PREPARING THE PIPE TRADES OF TOMORROW TODAY

KENNY WAITE
UF TREEO INSTRUCTOR and HIGH SCHOOL PLUMBING TEACHER

HOW CAN WE ENSURE PIPE TRADE WORKERS IN OUR COMMUNITY ARE MAKING ETHICAL DECISIONS?

HOW CAN WE PREPARE THE PIPE TRADES OF TOMORROW TODAY?

Kenny Waite
• Over 30 years in plumbing
• State Certified Master Plumber in Florida
• UF/TREEO certified tester in 2000
• UF/TREEO Center Backflow Instructor
• Former Backflow Tech for Hillsborough County Schools
• Plumbing Teacher for Hillsborough County Schools

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

- 7th Largest District in the Nation
- Over 300 facilities
- Over 200 school sites
- Over 1500 Backflow Prevention Assemblies

How it all began.

• Recession 2008
• Researched current spending on backflows
• $27.00 X 1500 = $40,500
• If its sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

NEED FOR SAVINGS

✓ Researched the inventory of installed assemblies
✓ Replacements vs. repairs
✓ Submitted the idea
✓ Hired as Backflow Inspector (testing only)
Findings

- Backflows were installed in areas that did not need a backflow assembly (inactive meters and water heaters)
- Same backflow assemblies tested by City and County
- Sites were not tested in an efficient sequence
- A need for site surveys

- Asked purveyors for additional time
- Surveyed the sites
- Created a map of the sites
- Developed a calendar to ensure all assemblies were tested in a calendar year with time for repairs as needed.
- Set up testing in a logical order.
WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?

- MONEY SAVING
- EFFICIENT
- SAFETY

MOST IMPORTANTLY – IT’S THE ETHICAL THING TO DO

Plumber salary

The average Plumber salary in the United States is $56,285 as of July 30, 2019, but the range typically falls between $48,954 and $64,392. Salary ranges can vary widely depending on many important factors, including education, certifications, additional skills, the number of years you have spent in your profession.

Reference:

www.salary.com/research/salary/benchmark/plumber-salary

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Why Students Drop Out

The Gates Foundation asked college students who had dropped out what factors motivated their decision. Of all the possible factors, the highest responses were primarily financial.
The Best Jobs for Trade School Graduates

- $77,980
- $57,442
- $64,176
- $30,048

By Median Annual Salary

Electrician: $77,980
Machinist: $57,442
Carpenter: $64,176
Plumber: $30,048

the balance
Work Ethics

- Important to have
- For you and your employees
- Long term results
- Know the code and follow it
- Safety for your customers
- Always remember to do the job right!