

# Plumbers and Drainers Licensing Board



## INFORMATION SHEET – number 3.

*This newsletter will be emailed to those who have provided email addresses.*

### **NEW WEBSITE**

The Plumbers & Drainers Licensing Board website has recently had a make-over, giving it a new address, new colours and design as well as some updated information.

We are trying to make the site more user friendly and useful by providing application forms, links to other interesting sites, FAQ's etc.

Please check out the site and if you have any suggestions for information that could be added, just hit the feedback button and give the Registrar your ideas.

### **WHO NEEDS TO BE REGISTERED / LICENSED?**

Plumbing seems to be a very mobile trade with plumbers moving from state to state on a regular basis, so it's important to remember that anyone who does plumbing work in the NT needs to be registered or licensed in the NT. **Licences from other states are not valid in the NT.**

If you employ someone to do plumbing work for you, you should **check they have a current NT card.**

If you employ an apprentice, make sure he or she knows that, under Mutual Recognition, it's much easier to register in another state if you **first register in the state where you did your training.** Anyone who completes an apprenticeship should register with the Board as soon as they finish the apprenticeship – even if they don't intend to stay here.

### **WHAT IS MUTUAL RECOGNITION?**

If you intend to work in another state, you need to register with that state's licensing board **before you start work.**

Under the Mutual Recognition system, once you are registered or licensed in one state, you can apply for the equivalent in any other state and, **provided you have a current licence,** you are allowed to start work the day you lodge the complete application.

If you don't have a current card, the local Board has to assess your qualifications and the process takes a lot longer. You can't work until the process is complete and you have a card - so make sure you keep your card current.

Our website has links to web pages where you can check the equivalent of your licence in other states and get more information about Mutual Recognition.

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## **LEAVING TOWN FOR A WHILE?**

If you're going travelling, check the **expiry date** of your licence/registration **before you go**. If you will be away when the card expires and haven't arranged for your mail to be forwarded you won't get the renewal notice, so if you want the renewal notice sent to a different address, just let the Registrar know.

Alternatively, why not lodge the renewal application before you leave rather than try to sort it out when you get back – you will still get 3 years from the renewal date but won't have to worry about it while you're on holiday. Also, if you decide to work while you're away, it will be easier to get a licence under Mutual Recognition if your NT licence is current.

## **DIDN'T GET A RENEWAL NOTICE?**

If your card is about to expire and you didn't get (or you've lost) the renewal notice, you can download an application form from the website or call the Registrar to get one sent out to you. The **Board's website** has a list of registered & licensed plumbers which is updated every month, so when you go looking for a form, take the opportunity to check your address at the same time. Wrong address? That might be why you didn't get a renewal notice. Call the Registrar and update your details.

## **BACKFLOW PREVENTION COURSE**

Where:	Charles Darwin University, Darwin
When:	21 & 22 August 2008
Bookings:	Call Peter Rintel on 8946 7189

If you are qualified to install and test Backflow Prevention Devices, your licence/registration card should show this. Just send the Registrar a copy of your certificate and she will issue you with a new card, complete with endorsement.

## **BATHROOM RENOVATIONS / BUILDING PERMITS IN WET AREAS**

If you are replacing 'like for like' (eg putting a bath where a bath used to be) you may not need a building permit for the work, but you still have to fit the new fixture to **today's standards and codes**. You can't put a new water heater in place of an old one and install it to the old standard – make sure you know the **current requirements** for the work you are doing.

## **GAS LICENCES**

Gas licences in the NT are **not** issued by the Plumbers & Drainers Licensing Board. If you want to apply for a gas fitter's (Dangerous Goods) licence, you need to contact NT Worksafe. There is a link from the Plumbers & Drainers Licensing Board website to the dangerous goods licensing area – follow the link and in the search field put 'dangerous goods'.