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TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

A Publication of The Independent Master Plumbers of Westchester

September 2022

The Independent Master Plumbers of Westchester

P O Box 326
Tuckahoe, NY 10707
914-287-IMPW
karen.dimitriou@gmail.com

COMMITTEE:

Anthony Schiavo
President

George Bassolino
Vice-President

Steve Spano Secretary

Pat Sementa Treasurer

Board Members:

Mario Bruni James DeMaria Chris Casa Mike Ferro Josephine O'Grady Frank Nicosia

Executive Director:
Karen Dimitriou

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022 6:30pm The Cabin Restaurant 1172 Knollwood Road White Plains, NY

Our Meeting Sponsor:



President's Message

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming meeting on Thursday, September 29, 2022 at The Cabin Restaurant. This is our first meeting after the summer break and there are lots of new things happening,

Some of the items being proposed before the County License Board are:

- Introduction of a journeyman requirement to qualify for Master Plumber exam (similar to NYC)
- Introduction of a requirement for a Licensed Master Plumber to add a Continuing Education requirement as part of the license renewal process
- Introduction of a requirement for a Master Plumber practical exam
- Discussion of 51% ownership requirement for licensed Master Plumbers' businesses
- Discussion of Utilities working on gas piping systems that require a permit and inspection by the Authority having jurisdiction.

On another note, Westchester County License Plumbers' renewal forms were mailed out and licensees should have received them by now. If you have not yet received them you should contact the Office of Consumer Protection at (914) 995-2000.

During the meeting we will discuss the confidential email link that was set up to allow you to report any potential incidents of illegal plumbing work performed in the County. All complaints will be filed by the IMPW and not by you. It is the first step in combating this practice.

There are some updates on Operator Qualification. Renewals are moving along at a slow pace. There is talk that several new qualifications may be needed. The most recent painting task was added last year. Possession of this task allows you to paint gas pipes. There is also some talk about increased enforcement of this important requirement.

Lastly, if you are not receiving meeting call letters, please contact us with your email address.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the next meeting.

It is expected to be a very informative and well-attended meeting.

Space is limited so please reserve your seat by emailing Karen

Dimitriou at: karen.dimitriou@gmail.com to insure your

attendance.

Hope to see you on:

Thursday, September 29, 2022

<u>6:30pm</u>

The Cabin Restaurant 1172 Knollwood Drive White Plains, NY

Sincerely, Anthony Schiavo, President



Special
Thanks
To
Our
September
Sponsor

At CPR Restoration we treat our Plumbers right!

rewarding We understand that our relationships with contractors such as plumbers is a top priority, which is why we have the best Plumber Referral Program. Often times. plumbers are the professionals on the scene of a flood, especially if the flood is due to appliance failure, or broken water main. If you are a plumber, make sure you call us for any of the following services:

- Flood Water Extraction
- Drying Services
- Mold/Remediation
- Sewage Cleaup
- Pipe Leak/Break
- Drain Backups
- Foundation Leaks
- Asbestos Abatement
- Smoke/Soot Damage

Call Today to Learn to Earn! 215-704-4958 917-300-8343

File A Complaint With Westchester Consumer Protection

File a Complaint With Westchester County

Consumer Protection

The IMPW represents the Independent Master Plumbers of Westchester to give them a voice on issues and events and to present a unified front for input on the Local and County level. Many of our members have expressed concern for covering and/or unlicensed plumbing work being performed within Westchester County. If you are aware of covering or unlicensed work being performed, contact us via a confidential email on our website IMPW.net. You will find a link on the first page at the bottom labeled "Have Concerns?" and we will assist you in completing the complaint and forwarding it to the Consumer Protection Department/Westchester Plumbing Board. It is important that you provide as much information as possible for your complaint.

For more information, please visit:

https://consumer.westchestergov.com

Your consumers/customers/homeowners/residents should file a complaint within Westchester County Department of Consumer Protection by one of the following methods:

Click this link:

https://consumer.westchestergov.com/contactus/file-a-consumer-complaint

Email:

conpro@westchestergov.com

Phone:

914-995-2155

GAS OPERATOR QUALIFICATION UPDATE

Dear Westchester County DOT Gas Operator Qualification Participant,

According to our records, your Task 86/87 Operator Qualification expires in <u>December 2021</u>. To view your exact expiration date, please login to your OnBoard Learning Management Profile or scan the QR code on your OQ Card.

To renew your Operator Qualification, you must pass a three-part written exam (80% is the minimum passing score on each part) and a practical exam that is pass/fail. You are eligible to begin the requalification up to 6 months prior to your expiration date, however exams will be held based on availability and demand on a first come, first serve basis. The requalification exam cost is \$750 per person.

To be placed on the waiting list for the next available exam date please email impwoq@nycmpc.org. The written exam will take place at a Prometric Facility in your area (to be determined upon scheduling). The practical exam will be held at the Robert John Daly Memorial Training Center in Bellerose.

Please be advised that prior to taking the exams, you must complete an online refresher course no later than 48 hours before your written exam date. This course must be completed 48 hours prior to the exam date or your profile will be locked out and you will not be able to access the test. Please be advised that if you are locked out of the exam, you must pay a cancellation fee of \$200 and you will be placed back on the waiting list for the next available exam.

In addition, the MPC will be hosting optional 4-hour, in-person Operator Qualification Refresher Trainings at the Robert John Daly Memorial Training Center, adhering to all NYC COVID mandates. To register yourself or an employee, please contact impwoq@nycmpc.org for the next available refresher course.. The cost per person for this optional 4-hour in person training is \$599.

Please be advised that currently there is a strict maximum of 12 students per class. Each class will be filled on a first come, first served basis.

Regards,
Independent Master Plumbers of Westchester
PO Box 326, Tuckahoe, NY 10707
impwoq@nycmpc.org

<u>Special</u> Announcement!

NYS
Backflow
Testers
Association
Announcement

April 11

April 18 - 22

May 9

May 16-20

June 20

August 22

August 29 - Sept 2

September 19

October 10-14

November 14-18

December 12-16

December 19

New York State Backflow Testers Association (NYSBTA) will be expanding their teaching staff starting January 1, 2022. We will be adding Three (3) new Instructors to the Backflow Classes who have not only Backflow experience but also Plumbing experience as well. I am happy to announce the addition of:

Chris Casa

Lead Instructor

Josephine O'Grady "Jo the Plumber"

Asst. Instructor

Cornelius Brady

Asst. Instructor

With the addition of these three (3) we will also be having a third teaching location. The Third location will be in Mount Vernon, NY. By having this third location we will be able to reach out to the people in New York City/5 Boroughs better since there will be a train stop not too far from the school.

Besides the new Instructors for the Backflow classes, NYSBTA will be having CPR/AED, OSHA, and other classes in safety.

Additional classes are in the works and will be announced when they are ready in the near future.

John E. Cimino

Founder of NYSBTA

Please do not forget to have your test kits calibrated!

You can also purchase testing equipment on our website.

Applying Paint Type Coatings to Above Ground Gas Piping Now Part of Task 87

Applying
Paint
Type
Coatings
To
Above
Ground
Gas
Piping

Now Part of Task 87 The Independent Master Plumbers of Westchester is pleased to announce that effective Friday, January 21, 2022, those Gas Operator Qualification members successfully completing Covered Task 87 Written Exams AFTER January 21, 2022 will be additionally qualified to prepare and apply paint-type coatings to above ground DOT jurisdictional gas piping that requires corrosion protection coating maintenance. Please note additional questions were added to the Task 87 Written Exam to ensure competency in recognizing proper surface preparation techniques as well as application of paint type coatings. The Task 86/87 Refresher Training Module was also updated to cover pipe surface preparation and paint type coating application.

Note: If you have already re-qualified in Task 87, and you wish to be qualified for preparation and application of paint type coatings, you will either need to requalify by taking the Task 87 exam, otherwise, you may wait until the next requalification cycle.

Background Information:

This program qualifies operators to perform specific tasks that require DOT Operator Qualification. The training and certification program for Task 86/87 incorporates specific parts of existing DOT tasks and combines them with the knowledge a plumbing technician already possesses. This hybrid qualification program benefits the licensed plumber and their employees by allowing them to achieve Operator Qualified status with a minimal amount of expense and time.

Recently the Utilities have determined that under certain circumstances, the persons painting and coating DOT jurisdictional piping will be required to be Operator Qualified. The task for painting and coating is a standalone DOT task. Presently, obtaining this task would require additional training and passing an exam. When we became aware of this new requirement the Independent Master Plumbers of Westchester together with their Gas Working Group Partners requested that this additional qualification be added to the existing Task 87. Thanks to the hard work of our Partners, that mission was accomplished. Our members now have the ability to automatically obtain this additional qualification during the renewal process. For members who are not subject to requalification or have recently requalified and wish to obtain this additional qualification you must schedule and retake the Task 87 exam. If you recently requalified, you will receive a separate email from the Independent Master Plumbers of Westchester within the next week. Please contact the Independent Master Plumbers of Westchester at impwog@nycmpc.org with any additional questions.

<u>DISCLAIMER:</u> This News Alert is supplied for informational purposes only and it is not intended to constitute legal advice or the viewpoint of the Independent Master Plumbers of Westchester. If you wish to unsubscribe from receiving these emails, please reply to this email with the words "REMOVE FROM E-BLAST" in the body.

2022 Meeting Dates

Mark Your <u>Calendars</u>

Sponsorships are available for 2022!

Please contact Karen Dimitriou for details @: karen.dimitriou@gmail. com

2022

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								30	31																		

January 27

February 24

March 31

April 28

May 26

June 30

September 29

October 27

No meetings held in:
July
August
November
December

Space is limited!
Contact Karen to make your reservation

karen.dimitriou@gmail.com



President: Anthony Schiavo

Vice President: George Bassolino

Secretary: Steve Spano

Treasurer: Pat Sementa

Board Members: Mario Bruni James DeMaria Chris Casa

Executive Director:Karen Dimitriou

INDEPENDENT MASTER PLUMBERS OF WESTCHESTER

IMPW, Inc., P.O. Box 326, Tuckahoe, NY 10708 (914) 287-IMPW

Quality Pluming Safely Done + Fair Competition = Free Enterprise

Dear Valued Member and Vendor,

Over last few years the IMPW has grown dramatically, adding many new member plumbing firms and Associate Trade (vendor) members. Our monthly meetings are increasingly well-attended and vendor meeting sponsorships have become a popular and effective method for vendors to reach the targeted audience: Westchester licensed plumbers. The IMPW is dedicated to the support of the Independent Westchester Plumber.

We are writing you today to offer you an opportunity to reach that same audience by advertising in the 2022 IMPW Directory & Buyers Guide. It contains updated information for all Westchester municipalities as well as vendor, distributor and manufacturer information. The IMPW Directory is used daily, throughout the year, by licensed plumbers. It is the first place plumbers look when locating and selecting vendors to make purchases for their businesses and when searching for municipality & permitting information for Westchester County. For you, this is an excellent opportunity to reach your targeted audience.

Participating in the **2022 IMPW Directory & Buyers Guide** also provides support for the IMPW and the plumbing industry by letting everyone know you are surviving this continuing "challenged economy' and are still ready to do business! (Let's face it, many haven't survived).

We hope you will agree that this is a unique opportunity to reach the audience you desire and support an organization that is so important to your customers.

Enclosed is the Advertising Application and Rate Sheet for participation in the upcoming **2022 IMPW Directory & Buyers Guide.** Please return no later than May 31, 2022 to:

Karen Dimitriou, Executive Director, IMPW 152 Lawrence Place, New Rochelle, NY 10801

We thank you for your support. For more information or details on these opportunities, please contact:

Karen Dimitriou, Executive Director (914) 487-IMPW or via email at karen.dimitriou@gmail.com

Please complete this form and return to:

Karen Dimitriou, Executive Director, IMPW 152 Lawrence Place, New Rochelle, NY 10801

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Directory &
Buyers
Guide
Application

Contact Name:
Company Name:
Street Address:
City, State, Zip Code:
Phone Number:
Email Address:
PAYMENT INFORMATION:
Enclosed please find check in the amount of: Check Number:
Payment by Credit Card: Type of Credit Card: () Mastercard () Visa () American Express
Name as it appears on card:
Credit Card Number: Exp Date: CCV #: Billing Address:
ADVERTISEMENT COSTS AND SIZES: HALF PAGE ADVERTISEMENT - \$250.00 (41/2" x 31/2") FULL PAGE ADVERTISEMENT - \$350.00 (41/2" x 71/2") GOLD PAGE ADVERTISEMENT - \$400.00 (41/2" x 71/2") COVER PAGE ADVERTISEMENT (41/2" x 71/2") (Contact Karen Dimitriou for pricing/ availability)

We will need camera-ready artwork for all advertisements.

For more information, please contact Karen Dimitriou at: (914) 487- IMPW or via email at karen.dimitriou@gmail.com

2022 IMPW Newsletter Advertising Application



PAYMENT INFORMATION:

TYPE OF CREDIT CARD:

2022 IMPW NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING



P.O. Box 326, Tuckahoe, New York 10707

GENERAL INFORMATION:

The IMPW is dedicated to the support of the Independent Westchester Plumber. Our monthly newsletter provides you with an opportunity to reach every licensed master plumber who does business in Westchester County. In addition it reaches county officials, other related trades, insurance agents, manufacturers representatives, supliers and vendors.

This is an excellent opportunity for you to reach your targeted audience!

We hope that you wil agree that this is a unique opportunity to reach the audience you desire and support an organization that is so important to your customers.

ADVERTISING DEADLINES:

Artwork needs to be submitted by the first of each month in pdf format.

Please note that all ads will be black and white.

AVAILABLE ADVERTISEMENT SIZES & PRICING:

_ QUARTER PAGE ADVERTISEMENT: (4 ½" X 3 ½")

\$195.00 per m	onth (3 month minimum), a 12 month commitment = 1 month free
	SINESS CARD SIZE ADVERTISEMENT: (3 ¾" X 2 ½") onth (3 month minimum), a 12 month commitment = 1 month free
<u>A</u>	PLICATION FOR NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING:
CONTACT NAME:	
COMPANY:	
PHONE NUMBER:	FAX NUMBER:
EMAIL ADDRESS:	

NEXT MEETING DATE:

Thursday,
September 29, 2022
6:30 pm
The Cabin Restaurant
1172 Knollwood Road, White
Plains, NY

General Disclaimer Statement

This information provided in this newsletter is to be used only to educate businesses and the general public on plumbing and related construction issues that may affect their daily business or personal lives.

All opinions expressed herein are those of the individual IMPW newsletter or its editors. The IMPW does not guarantee the accuracy or the correctness of advertising articles or references to information sources herein, or does the IMPW intend to endorse, rate or otherwise officially comment on products available. Therefore, the readers are cautioned to rely on information contained herein at their own risk.

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The information contained in this newsletter is believed to be correct and accurate. However, the IMPW cannot and will not assume responsibility for the consequences of errors contained in the articles or misapplication of any information provided.

IMPW expressly disclaims any liability for any special, incidental or consequential damages, including without limitation, lost revenues, or lost profits, resulting from the use or misuse of the information contained in this newsletter.

The Independent Master Plumbers of Westchester Mission Statement

Our Mission:

It is the mission of the IMPW to represent the Independent Master Plumbers in Westchester, to keep them apprised of issues and events that impact their trade and livelihood and to provide them with an opportunity to take part in, provide input, and impact the decision-making process that effects the plumbing trade, and to strive to create and maintain a level playing field for Independent Plumbers.

History:

In the mid-1990's, a few local plumbing companies got together with a shared a vision: They felt it would be to the advantage of everyone in the county (county residents, master plumbers, tradesmen, legislators, etc), if an organization was formed to represent the Independent Plumbers in Westchester County. Up to that point, Independent plumbers were fragmented and each operated with little exposure to their counterparts and competitors and with absolutely no opportunity to take part in the decision-forming processes at the local or County level. In fact, an early catalyst for their vision and the formation of the IMPW, was the impending adoption of a new local law that would establish a County-wide plumbing license. This new 'County' license would replace the 35+ local licenses required throughout Westchester County. Up to that point, Independent licensed Plumbers had absolutely no input into the formation of the initial rules and requirements that were to be adopted and that would ultimately have a dramatic impact on the plumbing trade (and their ability to continue to be a part of it) in Westchester County.

The three initial companies contacted every Independent company listed in the county, held multiple meetings that included all these companies, and ultimately formed the IMPW. From the outset, the first impact of the new IMPW was to provide representation for Independent Master Plumbers at the County level where we found legislators that, literally, had no idea just how many Independent plumbers existed in Westchester. This was understandable since up to that time the only Plumbing representation at that level was by the Plumbing Union(s).

The fledgling IMPW quickly impacted the proposed/impending Plumbing License Law and was instrumental in making last-minute necessary modifications to some of the proposed 'rules' that protected the livelihood of Independent Plumbers and their ability to continue working in Westchester County.

Today

Since then, the IMPW has worked hard to gain more representation at the County level. The IMPW is currently working with the Westchester County Plumbing License Board to help create a better Plumber's and Journeyman 'testing' system, to provide more training for plumbers, journeymen and apprentices, and to continue to strive for a more level playing field in the legislative and decision-making process at the County level. We have monthly meetings and publish a monthly newsletter. We've worked with other organizations (Like the New York Alliance for Fair Competition) to represent Westchester Master Plumbers at the State level and before the Public Service Commission to stop unfair competition by Utility companies in the plumbing & heating area. Our numbers have grown from the first three companies to over 100 Master Plumbers today. As of this writing, two members of the IMPW are now seated as members of the Westchester County Plumbing License Board and a 3rd seat is available for an Independent Journeyman.