

# FREE TCEQ SPECIAL TOPICS TRAINING FOR WATER OPERATORS



Location: Horseshoe Bay City Hall, 1 Community Drive, Horseshoe Bay, TX 78657

Date: Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Time: 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

TCEQ's Texas Optimization Program (TOP) looks forward to providing this **FREE** training, with the opportunity to gain up to eight (8) water operator Continuing Education (CE) hours *and 2 hours of Resiliency CE credit*.

Public water system (PWS) operators have spoken, and we have listened! Enjoy these frequently requested Special Topics, with opportunities to discuss your specific issues with our expert instructors.

To register, complete this [form](#).

Time	Special Topic	Instructor
<b>8:00 – 10:00</b>	<p><b>EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: Don't let an emergency surprise you</b></p> <p>For PWSs, one challenge is being ready for the inevitable weather and other emergencies. Being prepared helps you weather the storm.</p>	<p><b>Mark McCasland, PE</b></p> <p>Mark joined TOP after decades helping PWSs at EPA. He has extensive experience in emergency preparedness and response, including helping PWSs after on the ground after hurricanes.</p>
<b>10:00 – 12:00</b>	<p><b>CHLORAMINATION AND NITRIFICATION</b></p> <p>Chloramines can be complicated. This session will review some basics, answer questions about what the data is trying to tell you, and help you follow 10 steps to create your Nitrification Action Plan.</p>	<p><b>Charles Middleton</b></p> <p>Charlie has been with the TCEQ drinking water program for 13 years, helping with disinfection, cross connection control, and surface water treatment.</p>
<b>1:00 – 3:00</b>	<p><b>LEAD AND COPPER: Science and Update</b></p> <p>Lead and copper rules have been in place nationally since the 1980s... Don will explain why and provide updates on more recent changes.</p>	<p><b>Don Tharp</b></p> <p>Don has been working in the drinking water industry for over 40 years. He has helped numerous operators understand the intricacies of surface water treatment and all kinds of chemistry questions.</p>
<b>3:00 – 5:00</b>	<p><b>PFAS: The Forever Chemicals</b></p> <p>PFAS chemicals that are used in many products can enter the drinking water and cause increased health risk. Learn more about the expected regulations.</p>	<p><b>Mark McCasland, PE</b></p> <p>In addition to emergency preparedness, Mark has expertise in understanding PFAS and the expected impact of the new rules.</p>