

Local Utility Company Bats 1.000 and Goes “6 for 6” in Wastewater Certification Testing

Enviro-Tech, a North Carolina wastewater treatment company headquartered on the Outer Banks, recently went “six-for-six” when six operators took certification tests and all six successfully passed their tests with the NC Division of Water Quality.



Enviro-Tech operators who went “6 for 6” in passing their certification test for the North Carolina Department of Water Quality are, from left to right: Greg Shelton, David Robertson, Monte Hooker, Bill Freed, Jimmy Bliven, and Brian Costenbader.

Certification of wastewater treatment operators is a mandatory program in North Carolina ensuring that treatment systems are being properly operated and maintained. Certification requires operators to have demonstrated a certain level of job related knowledge, skill, experience, and ability. It provides a documented level of assurance that operators are competent in safe work practices and can manage in a manner that fully protects public health and the environment.

In some professions, certification tests have high pass rates. This is not the case for wastewater treatment operators, where the pass-rate of these tests is less than 50%. This makes the Enviro-Tech’s “6 of 6” unique as these tests challenge the knowledge, experience, and training of operators across the state.

“While I am extremely proud of our professionals on many occasions, I have never been as proud as when I saw the results of our latest certification and up-grade tests,” noted Bill Freed, President of Enviro-Tech. “Among the reason for our success is a company-wide commitment to the environment and to the science that guides us as we manage wastewater facilities,” he continued.

Most people do not realize the required academic rigors of being a wastewater treatment operator today. Wastewater professionals need to be part chemist, part environmentalist, part mathematician, and part scientist - because all of these skills are required to successfully manage today's modern wastewater treatment facilities. It takes multiple licensees or operators with multiple certifications to manage even a small wastewater plant. As the size and required treatment levels increase, so does the level of licensure or academic requirement to operate the plant.

To become a certified wastewater treatment operator, North Carolina requires its operators to pass stringent certification tests. These tests, divided into biological and collection groups, have four levels...Grade 1, which is the introductory level, to Grade 4, which is the highest ranking an operator in North Carolina can have. Stringent criteria have been developed for each class.

In June, Enviro-Tech sent 6 of its 12 staff operators to Williamston to take various tests for Wastewater Certification and all six operators passed their individual test. Taking certification tests and passing them were Mr. Jimmy Bliven and Mr. Bill Freed - Biological Wastewater Grade 4; Mr. David Robertson – Wastewater Collection Grade 3; Mr. Greg Shelton – Biological Wastewater Grade 2; Mr. Brian Costenbader – Biological Wastewater Grade 1; Mr. Monte Hooker – Wastewater Collection Grade 1.

Enviro-Tech, a premier service provider in the wastewater industry, is headquartered in Harbinger and manages numerous private and governmental wastewater facilities throughout Northeastern North Carolina. Enviro-Tech continues to set the standard of excellence for all industry providers.

END

For More Information, Contact:

Bill Freed, President, Enviro-Tech
252-491-5277 ext 202 (office) -or- 252-207-5853 (cell)
bfreed@envirotechnc.com