

# OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2025

## NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

### WASTEWATER FILMING LOCATIONS WILL BE NEEDED

The Alabama Community College System (ACCS) Skills for Success team has created a Wastewater Fundamentals course. (!!)

They will soon be in need of filming locations - exactly the same process as with the Water Fundamentals course.

Look for a separate email in a few weeks with a sign up form.

### EXAM RESOURCES

We have updated our ADEM webpage and collected all the Certification Exam Resources on one page:

<https://adem.alabama.gov/water/opcert/exam-resources>

You'll find links to the new 2025 Need-to-Know Criteria (NTK). The NTK guides you to the specific books you'll need to study from.

### CALL FOR TRAINING ROSTERS

**If you provided training for water or wastewater operators in 2023, 2024, or 2025, we would like any training rosters you may have.**

Here's a [link](#) to a Roster Request form with additional instructions.

Once you submit the form, I'll reach out to you and get you set up with the trainer and roster templates you'll need.

We'd like to have the past 3 years of training classes already in our system by Thanksgiving. (!!)

We know we won't get everything, but with your help, we're hoping we can pre-fill with a majority of classes offered over the past three years.

### WATER WORKFORCE (OUTREACH) RESOURCES

Need to write a job description for an operator opening? Going to speak at a school about the water workforce and need ideas on what to present? Curious about starting an internship at your utility?

Don't reinvent the wheel!

Check out these links on our NEW [Outreach webpage](#)!

Water Workforce issues have gained national attention and lots of dollars have been spent creating and gathering resources which are available to you FOR FREE!

### PASS RATES ARE IMPROVING

We only have a few weeks of data so far, but it looks like the exam pass rates are much better with the Revised Exams. Congratulations to all our newly certified operators!

## Meet the Staff

**Pamela Monaghan**

[mon-a-han]

My name is Pam and I'm the author of these Quarterly Updates.

I started working as an Environmental Engineer in ADEM's Land Division in January 2020.

In July 2022, I transferred to the Permits & Services Division where I divide my time between the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program and the Operator Certification Program.

My number one favorite activity is solving problems.

I enjoy working behind the scenes to help improve your experience with ADEM's Operator Certification Program.

As the Special Projects person, I've brought you these Quarterly Updates, I issued the Water Workforce Survey in 2024, and I'm spearheading the roll-out of the new digital platform - "OpCert Online."

I have more Special Projects in mind. If any of them become reality, you'll hear about it in future Quarterly Updates.

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TRAINING CLASSES (CLICK HEADERS BELOW TO GO DIRECTLY TO THEIR WEBSITES)

## ARWA (ALABAMA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION)

Date	Event Details	City	CEHs Available	CEH Type
	For latest training, navigate to: <a href="https://training.alruralwater.com/events/ceh/all">https://training.alruralwater.com/events/ceh/all</a>			

## AWEA (ALABAMA'S WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION)

Date	Event Details	City	CEHs Available	CEH Type
September 17 7:15a – 4:15p	General Wastewater Operations and Maintenance Workshop <a href="#">link</a> Contact: Virgil White <a href="mailto:vwhite@athens-utilities.com">vwhite@athens-utilities.com</a>	Athens	8 hours	Wastewater
August 20 – November 12 (In progress, but it's not too late to join!)	Wastewater Exam Prep (I-IV) <a href="#">link</a> Cost: \$250 (AWEA Members \$185) (supplies included) Wednesdays 9a-3p (except October 1) Instructor: Jeremy Creel at <a href="mailto:creelj@jccal.org">creelj@jccal.org</a>	Hoover	60 hours	Wastewater
January 14 – April 8, 2026	Wastewater Exam Prep (I-IV) Cost: \$250 (AWEA Members \$185) (supplies included) Wednesdays 9a-3p Instructor: Jeremy Creel at <a href="mailto:creelj@jccal.org">creelj@jccal.org</a>	Hoover	60 hours	Wastewater

## AWPCA (ALABAMA WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ASSOCIATION)

Date	Event Details	City	CEHs Available	CEH Type
	For latest training, navigate to: <a href="https://www.awpca.net/training">https://www.awpca.net/training</a>			

## SHELTON STATE (TUSCALOOSA) WASTEWATER TREATMENT COURSE

Date	Event Details	City	CEHs Available	CEH Type
10 weeks starting September 8 (Starting soon!)	Wastewater Treatment (III-IV) ( <a href="#">link</a> ) Cost: \$350 Monday & Thursday 1:00 - 4:00 pm Instructor: Jeremy Creel	Tuscaloosa and Online	60 Hours	Wastewater Exam Prep

## ASSOCIATION OF STATE DRINKING WATER ADMINISTRATORS (ASDWA)

Date	Event Details	City	CEHs Available	CEH Type
September 3 11a-12 p CT	<a href="#">Water Operator Workforce Webinar</a>	Online	1 hour	W/WW

## EPA WEBINARS

Date	Event Details	City	CEHs Available	CEH Type
September 10 11a-12:30p CT	<a href="#">Water Workforce Webinar on Enhancing the Careers of Water Utility Administrative Professionals</a>	Online	1.5 hours	W/WW
September 29 1-2p CT	<a href="#">Safe Drinking Water Act Section 1433 Best Practices</a>	Online	1 hour	Water

Find previous updates here: <https://adem.alabama.gov/water/opcert/newsletters>

