc.



A number of PMC retirees, PMC members, inspectors, and Kevin Groeb, new UA 190 Business Manager, along with MPMCA Executive Director Cynthia Maher (above) addressed the meeting. All the necessary ingredients were in place for a successful luncheon and remarkable holiday party.

The luncheon provides an ideal opportunity for contractors and their employees to meet with local and state inspectors and officials in an informal setting to discuss items of mutual concern. It also gives all in attendance the opportunity to hear what is coming from each of the departments in the New Year.



Again, this year luncheon attendees had an opportunity to donate to the Toys for

Tots and Food Gatherers to help our local community. Locally, Toys for Tots has had the best year ever, passing out over 29,000 toys to 850 families, and collecting \$7,987.

Food Gatherers exists to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes in our community by reducing food waste through the rescue and distribution of food; coordinating with other hunger relief providers; educating the public about hunger; and developing new food resources. In 2010, Food Gatherers distributed 5 million pounds of food to 164 non-profit programs. The luncheon collected 66 pounds of food.



MASB Exhibit Show

Executive Associate, Diane Calmeyn, attended the Michigan Association of School Boards Conference (MASB). The Exhibit Show brings education and business together, giving the opportunity to be more visible to those who make school purchasing decisions.



The booth was sponsored by the Michigan Construction Roundtable and was attended by representatives of the Michigan AGC, Michigan MCA, National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council and the International Masonry Institute. Materials distributed included the *Michigan Construction Careers* manual which is prepared by the PMC, and a brochure highlighting the benefits of organized labor in school construction along with a putting contest that entitled you to enter your name in a drawing for an iPad.



The mission of the MASB is to provide quality educational leadership services for all Michigan boards of education, and to advocate for student achievement and public education.

Members Honored at Apprenticeship Banquet



A Lifetime Service Award was presented to John Darr of John Darr Mechanical, Inc. and Newton Squires of McGovern Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

We had a wonderful opportunity to honor these two members of the Joint Training Committee who have dedicated numerous hours for the benefit of this program.



They have been tireless members of the JTC, actively participating as they conducted the business of the program, spending an unbelievable number of hours interviewing potential candidates for the Program. Each have participated in over 1,000

interviews during their time on the Board.

Newt has served for 27 years starting on September 1, 1983 and John served 24 years starting on April 24, 1986.

Ann Arbor Student Building Industry Program

PMC Executive Associate Diane Calmeyn participated in Flippin' Out for Student Builders Pancake Dinner. This first time fundraising event was designed to improve awareness of the Ann Arbor Student Building Industry Program and to provide scholarship opportunities for students



who wish to attend college in a construction related field of study. The Student Building program is in its 41st year, providing educational training to Ann Arbor high school students interested in the building trades and home building. The Pancake Dinner was very successful with an approximate profit of \$2,700.00.

Great Lakes Peer Group



PMC's Executive Associate Diane Calmeyn attended the Great Lakes Peer Group Conference in Chicago. The Peer Group started with "The Gang of Three", Greater Michigan, Chicago, and St. Louis MCA's planning the first gathering in 1994 in Detroit. Sixteen years later it is still going strong with the focus on sharing information. Association Executives from the Great Lakes States gather annually with a short two day, get-down-to-business agenda.

This year the topics that were covered included Safety, "Hot Topics" such as Green construction and BIM, Programs and Meetings including Education and Speakers, as well as many other topics.

Training at PMC

The PMC's Educational Facility continues to be utilized by contractor members for their employees for meetings at any time of the day or evening for Leadership Training, or specific product training from distributors. Most recently classes were conducted by John E. Green Company and Haley Mechanical.

It also gives the PMC's President Sandra Miller the opportunity to interact with the contractors' project managers and UA 190 members to discuss issues of concern, including apprenticeship training, fringe benefits, labor-management programs, marketing and volunteer projects.





LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS

Mid-Michigan MCA



3MCA ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Annual 3MCA Christmas Party was celebrated at the Battle Creek Country Club on December 8, 2010 with over 70 attendees. 3MCA President Larry Gunthorpe and his wife, Janet (left) hosted this year's event, which featured great food, prizes and fun conversation.

Also pictured: Kirk and Robin Myers; Scott Case and friend, Kathy; Tom and Connie Eifert; Charlie and Dawn Brannick; Russ and Dorothy Smith; Gerry and Barb Alchin; and John and Linda Reilly, Sr.; and Joe and Freida Michillizzi.

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(2009 International Fuel Gas Code used in conjunction with the 2009 Michigan Mechanical Code)

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2009 MICHIGAN PLUMBING & RESIDENTIAL CODE UPDATES

Required For All Master and Journey Plumbing Licensees

The 2009 Michigan Plumbing Code Became Effective Aug. 20, 2010

Under the requirements of Act 733 Public Acts of 2002, all journey and master plumbers are required to attend a **five-hour** Michigan Plumbing & Residential Code update **within 12 months** of a code update as a condition of license renewal (**Before August 20, 2011**).

MARCH 30, 2011, Soaring Eagle Resort

WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

If you are a licensed journey or master plumber, you must attend a State Plumbing Board approved five hour code update class before August 20, 2011 for the **2009 Code Edition** and be able to verify your attendance to the Plumbing Division before your license can be renewed in the future.

After the code update class, all attendees who complete the five-hour class will have a certificate to take with them for their records.

REMEMBER: THE PLUMBING LAW REQUIRES ALL LICENSEES TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED FIVE HOUR CLASS WITHIN ONE YEAR OF THE CODE UPDATE.

The code update class is open to all journey master plumbers and to inspectors who need the class as a condition of license renewal. Inspectors will also receive five hours of technical credit under the inspector's registration law, Act 54.

Chief Plumbing Inspector for the State of Michigan Bob Konyndyk will conduct the session.

The new commercial plumbing code went into effect on August 20, 2010. The Residential Code goes into effect on a later date but will be updated at this seminar. Many questions have arisen, as the code will be used in the field. This will be your opportunity to have those questions answered.

Registration is open to all masters, journeymen, inspectors, contractors, and suppliers who need to meet these licensing requirements. See the registration page for the date and location you prefer.

The session is scheduled from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their personal copy of the 2009 Michigan Plumbing Code. Order forms for the Codebooks are included in this magazine if you need a copy. Copies of the **updates** to the Residential Code will be available at the seminar.

Advance registration is required. Seating and attendance is limited. See registration fees below and return your registration to MPMCA right away.

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Email: _____ **(Needed for class confirmations)**

Please reserve _____ persons @ \$ _____ per person = _____ Total amount
List additional names on a separate sheet.

Sorry, no refunds less than seven days prior to the confirmed seminar.
MPMCA confirmations will be sent via email so be sure to provide an email address to receive a confirmation.

METHOD OF PAYMENT:

_____ Check for full amount is enclosed payable to MPMCA (Sorry, MPMCA cannot bill you).

_____ Bill my VISA card or MasterCard # _____

Card billing address _____ Exp. Date _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Customer Code _____
(Won't process card without it)

Signed _____ Date _____

The **seminar is limited to 200 attendees.**

Confirmations will be sent before the seminar date if reservations are **received** before **March 23, 2011.**

The attendee should confirm reservations sent less than seven days prior to the seminar, call 517-484-5500 or email at info@mpmca.org. **Visit our Website www.mpmca.org for online registration.**

MPMCA Michigan Plumbing Code Update Seminar Schedule

_____ **March 30, 2011**
Soaring Eagle Resort
Mt. Pleasant, MI

The seminar starts promptly at 7:00 a.m. and end at 12:00 noon.

Become a member of MPMCA before the date of your seminar and save on your seminar registration fee.
Call MPMCA at 517-484-5500 to find out how to become an MPMCA member and save money.

It's Smooth Sailing for Busy Marina Bathhouses, Thanks to Powerful, Reliable Macerating Plumbing

Lake Michigan marina outfits two floating, 600-square-foot bathhouses, each with six bathrooms and a laundry room, and equipped with macerating plumbing to avoid system failures during peak usage by the general public.

By Julie Reynolds

When the Hammond Marina on Lake Michigan opened for the season in May 2009, boaters were greeted with a pair of new dockside conveniences: two floating bathhouses, each with six bathrooms and a laundry room. You wouldn't know it, looking at them nestled into the dock today, but the ADA-compliant, 15-foot x 42-foot facilities were built in a factory more than 400 miles away and trucked to Indiana on an 18-wheeler.

Installing the bathhouses was a much-needed upgrade to the main dock, and customer satisfaction was the project's top priority for the Hammond Port Authority. To help meet that goal, the authority brought in Deborah Natrass to oversee the complex job. Natrass is co-owner of Product Link, Inc. and Nautical Nature, Inc., both of which specialize in marina products in California and the Great Lakes areas.

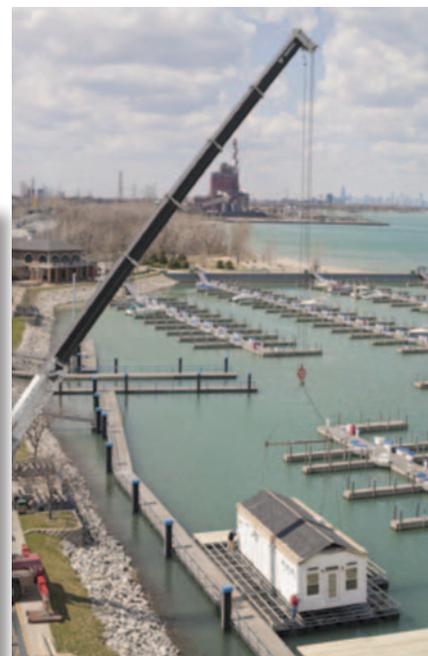
Through the years, Natrass has overseen a range of marine projects that involve installing pump-out systems, docks, floating bathrooms and floating houses. For the Hammond Marina, she recognized that top-notch plumbing was key to customer satisfaction, so she opted to use Saniplus macerating toilets from SFA Saniflo Inc. in all 12 bathrooms, reducing the potential for clogging and other plumbing problems that are common in public restrooms.

"This setup is unique," says Hammond Harbormaster Keith Carey. "I'm not sure a conventional toilet would have worked. If not for the macerating pumps, I would foresee a lot of problems."

Up to 1,000 People Daily: With more than 1,100 slips accommodating watercraft as large as 80 feet, Hammond's is the second largest publicly owned marina on Lake Michigan. Two thirds of the marina's customers will rely on the new facilities. "On an average weekend, the marina will serve 800 to 1,000 people a day," Carey says.

Adds Natrass, "I've heard of harbormasters saying public baths can be a headache for marina operators, so we try to prevent that. Whenever you do a marina project, it's good to have macerating plumbing, because you don't want any issues with a floating structure. Saniflo makes the bathroom error-proof."

"First-Class Units": The late Charlie Stricker, former head of operations and maintenance for the Hammond Port Authority, conceived the project. He wanted to avoid building more structures that would block the view of the shoreline, and building on



Each of the two bathhouses weighs 39,000 pounds. A crane was used to place the structures onto the floats designed and built by Merco Marine.

pilings didn't achieve the aesthetic the authority wanted. "After looking at a number of options, Charlie worked with Natrass to come up with the modular bathhouses, which look more like the other structures in the marina," explains Carey, who took over the project after Stricker passed away.

Natrass had the challenging job of pulling together and supervising multiple subcontractors to carry out the complex project. She contracted with Merco Marine of Wellsburg, W. Va., to supply the platform, floats and decking to support the structures at the Marina's dock. Jon Meriwether started Merco Marine in 1979 as a part-time operation with his son. Today, the company operates from a five-acre manufacturing plant, offering a wide array of marine products.

It took nine truckloads to transport the float materials to Hammond. Meriwether's company supplied the float, platform, metal truss frames and decking. "Each bathhouse weighs 39,000 pounds," he says. "To support them, we built units 130 feet long and 30 feet wide, with 330,000 pounds of flotation. We designed the float so that it sits slightly below the dock. These are first-class units."

Meriwether, who lives in a floating house himself, was already familiar with macerating systems. In fact, his company now offers a new floating-restroom product that also features the Saniplus toilet. "I'm using maceration because I don't want the

plumbing to clog up,” he says.

It was Meriwether who researched builders for the project, helping Natrass settle on Modular One in Pulaski, Tenn. That company system-built the bathhouses on-site and handled their transport to Indiana.

Early on, macerating toilets emerged as a key to the project’s success. “I’ve sold floating structures previously, and Saniflo macerating products have the best name and reputation. They are excellent for marine application,” Natrass explains. “When you have a boating community with lots of people, you don’t want any plumbing problems. A regular toilet wouldn’t be sufficient in that type of application.”

Natrass recommended using Saniflo’s Saniplus model, which has a built-in grinder, thus “eliminating anything that’s coming off that structure that could back up the system,” she explains. Using small-diameter discharge piping, the Saniplus can pump effluent 15 feet vertically and 150 feet horizontally.

Even that considerable pumping distance falls well short of Hammond Marina’s unusual plumbing configuration, which requires effluent to be pumped 900 feet from the dock to the sewer. Each Saniplus toilet therefore connects to a floating tank. When the tank is filled, the contents are pumped to a larger lift station, which then pumps it to the sewer.

“The plumbing is kind of a complicated, two-stage setup,” says Carey. “The grinders seem to do a very good job of breaking down the paper and other solids to allow them to pass easily through the pumps.”

Carey notes that some of the other pumps in the marina have to be cleaned once a month, adding: “I don’t foresee any maintenance issues like that with the two new macerating systems.”

From Pulaski to Hammond: The bathhouses were fully constructed in Pulaski, with the exception of some exterior finish work done after they were placed onto Meriwether’s floats in the marina. Each bathroom has a toilet, sink and shower, and each bathhouse has two handicapped-accessible bathrooms. A laundry room and a mechanical room round out each facility.

The entire construction project took under three weeks, with Modular One’s plumbers installing the Saniflo systems. General manager Tripp Weigel was not familiar with macerating plumbing prior to the project. “We were a little nervous about macerating plumbing, but it was a fairly easy and simple installation.”

Meriwether recommends installing macerating technology in public restrooms that are heavily used on weekends. “We’ve had a positive experience with macerating toilets,” he says. “There’s a call for these in state parks and private marinas. We sell them all over the country.”

“We’ll definitely go with maceration when we do more of these boathouses,” Natrass agrees. “Saniflo has a great name out there, and their products are very user-friendly, easy to operate and easy to maintain.”

For harbormaster Carey, the proof was in his customers’ response. “I’ve been talking to all of our customers, and the feedback has been outstanding,” he says. “That’s what we’re here for — to please them and serve them. If they’re happy, I’m happy.”

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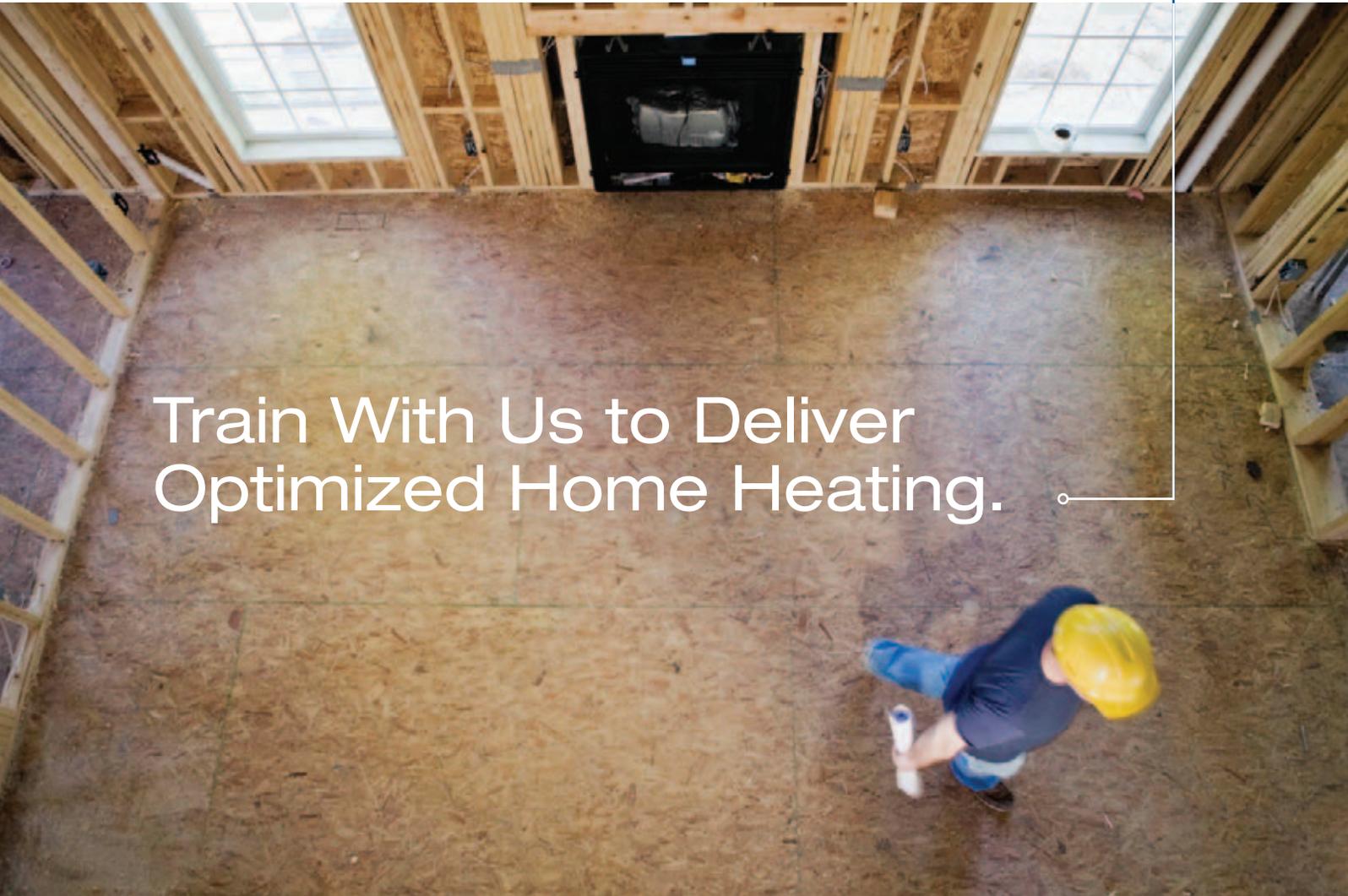


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Important

Keep this portion of the flyer for reminder of dates and time of Expo or Seminars.

Directions to Soaring Eagle, Mt. Pleasant
US-127 to Mt. Pleasant
Exit M20 - East
Follow Signs to Soaring Eagle

Expo 2011 Hours
Wednesday, March 30, 2011
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
(The Expo is free of charge)

Code Update Seminar Information

2009 Michigan Plumbing & Residential Code Update Seminar

Required for all Master and Journey Plumbers licensed in Michigan. The 2009 Michigan Plumbing Code became effective August 20, 2010 and under the requirements of Act 733 Public Acts of 2002, all Journey and Master Plumbers are required to attend a five-hour code update class before August 20, 2011.

The Plumbing Division has indicated they will strictly enforce this section of the law. Don't delay and be unable to find a class.

Sign Up Today!



Registration Mechanical/ PHC Expo 2011

is open free-of-charge to Michigan contractors, installers, specifiers, trades, reps, suppliers, inspectors, and their guests.

To be assured your pass is waiting for you please type or print

Visitors Name
Job Description/Title
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Mail or FAX this ticket to us by 3/22/11 and we will have your badge ready at the Expo registration desk!

Check Scope(s) of Business

- Plumbing Sheet Metal
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 Hydronics Other (Below)

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- Contractor Service/Repair
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 Apprentice Other (below)

Principal Officer of Firm Yes No

Fill Out and Mail or FAX To:

MPMCA

P.O. Box 13100 - Lansing, MI 48901
Phone: 517-484-5500 - Fax: 517-484-5225



Invites you to
**Be Our Guest At The
Michigan
Mechanical/PHC Expo 2011**

March 30, 2011

We are inviting you to be our guest at the Michigan Mechanical-Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Expo - one of the biggest expositions of plumbing-heating-cooling products in Michigan! Over 3,000 products from more than 400 manufacturers will be on display at the Soaring Eagle & Resort, Mt. Pleasant Michigan on Wednesday March 30th.

This show is for **you** and it is **free of charge** to contractors, installers, reps, inspectors, wholesalers, architects, engineers, and their guests.

Pre-register now and avoid the long lines at the registration desk.

Fill out the registration ticket in this flyer, (**print clearly or type**) mail to MPMCA before March 19th, and we will have your badge waiting at the registration desk.

Show Hours

Wednesday - March 30, 2011
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

MPMCA Expo Seminar
Soaring Eagle Resort

The 2009 Michigan Plumbing & Residential Code Update

Presented By: Chief Plumbing Inspector for the State of Michigan - Bob Konyndyk

Wednesday March 30, 2011

7:00 a.m. to 12 noon
Black River Room

The 2009 Michigan Plumbing Code Became Effective Aug. 20, 2010

Under the requirements of Act 733 Public Acts of 2002, all journey and master plumbers are required to attend a five-hour Michigan Plumbing & Residential Code update within 12 months of a code update as a condition of license renewal (**Before August 20, 2011**).

WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

If you are a licensed journey or master plumber, you must attend a State Plumbing Board approved five hour code update class before August 20, 2011 for the **2009 Code Edition** and be able to verify your attendance to the Plumbing Division before your license can be renewed in the future.

After the code update class, all attendees who complete the five-hour class will have a certificate to take with them for their records.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their personal copy of the 2009 Michigan Plumbing Code book and the 2009 Michigan Residential Code book. See enclosed form or go to our website to order your books www.mpmca.org.

Advance registration is required as seating is limited. See the registration fees in the next column and return your registration to MPMCA right away.

Seminar Registration Form

**Wednesday
March 30, 2011**

7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

2009 Michigan Plumbing & Residential Code Update Class

Black River Room

Please reserve _____ spaces @ \$90.00/ space
Total = _____
Non-member

MPMCA Members Call 517-484-5500 for your discount pricing.

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Lansing, MI 48901

Or visit our shopping cart at www.mpmca.org to sign up online with our secure online payment system.

Co. Name: _____

St. Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone # (____) _____

Attendees name: _____

Attendees name: _____

Attendees name: _____

Please list names of all attendees so we can have a badge ready for them.
Can be listed on separate sheet.

We will need a name for each space reserved

FAX THIS FORM TO 517-484-5225

EXPO INFORMATION

Expo Free

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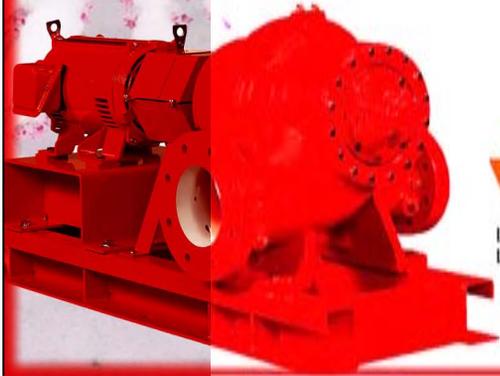
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PO Box 13100, Lansing, MI 48901 (mail address)
(517) 484-5500 * Fax (517) 484-5225

e-mail – info@mpmca.org
website: www.mpmca.org

MCAA



2011 Backflow Refresher Class

To: Michigan Certified Testers

From: Cynthia Maher, CAE, Executive Director

Subject: Backflow Tester Refresher Course - Co-sponsored by the Michigan Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association and the State Board of Plumbing.

The 2011 dates for the one day Backflow Preventer Refresher classes are:

Friday, May 6, 2011 ••••• Friday, December 16, 2011

Each class will be limited to 18 students. On the application form you can pick your first or second choice. First choice will be determined on a first received basis.

The cost will be **\$360.00 for MPMCA Members** or **\$400.00 for Nonmembers**. This will include any materials you will need plus lunch and breaks.

Plumbing Inspectors: This class has been approved for continuing education credits under the requirements of Act 54. Plumbing Inspectors will receive -- **7 continuing education credits** -- **five specialty** hours and **two technical hours**.

Department of Environmental Quality: Participants may receive **6 hours (0.6 continuing education credits)** of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality advisory board approved education credits.

The location will be the **Lexington Hotel** in Lansing at **I-496 exit 1**. If students would like to stay at the hotel the night before the class, the rate is \$93.00+ applicable tax per night, single or double occupancy. **Hotel information will be mailed with confirmations that will be mailed 3 to 4 weeks before the class.**

Instructors Dennis Rapson or Martin Jipson will instruct:

1. *Lawn Irrigation - Atmospheric Pressure*
2. *Beverage Dispenser Protection*
3. *Boiler Water Feed Protection*
4. *Spill Proof Pressure Vacuum Breaker*
5. *Review of A.S.S.E. Requirements and Application Chart*
6. *Test Stands for trouble shooting + test stand for three and five valve method*
7. *Video on trouble shooting.*
8. *Care of test kits.*

If you have any questions please give MPMCA a call at 517-484-5500.

**Go to www.mpmca.org to order online with your credit card.
Select the convenient "Shopping Cart" and complete your order.**

State Board of Plumbing
&
Michigan Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association

2011 Backflow Preventer Testing Refresher Course

APPLICATION

Student Name _____ Backflow Certification # _____

Home Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ License Number: _____

Home Telephone _____ Journey 82- _____

Company Name _____ Master 81- _____

Co. Street Address _____ Email address: _____

City, State Zip _____

Co Phone _____ FAX: _____

County _____

Send Confirmations of Class To: _____

Home Address

Business Address

Hours are from
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Lexington Hotel, Lansing

Payment: **Check one**

Member of MPMCA:
Check enclosed for \$345.00

Nonmember:
Check enclosed for \$400.00

To pay with credit card go to
www.mpmca.org and select the
"Shopping Cart" on the home page.

Please INDICATE your 1st & 2nd choice. Each class is limited to 18 students. Placement of first choice date will be determined by date of application received. Confirmations will be sent one month prior to class.

_____ May 6, 2011 (Friday)
Lansing, Michigan

_____ December 16, 2011 (Friday)
Lansing, Michigan

Credit Card orders go to www.mpmca.org and use our convenient "Shopping Cart" -- Or
Make your check payable to MPMCA and Return to:

Michigan Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association
PO Box 13100
Lansing, MI 48901

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- **Health Hazards**
- **8 Ways to Prevent Cross Connection**
- **How to Spot and Correct Defects**

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Register Today Limited Seating

Location & 2011 Dates

April 5-7, 2011

May 3-5, 2011

Aug. 30-Sept 1, 2011

Dec. 13-15, 2011

*Classes start at 8:00 a.m.
end at 4:00 p.m.*

Lexington Hotel Lansing
925 S. Creyts Rd
Lansing MI 48917

Exit 1 off I-496

Hotel Room Reservations
517-323-7100

Do not make your reservations at the Lexington Hotel until you have received your class confirmation. Information will be sent to you at that time.

Lodging is not covered in registration fee. A group fee of \$93.00 plus tax per night has been negotiated at the hotel for single or double occupancy.

Note:

***Class confirmations
will be mailed one
month prior to class.***

Questions?
Call MPMCA
517-484-5500

Email - info@mpmca.org

Sponsored By:

Michigan Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association, State Board of Plumbing, and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Instructor:

The Seminar will be conducted by Dennis Rapson, master plumber, mechanical contractor, certified backflow tester, & 27 years as plumbing inspector.

Class Content:

Tuesday:

Overview of the problem of cross connections. Review of case histories, causes, health hazards. Study of Department of Environmental Quality Rules, and Michigan Plumbing Code with regard to the protection of the Potable Water Supply. Review of American Society of Sanitary Engineering guide for the proper selection and use of backflow prevention devices. Description of the eight different ways to prevent cross-connections. Detailed study of reduced pressure type backflow preventer. Class instruction will include the use of films, and review quizzes to reinforce the message of the instructor.

Wednesday:

Hands-on experience with various backflow preventers. Students will learn how to spot defects, and how to correct them. Instructor on hand to answer any questions, or help solve any problems during the hands-on testing experience.

Thursday:

Detailed instruction on varieties of backflow preventers by factory representatives of the various manufacturers. Representatives from the following companies will conduct mini-seminars on the intricacies of testing and repairing their particular devices:

BALFREY & JOHNSTON (REPRESENTING WILKINS)
DAVE WATSON ASSOCIATES (REPRESENTING WATTS) (AMES)
SALES SERVICE PLUS (REPRESENTING FEBCO)
MID-WEST INSTRUMENT (TEST EQUIPMENT)
V.E. SALES COMPANY (REPRESENTING CONBRACO)

Final Examination of Proficiency

Who Should

The seminar is open to master and journey plumbers, plus others who need to test backflow preventers in their place of employment.

What You'll Get

Upon satisfactory completion, Michigan licensed plumbers receive a State Approved certification for general testing and are qualified to repair or replace backflow devices. However, licensed plumbers must provide their license number and date of the license expiration. License plumbers must have current license to receive the backflow certification. If the license is expired a letter of completion will be issued limiting testing to the premises of their current place of employment.

Other graduates who are not licensed plumbers receive a letter of completion, limiting testing to the premises of their current place of employment only. They are not permitted to test in the field, install, or make repairs to backflow devices.

Participants will receive 21 hours (2.1 continuing education credits) MDEQ Division of Water Supply.

Under Act 54 – Plumbing Inspectors registration Act – Plumbing Inspectors will receive 24 continuing education credits, 16 specialty hours and 8 technical hours.

Complete the application form on the reverse side. The registration fee is \$670.00 for MPMCA members and \$710 for nonmembers which covers the three days of instruction, examination materials, three lunches, and six breaks. Each class is limited to 36 participants and licensed plumbers will receive an enrollment priority. Registration fee must accompany application form to be considered for acceptance.

Purchase orders are not accepted.

Certified Testers with a current Michigan plumbing license will be listed on our website.

For a tester referral you must provide us with a company name, address, phone number, and county.

If a company name is not provided, your listing will have your first name, last name, certification number, and plumbing license number listed.

Home addresses and home phone numbers are not listed on our website unless you let us know that is what you want for your listing.



To receive your first choice register as early as possible. Confirmations are sent one month prior to class date.

Cost	
Member \$670	Nonmember \$710
3 Day Course	

Also Offered

BACKFLOW PREVENTER TESTING REFRESHER COURSE

Cost: \$360.00 Members
\$400.00 Nonmembers

The instruction will be on:

1. Lawn Irrigation – Atmospheric Pressure,
2. Beverage Dispenser Protection,
3. Boiler Water Feed Protection,
4. Spill Proof Pressure Vacuum Breaker,
5. Review of A.S.S.E. Requirements and Application Charts,
6. Test Stands for trouble shooting + test stand for three and five valve method,
7. Video on troubleshooting,
8. Care of test kits.

Refresher Dates:

May 8, 2011
December 16, 2011

To register online go to www.mpmca.org click on the shopping cart and complete registration.

Members need to login to receive the member discounted price. Call MPMCA if you need your member login and password.

If you have any questions on this program please call MPMCA at the number below.

517-484-5500

To attend the Refresher Class you must have previously attended and successfully completed the three day *Backflow Preventer Training Program.*

**Michigan State Board of Plumbing
&
Michigan Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Association
APPLICATION**

2011 Backflow Preventer Training Program

Student Name _____ Have you taken this class before?
Yes ___ No ___

Home Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Telephone _____

Company Name _____

Co. Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Co. Phone (___) _____ Co. Fax (___) _____

County _____ Co. Email _____

Licensed Plumber? Yes ___ No ___
License Number: (Plumber license must be current & expiration date provided)

Master _____ exp. date _____

Journey _____ exp. Date _____

Email _____

Co. Email _____

Send Confirmation of Class Placement and Certificate Upon

Completion to: _____ Title _____

Home Address

Business Address

Please include mail
stop or division/title if
this will help assure
you receive this
confirmation.
Sent via USPS

Payment:

Member of MPMCA: Check
enclosed for **\$670.00**

Nonmember: Check enclosed
for **\$710.00**

Classes are from
8:00 am to 4:00 pm

**All applications must include payment.
Purchase orders not accepted.
Cancellations must be in writing, 10 days before class to
receive refund. No Phone reservations taken.**

Please INDICATE your 1st, 2nd, & 3rd choice. If your first choice is not available, we will confirm your second choice. If your second choice is not available, we will confirm your 3rd choice. Each class is limited to 36 students. Licensed Plumbers will receive an enrollment priority. **Confirmation will be sent one month prior to confirmed class date.**

___ April 5-7, 2011

___ May 3-5, 2011

___ Aug. 30-Sept. 1, 2011

___ Dec. 13-15, 2011

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