

**Backflow Prevention  
Assembly Testers Course  
Billings  
October 5-10, 2026**

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**Course Instructor:**

**Curtis Hester** is retired from the United States Air Force. As a civilian, he served as the plumbing shop foreman at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls. Curtis was a certified tester and backflow manager at Malmstrom AFB for over 25 years.

**Course Description:**

A series of lectures followed by guided exercises in a wet lab will provide understanding of field testing methods on 4 backflow prevention assemblies: pressure vacuum breakers, spill resistant vacuum breakers, reduced pressure principle assemblies, and double check assemblies. Students will gain knowledge in hydraulics, backflow and backsiphonage, types of cross connections, and degrees of hazard and state and federal regulations. Friday afternoon participants can take a written exam and on Saturday morning can take a practical exam administered by the American Backflow Prevention Association (ABPA). Passing scores on both the exams will result in certification by ABPA as a backflow prevention assembly tester. For more information on ABPA see the back of this training announcement or go to their website [www.abpa.org](http://www.abpa.org).

**ABPA Certification Program:**

The American Backflow Prevention Association's Certification Program, recognized by the state of Montana, assists the administrative authority in assuring that backflow prevention assembly testers are receiving proper training and can demonstrate their understanding of that training in a validated examination process. When a tester successfully completes a written and practical exam ABPA awards a certificate. Testers can present the certificate to employers to demonstrate their understanding of backflow prevention and cross-connection control and the ability to perform a field test of a backflow prevention assembly.



**Backflow Prevention  
Assembly Testers Course  
Billings Heights  
October 5-10, 2026**



Water & Wastewater utility operators and managers; plumbers; fire fighting personal, and others interested in backflow testing are invited.



# Backflow Prevention Assembly Testers Course

Billings Heights Water District

Oct 5 - Oct 10, 2026

## REGISTRATION FORM

**PREREGISTRATION:** Pre-registration is **absolutely necessary!** Complete this form and return it along with your course payment **BY September 14, 2026.** Space will be forfeited if payment is not received prior to the training.

**Space is limited to 15 people!!**  
**Registration closes September 14, 2026.**

A canceled registration after September 14, 2026 will be refunded at 50%. Please call MRWS at (406) 454-1151 for more information.

**WHERE:** County Water District, Billings Heights  
1540 Popelka Dr., Billings, MT

**COURSE FEES:** \$925 by September 14, 2026 (Oct 5-10 w./class materials) **New Certs-Full Course & Manuals**  
\$425 by September 14, 2026 (Oct 7-10) **Recerts Only - No Manuals**  
\$250 by September 14, 2026 (Oct 5-7 w/class materials) **For Information Seekers Only**  
\$ 50 by September 14, 2026 (Oct. 9 use of wet lab) **Recerts wishing only to take the exam**

**REGISTRATION CLOSSES September 14, 2026 — NO EXCEPTIONS**  
**SPACE IS LIMITED TO 15 PEOPLE — REGISTER FAST!!**

**EXAM FEE:** Register online with ABPA and pay the exam fee (\$300) by September 14, 2026. Go to: <https://www.abpa.org> to register. Click on the word "more" to the right of the word *Calendar* on the right side of the home page. Click on Billings. The screen login appears. ABPA members sign in. If you are not an ABPA member click on Continue as Guest. Complete the registration form and pay.

**CECs:** up to 3.6 for water & wastewater operators

**COURSE MATERIALS:** **Course materials will be mailed upon receipt of payment.** The USC FCCCHR Manual of Cross-Connection Control 10th Edition and the Montana Backflow Prevention Assembly Testers Manual are used for this course. **Those recertifying should already have these manuals and must bring them to class.** If you no longer have these manuals the fee is \$100 for a set.

**DAY 1: Monday, October 5, 2026**

9:00 am Registration  
9:30 am - 4:30pm

- Lecture
- Status of State Program
- Responsibility, Liability, and Authority for Prevention
- Hydraulics & Test Kits
- Connections & Unapproved Devices
- Special Application Devices
- Cross Connection Control

**DAY 2: Tuesday, October 6, 2026**

8:00 am -4:30pm

- Reduced Pressure Principle Assemblies (RP)
- Double Check Assemblies (DC)
- Associated Hydraulics & Maintenance & Repair
- Lab/Diagnostics/Troubleshooting

**DAY 3: Wednesday, October 7, 2026**

8:00 am - 4:30pm

- Pressure Vacuum Breakers (PVB)
- Spill Resistant Vacuum Breakers (SVB)
- Atmospheric Vacuum Breakers (AVB)
- Associated Hydraulics & Maintenance & Repair
- Lab/Diagnostics/Troubleshooting

**DAY 4: Thursday, October 8, 2026**

8:00 am - 4:30pm

- Reduced Pressure Principle Assemblies (RP)
- Double Check Assemblies (DC)
- Pressure Vacuum Breakers (PVB)
- Spill Resistant Vacuum Breakers (SVB)
- Lab/Diagnostics/Troubleshooting
- Practice Exam

**DAY 5: Friday, October 9, 2026**

8:00 am - Noon

- Lecture Review & Lab Testing
- 1:00 - 5:00 PM
- ABPA Written Exam only for New and Recerts

**DAY 6: Saturday, October 10, 2026**

8:00 am

ABPA Practical Exam Only for New and Recerts

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] New Certification [ ] Recertifying

**Indicate Amount & Method of Payment**

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Check # \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] PO # \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card: [ ] Master Card or [ ] Visa

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Security Code #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Send Payment to:

**MRWS**  
**9 3rd St. N #304**  
**Great Falls, MT 59401**

**Phone: 406-454-1151**

**Email: MTRuralWater@mrws.org**