

December 2008

Entry-Level Drinking Water Operator Course

Individuals who have received an operator-in-training (OIT) certificate on or after August 1, 2005 must take the *Entry-Level Drinking Water Operator Course* within 16 months from the date their certificate was issued or their OIT certificate will expire. If they take the course, their OIT certificate is renewed to three years from the date it was issued.

The course provides new operators with a basic understanding of water characteristics and pathogens, treatment and distribution processes, and the regulations that govern water quality. This course is intended to complement the on-the-job training that OITs receive from their employers.

How to Register for the Entry-Level Drinking Water Operator Course

The Walkerton Clean Water Centre (WCWC) is managing the delivery of the entry-level course. The WCWC has hired Ridgeway College as the training coordinator to schedule the training sessions and process all applications and registrations. The Registration Guide is available on the WCWC website at www.wcwc.ca

Overview of the Entry-Level Drinking Water Operator Course

The *Entry-Level Drinking Water Operator Course* is divided into two parts:

- Self-study - estimated to take 40 hours to complete and
- Classroom training - five days

As a first step in completing the entry-level course, the OIT must complete the self-study portion on his/her own time and write a test related to the self-study material. Once the OIT has passed the self-study test, he/she may attend the classroom training session. The classroom portion of the course also has a test. **OITs must successfully complete both portions of the course before their OIT certificate expiry date.**

The *Entry-Level Drinking Water Operator Course* covers the following subjects:

- Protecting the health of the public
- Regulations governing water quality
- Water related math and drawings
- Water characteristics and sources
- Disinfection
- Treatment
- Sampling
- Equipment
- Well operators
- Distribution
- Safety

For further information on registering for this course, contact:

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