

OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM UPDATE

JUNE 2024

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

COMING SOON! OPCERT ONLINE

We are getting ready to build a **new digital home for all water, wastewater, and solid waste (landfill) operators**. You will be able to manage your contact info, work history, **continuing education hours and certificates** from one application. You **won't even need a wallet card anymore!** (But it will be available if you want one.) We are working out contract details now and hope to have our project kickoff by early fall.

VOLUNTEER TO TRY OUT THE NEW OPCERT ONLINE!

Thank you to the 23 operators, 2 trainers, 5 utility staff, 8 utility managers and 1 "other" who have already volunteered to (beta) test the new OpCert Online. **To everyone else, do you want fewer than 1% of all the operators to decide what works for the other 99%? If not, then click [here](#) to volunteer.** Application closes at the **end of July**.

PROGRESS MADE ON WATER OPERATOR GRADE II COURSE

Thank you to everyone who volunteered for the Water Operator Grade II "Skills for Success" Filming Opportunity. One full day of filming was accomplished at the **East Central Baldwin Water Authority**. **Many thanks to Operator James Long;** the ACCS team said, "James was a superstar!!" A second day is scheduled in early July for **Ed Love WTP** in Tuscaloosa with **Fletcher Robinson** and his team. For more information on Skills for Success, go to www.trainforalabama.com.

ASSOCIATION UPDATES

ARWA (ALABAMA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION)

We have a series of **training events scheduled over the next few months** designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of our members, focusing on the latest developments in water and wastewater management.

Our **apprenticeship program is gaining momentum**, offering a structured pathway for individuals to enter the water industry. This program aims to develop the next generation of skilled operators and technicians.

This fall, we will be hosting **specialized training for board members** to help them better understand their roles and responsibilities in managing water and wastewater systems.

AWEA (ALABAMA'S WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION)

Grant opportunity for up to **TWO wastewater operators to attend WEFTEC 2024 for FREE**. Operators must attend all days of the **Operations Challenge** and learn as much as they can with the goal of working with AWEA to form an Alabama Operations Challenge Team to compete at WEFTEC 2025. **Apply [here](#)**. Application closes 7am, Tues July 9.

AWPCA (ALABAMA WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ASSOCIATION)

July 10-11, 8a-4p, Wastewater Class with Kevin Collier, 4725 Moffet Rd, Mobile

August 12-14, [Annual Conference](#), Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach, AL – **up to TWELVE CEHs available**

Meet the Staff

Keiwanna Banks

Hi, my name is Keiwanna, and I have been with ADEM for 4 months.

Before my career here, I was a National Certified Dental Assistant for almost two years.

With my short time as part of the ADEM family, I've met some wonderful people.

I am the new Administrative Assistant for Operator Certification, and I look forward to helping and providing answers to any questions that you all may have. Thanks.

