What are you waiting for?

- Median pay $43K/year
- Job Security
- Serving the Public Trust
- Career Longevity
- Many opportunities for advancement
- Growing field
- Currently over 100 Water Treatment Plant operator openings in Arizona

What are you drinking?

Becoming a Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

www.AZWater.org
In the United States there are over 111,000 certified Water/Wastewater Operators.

With a growth rate expected to exceed 9,000 new Operators jobs in the next 7 years.

- Population expansion to the Southwest has created a demand for additional potable water supplies.
- The aging workforce of qualified and certified operators are beginning to retire in great numbers.
- 40% of the workforce will reach retirement age in the next 5 years.

Who do I contact?

- **AZ Water Association website:** www.azwater.org
- **American Waterworks Association website:** www.awwa.org
- **Gateway college website:** https://sites.google.com/a/maricopa.edu/adeq-operator-certification/home
- **ADEQ Website:** http://www.azdeq.gov/OperatorCertification

Who will take their place?

**Become a Water Treatment Plant Operator**

- In the United States there are over 111,000 certified Water/Wastewater Operators.
- With a growth rate expected to exceed 9,000 new Operators jobs in the next 7 years.

**How do I become a Water Treatment Plant operator?**

- Start by contacting your local or state primacy agency. In Arizona, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is responsible for the state’s operator certification program.
- Working with Gateway Community College, ADEQ administers exams for Operators in four grades for the following water disciplines:
  - Water Treatment
  - Water Distribution
  - Wastewater Treatment
  - Wastewater Collections
- A grade 1 certification is the entry level certification and is a minimum requirement for most starting positions in any water utility.
- Applicants need only have a high school diploma to apply for an exam.