

Metropolitan Washington Association of Plumbing-Heating-HP Inc.

## Newsleak - September 2025



A Message from Board President, Dick Rhodes

Hope everyone had a very nice summer. It's hard to believe that we are approaching the end of summer and soon we will be in the Fall Season! Man, does time go by so fast or what? Just seems like the other day we were waiting for Spring and Summer – now coming into Fall!

Your Chapter has been a bit busy over the summer. First, we are pleased to announce a revamping of our Chapter Website! We have been working with a local website design team over the summer to enhance our site, and make it more user-friendly. We have added the ability for you to register for our monthly meetings/tech sessions, pay for activities such as our Annual Golf Outing, Fishing event, etc., and

the ability to renew your membership via the website.

We have also included a listing of our current membership under "Membership/Member Directory," listing our current contractor and industry members. We encourage all of our contractor members to reach out to our Industry Members for your plumbing and HVAC needs. Be it a manufacturer's rep or one of our many supply house members, the information is there for you to quickly access their linecard and see who might be able to help you out.

You will now also have the **ability to** see what monthly trainings we have coming up in advance so that you can be sure to mark your calendars!

Please be sure to check out our revamped website: <u>MWPHCC.ORG!</u>

We will be kicking off our first Tech Training and Dinner on **Thursday**, **September 4th**.

In our efforts to include more HVAC trainings, our tech session will be presented by **Rheem Air & Water**. When most people think of Rheem

they think water heaters; however at our September meeting we will learn about the **Air Side of Rheem** with their HVAC offerings!

Be sure to register for the session on our newly revamped website: mwphcc.org

By the time this Newsletter comes out we would have held our annual Fishing Outing. The Glenn King Memorial Fishing Event was held on Friday, August 15th out of Solomons Island, MD. With a new format, starting at noon vs the early hours of the morning, various prizes offered, pre-fishing lunch, etc., the turn-out was fantastic! A huge thanks to Randy Duke of Winnelson for coordinating the event and Sue Thompson for all her "behind the scenes" work. Most appreciated!

Again, please be sure to check out our newly updated website: <a href="mailto:mwphcc.org">mwphcc.org</a>

See everyone at our September meeting!





The new degree of comfort."



Upcoming Tech Training
Thursday, September 4, 2025 6:00 pm
Holiday Inn, College Park, 10000 Baltimore Ave.

Sponsor: Rheem; Speakers: Maria Acosta & Rick Yost
The training will introduce Rheem's broad product portfolio with a focus on key
trends and applications, including refrigerant changes, heat pump product updates and a focus on some unique tankless and commercial products in the market highlighting Rheem's ability to service many applications.

Click HERE to register!

#### **Upcoming Tech Training**

Thursday, September 4, 2025 6:00 pm Holiday Inn, College Park, 10000 Baltimore Avenue

6:00 p.m.— 7:30 p.m.

Note: The Tech Training begins promptly at 6:00 p.m. with Chapter Dinner Meeting to follow

Maria Acosta and Rick Yost Rheem presenters

Rheem's Air & Water offering servicing both Residential and Commercial applications

This training will introduce Rheem's broad product portfolio with a focus on key trends and applications,
Including refrigerant changes, heat pump product updates and a focus on some unique tankless and commercials products in the market highlighting Rheem's ability to service many applications.

There will be hats/pens for all attendees and there will also be a cooler for the raffle winner.

#### Click HERE to register!



The new degree of comfort®



## 2025 MWPHCC TECH TRAININGS



SEPTEMBER 4, 2025 Rheem Air & Water

OCTOBER 2, 2025 Special Tech Session on HVAC Johnstone Supply NOVEMBER 6, 2025 Northeastern Supply

DECEMBER 4, 2025 D&B Distributing Co

#### Click HERE to register!

All trainings begin at 6:00 p.m. and are held for Chapter Members at Holiday Inn, College Park



## Inaugural Glenn King Memorial Fishing Tournament: A Community Celebration on the Water

On Friday, August 15, members of the MWPHCC gathered for a memorable day at the inaugural Glenn King Memorial Fishing Tournament, held at the picturesque Beacon Marina in Solomon's Island. This event not only honored the legacy of our Chapter's Past President and Treasurer, Glenn King, but also brought together a community of fishing enthusiasts and supporters for a half-day filled with camaraderie, competition, and enjoyment on the water.

With a total of eight boats and 80 enthusiastic participants, the tournament proved to be a resounding success right from the start. Prior to setting sail, attendees were treated to a delicious barbecue cookout at Angler's, generously sponsored by Ferguson and State.

Event Chair, Randy Duke, played a pivotal role in organizing the event, ensuring that all the details came together for a successful outing. Randy's leadership and commitment to foster community spirit were evident, as he coordinated the tournament logistics

and rallied both participants and sponsors.

Throughout the half-day outing, participants engaged in friendly banter and shared techniques and strategies for landing the biggest catch.

The Inaugural Glenn King Memorial Fishing Tournament was more than just a fishing competition; it was a testament to the spirit of community, cooperation, and friendship that embodies the MWPHCC. Events like these strengthen connections among members while honoring the legacy of a cherished individual.

As we reflect on the success of this **event, it's important to acknowledge** the efforts of everyone who participated, volunteered, and sponsored. We are grateful for your support and look forward to making this annual tradition even bigger and better in the years to come.

Until next year, tight lines and happy fishing!

#### Company Sponsors

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#### The Golden Fishing Rod Award

Nolan Stanley, Ferguson

#### **Biggest Catch**

Sam Nespor
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## GROWTH THROUGH COLLABORATION

## October 27-30 Grand Rapids, Michigan

## Big Value. Big Fun. New Experiences Have Been Added to the CONNECT 2025 Lineup.

#### Learning Labs & Podcast Pods on the Show Floor

Education doesn't stop with our 20+ expert-led sessions. This year, you'll find Learning Labs and live Podcast Pods happening right on the Product & Technology Showcase floor Drop in to hear the latest trends and insights from top industry pros.

#### Discounted Ways to Explore Grand Rapids

We're giving you more ways to enjoy the host city!

Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park – Monday, Oct. 27, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Choose a self-guided tour (\$70) or go deeper with the Behind-the-Scenes experience (\$75; limited to 15 registrants).

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum

Show your CONNECT badge and receive discounted admission at this iconic site honoring America's 38th president.

#### **Companion Program for Guests**

Thanks to the PHCC—National Auxiliary, companions can enjoy their own full schedule of activities! From a Walking Foodie Tour, a Frederick Meijer Gardens Tour, and a Henderson Castle & Winery Tour, to fun and informative sessions like a Gen Al Masterclass and a lively "PHCC Feud: Member Edition," there's something for everyone!

#### CONNECT Closing Party

It all wraps up with a night to remember at the Grand Rapids Public Museum, where science, history, and industry come together for one amazing closing celebration on Oct. 29. Bring your quarters and your best Pac-Man skills ... and don't miss the historic jukebox that celebrates Grand Rapids' legacy in American music!

#### Click here for more information or to register

## The Maryland PHCC Plumbing Apprenticeship Program Announces 2025 Open Enrollment & Skip Test

# PLUMBING-HEATING-COOLING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION Best People, Best Proctices:

## Launch Your Career With Us Today!

The Maryland Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Apprenticeship program is fully accredited and registered with the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Council, Department of Labor and Industry, registration number MATC 1430. Veterans Benefits: The program is approved for veterans' benefits as approved by the Veterans Administration.

Classes are held September through May, two evenings a week from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., 55 sessions, 165 hours per year. Tuition includes all books and special courses. The curriculum covers Related Theory Instruction, Trade Mathematics, OSHA Construction Safety, General Safety, Adult First Aide, Adult CPR, Blue Print Reading and State Plumbing and Gas Codes. Special course training; Fourth year apprentices attend the 32 hour Backflow Certification Course approved by the State of Maryland.

#### Class Locations

Catonsville Community College 800 S. Rolling Road, Baltimore, MD Monday & Wednesday Hours: 6 - 9 p.m.

Essex Community College 7201 Rossville Blvd., Baltimore, MD Tuesday & Thursday Hours: 6 - 9 p.m

#### REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THE 2025 FALL SEMESTER AUGUST 31, 2025

For additional information and applications please contact the Maryland PHCC office (410) 461-5977 or apply online at <a href="https://www.MarylandPHCC.com/apply">www.MarylandPHCC.com/apply</a> TRANSFER. We accept transfer students. Students who have attended and completed an Apprenticeship Program registered with the Maryland Apprenticeship & Training Council registered in the State of Maryland may transfer their records and register to attend our program.

TUITION: Tuition for Maryland Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractor member employees includes all books and special courses including CPR Training, OSHA Safety Courses and Backflow Certification Course.

SKIPTEST APPLICATION: Apprentices with 2,000 hours of documented experience working in the industry while holding a Maryland State Board of Plumbing Apprentice Certificate, are eligible to sit for the skip test. To apply, send a letter documenting the hours worked on the job signed by the Master Plumber, along with a copy of the applicants' State Apprentice certificate. A grade of 75% or higher is required in order to skip the first year of the program. If the applicant has 4,000 hours of experience, and passes the first year skip test with a score of 85%, he/she is eligible to take a skip test for the second year which must be passed with a score of 75% or higher. No applicant may skip more than two years. Deadline to register for the test August 1, 2025.

SKIPTEST DATE: August 9, 2025 ~ 10 a.m. MPHCC office located at 10176 Baltimore National Pike, Suite 205, Ellicott City, MD 21042.







#### PREPARING FOR A FORM 1-9 AUDIT

By: Nick Fortuna, Solutions, Summer 2025

If an ICE agent shows up at your business with a Form I-9 Notice of Inspection, take a deep breath and remember that it's not a pop quiz. You actually have time to prepare for this exam, and if you've been doing your homework, you're well positioned to ace it.

Immigration has emerged as a top priority for the new presidential administration, so U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is expected to carry out more Form I-9 audits than in years past. A Notice of Inspection can be delivered in person or through certified mail, but businesses aren't required to take immediate action.

Instead, employers typically have three business days to provide I-9 forms and supporting documentation to prove that their employees are legally authorized to work in the United States. Businesses should use that window to contact their attorneys and collect the required documentation, which may include a copy of the payroll, a roster of current employees, business licenses, and articles of incorporation.



#### Click HERE to read the full article!



## EXPAND YOUR SKILLSET WITH OUR LEARNING CENTER

The Washington Gas Learning Center offers a growing selection of training resources to enhance the skillset of our participating contractors in the EmPOWER Contractor Network. This learning center offers interactive training courses taught by industry experts. Trainings are available from any computer or mobile device, allowing to enhance your education at anytime on your own schedule. Classes include:



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Learn new skills and start boosting your business today by joining our exclusive EmPOWER Contractor Network. To join the contractor network and for complete program details, please visit:

WashingtonGas.com/MWPHCC

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EmPOWER Maryland programs are funded by a charge on your energy bill, EmPOWER programs can help you reduce your energy consumption and save you money.





## 32-Hour Backflow Certification & 8-Hour Recertification

#### **Initial Certification**

September 2-4, 2025 October 14-16, 2025 November 3-5, 2025 December 11-13, 2025

#### Recertification

September 4, 2025 October 16, 2025 November 5, 2025 December 13, 2025

The initial certification consists of a **32-hour**, **3-day class**, where participants develop a working knowledge of the causes and principles of backflow and backflow prevention. Recognizing proper backflow prevention assembly application and operation is stressed. Complete understanding and the ability to perform accepted field-test procedures for all backflow prevention assemblies is required for successful completion.

The **8-hour, 1-day class** provides a **recertification** opportunity to keep your certification current and up-to-date.

#### ABC CraftMasters

6901 Muirkirk Meadows Dr, Suite F Beltsville, MD 20704 Click here for more information about upcoming dates and registering!

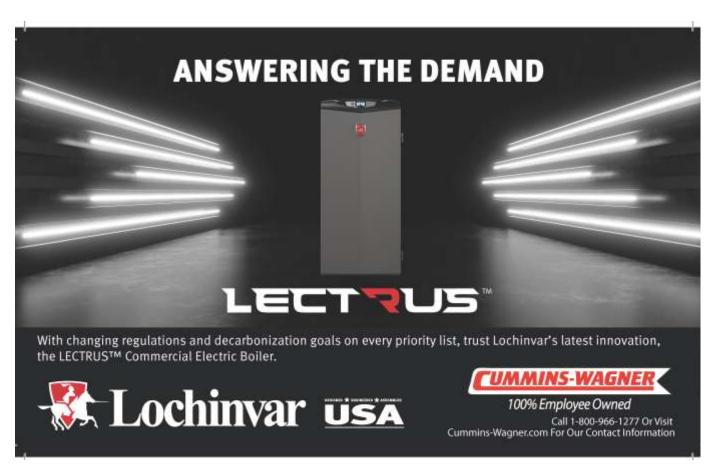


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Check out these online trainings! Once you register, you can work on them anytime, when it's convenient for your schedule! Click on the links for more details about the training, as well as registration information!

- Plumbing and HVAC-R Workforce Readiness No cost intro to the industry course to help you recruit employees.
- <u>Plumbing Pre-Apprentice Course</u> and <u>HVACR Pre-Apprentice Course</u> Helps entry-level plumbing workers be productive as helpers and choose their career path.
- Fast Track to Service Plumbing and Fast Track to Service HVACR Start training your service techs at any time.

Click on the training title for course information and registration.

We know your time is valuable and you have always been **ESSENTIAL** to us!

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Commercial & Industrial: Groundwater, Heating & Air Conditioning, Water Boosting, Swimming Pool



Contact Kevin Cerretani of The Joyce Agency Call: 703-898-2020

Email: kevin@thejoyceagency.com









Hello,

We're excited to invite you to the upcoming **Net Zero Energy Homes webinar** designed to educate our partners on the critical role natural gas
plays in the development of **Net Zero Energy Homes**. We will explore the
benefits of incorporating natural gas into residential design and address key
considerations for future home construction.

Attendees will gain a clear understanding of the distinctions between Net Zero Energy and Net Zero Energy Ready homes. We will also provide an overview of available rebates within our territory and conclude with a presentation of a Net Zero Energy home currently under construction, demonstrating the practical application of natural gas in an energy efficient design.

#### EVENT DETAILS

Date: Wednesday, August 27, 2025

Time: 8:30 AM

#### REGISTER TO ATTEND

If you have any questions or need further information, feel free to reach out to Luella Greene-Miles at <a href="mailto:lmiles@washgas.com">lmiles@washgas.com</a>.





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### Washington Gas Annual Event Sep 09, 2025 3:30pm - 6:30pm

Washington Gas invites you to an unforgettable evening packed with value — great food, great company.

FREE Dinner and your choice of FREE 1-Hour Gas CEU (to keep your credentials current) or Best Practices and Safe Excavation.

Exclusive Access to **Pipetown** — see up close why care and precision are critical when working with gas.

Special Rebate Opportunities — unlock savings opportunities that facilitate sales and customer satisfaction.

Credit Union Access — explore financial benefits you can share with your employees

Don't just learn — network, eat, and leave with more than you came for.

#### Click here to register

Washington Gas 6801 Industrial Road, Springfield, VA 22151 View on map



#### Residential Water Heating Standards Are Changing.

### **Bradford White Is READY!**

As part of an effort to reduce energy consumption, the Department of Energy (DOE) is setting new energy conservation standards for residential water heaters. Bradford White currently has **Built to be the Best® residential products** that meet these requirements, and we're actively developing **exciting new products** to meet future demand.

#### New DOE Residential Energy Conservation Standards (NAECA 4: May 6, 2029)

#### Residential Gas-Fired Water Heaters

Less Than or Equal to 55 Gallons Damper, fan-assist or power vent may be needed Products with standing pilots will likely go away

More Than 55 Gallons

(≤75,000 BTU/hr) must still meet condensing requirements for NAECA 3

NOTE: Under the new DOE Commercial Standards, (effective 10/6/26), Residential-duty commercial gas-fired storage models (>75,000 BTU/hr to <105,000 BTU/hr) will be required to meet increased UEF requirements that will necessitate the use of condensing technology.

#### Residential Electric Storage Water Heaters

Less Than or Equal to 35 Gallons The following changes will take effect for Small and Very Small electric storage water heaters:

- Small Electric Storage Water Heaters (≥20 and ≤35 gallons of storage volume will have First Hour Rating (FHR) limitations and a maximum temperature setting of 135°F)
- Very Small Electric Storage Water Heaters (<20 gallons in storage volume will have minimum Uniform Energy Factor (UEF) requirements and First Hour Rating (FHR) limitations)

More Than 35 Gallons

Will be required to be a heat pump water heater since this is the only technology that can meet the more stringent UEF requirements at this time

NOTE: Products manufactured before May 6, 2029 (December 26, 2029 for tankless) can still be sold even if they don't comply with the new requirements. Be sure to check your local building/plumbing codes to specific site requirements.

#### Bradford White is Already Prepared.

We currently have residential water heating products available that are compliant with the new energy conservation standards, and we're expanding our high-efficiency residential offerings. While these standards are still a few years away, we will keep you informed and help you meet these new regulations as they are further clarified.

#### Bradford White is Built to be the Best"

Regardless of industry changes, Bradford White residential water heaters will always be designed, engineered, and built with quality for outstanding performance, efficiency, and durability to meet your needs.

#### Compliant Products from Bradford White:

#### Residential Gas Storage

- · Atmospheric Vent Fan Assist
- · Damper Atmospheric Vent
- · Power Vent and Power Direct Vent

#### Residential Electric Storage

- · AeroTherm® Heat Pump Water Heaters
- Utility Models
- Electric storage\* models: RE330S, RE230LN6, RE240L6, RE240LN6, and RE130L

#### Residential Gas Tankless

Not impacted by DOE changes. All residential gas tankless products meet 2026 requirements.

\* See electric storage water heater requirement

#### QUESTIONS?

We're here to help you get ready for these changes. For assistance, please contact your Sales Representative, Regional Sales Manager, or Director of Sales.



0621







Gruvlok



Gruviok Ductile Iron red Couplings and Fittings



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150lb and 250lb Flanges



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Stainless Steel Flanges 150lb, 300lb, Plate



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Cooplets



Cast Iron Fittings 25h Black Threaded





Cast Iron/ Ductile Iron Flanged Fittings



Cast Iron/ Ductile Iron Flanges 150b and 250b Flanges



Copper Press Copper Press Fittings.



Carbon Press Carbon Press Fittings for Gas and Water Service



Stainless Steel Press Stainless Steel Press Pittings



Sanitary Tubing 125to 20' sticks, 364 and 3 Starriess Steel 1/2" - 5"



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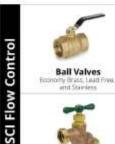
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Territory Manager - Jobsite Solutions Washington D.C./ Baltimore

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john.constantine@milwaukeetool.com

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Email: gpmarkle@nhyates.com
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Contact: Brandon Agnew

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<u>brandon.agnew@northeastern.com</u> Website: www.northeastern.com **ROI** Marketing

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Email jamie.leo@tsomerville.com
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Email: DOsman@washgas.com Website: www.WashingtonGas.com

Washington Winnelson Company

Contact: Steve Erickson

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Phone: (301) 386-7771

Email: <u>serickson@winnelson.com</u>

Website:

www.washingtonwinnelson.com

## Metropolitan Washington PHCC Board of Directors 2025

#### Officers:

#### **President**

#### **Dick Rhodes**

Vice-President Procurement & Purchasing Bryant Group, Inc.
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#### 1st Vice President Elie Safi

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#### Treasurer Bill Warshauer

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## Secretary John Davis

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Email: jjd8959@gmail.com

#### **Contractor Board Members**

#### John Barry (Past President and retired member)

Email: jjebarry@gmail.com Mobile: 202.841.5871

#### Silas Naecker

President, The John G. Webster Company Master HVACR, Plumber & Gas Fitter 240-433-1300 Office 202-439-2867 Cell 240-433-1315 Fax

#### Otto Seidel

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#### **Brendan Warshauer**

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#### Fred Werth, Past President

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Web: www.kensingtonplumbingandheating.com

## Metropolitan Washington PHCC 2025 Board of Directors

#### **Industry Board Members**

#### **Carl Anderson**

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Hydronics Sales Manager Washington/Baltimore

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#### Jason Breeden

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