

The South Dakota

PIPE CHATTER



MARCH 2026

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The Official Publication of the South Dakota Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors

SOUTH DAKOTA



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Pipe Chatter

Official publication of the South Dakota Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors, Inc.



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Upcoming Events

PHCC National Legislative Conference
May 5-6, 2026, Washington, DC

East River Golf Tournament
June 26, 2026,
Grand Falls Casino, Larchwood, IA

West River Golf Tournament
September 10, 2026
Elkhorn Ridge Spearfish, SD

PHCC National Connect
October 19-22, 2026
Milwaukee, WI

The South Dakota Pipe Chatter is published monthly and is the official publication of the South Dakota Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors, Inc only insofar as notices, bulletins, and reports are concerned. Editorial and personalized new stories reflect the opinion of the writers and not that of SDAPHCC. Neither SDAPHCC nor this magazine accepts responsibility for statements or claims made for their products by advertisers.



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**SDAPHCC ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION
& PHCC NATIONAL HVAC APPRENTICE CONTEST
FEBRUARY 24-27, 2026
THE LODGE, DEADWOOD, SD**

**Contractor of the Year - Two Recipients
Wolff's Plumbing & Heating & Midwestern Mechanical**



Dan Hartman (left) and Brett Kaltvedt (right) receiving award from SDAPHCC President Jeremy Seeman (center)

**Wholesaler of the Year
Ferguson**

**Manufacturer's Rep of the Year
Mechanical Sales SD**



Sam Schreier and Joe Porzelt accepting the award from SDAPHCC President Jeremy Seeman



Chet Togel accepting the award from SDAPHCC President Jeremy Seeman

**2026 SDAPHCC ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION
FEBRUARY 24-27, 2026 - THE LODGE, DEADWOOD, SD**

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PHCC National Education
Foundation Seminar Series

2026 SDAPHCC ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION FEBRUARY 24-27, 2026 - THE LODGE, DEADWOOD, SD

The SDAPHCC Annual State Convention was held February 24-27, 2026 at The Lodge in Deadwood, SD. Nearly 70 individuals from Contractor member companies and 80 individuals from Sustaining member companies attended the event. In addition, 5 students from Hill City High School and their instructor attended.

During the convention, the SDAPHCC hosted the National HVAC Apprentice Competition plus the state HVAC and Plumbing apprentice competitions. Over 30 apprentices, judges, committee members, and special guests participated in these events.

SOUTH DAKOTA HVAC COMPETITION



The addition of the national competition, changed the convention schedule and created a need to hold the SD HVAC competition prior to the national HVAC competition. As a result, the convention was extended by more than one day.

Three HVAC apprentices completed in the SD HVAC Competition all day on Tuesday and the winner was announced on Tuesday night. Will Lauseng from Waterbury Heating and Cooling received first place and advanced to the national contest.

Because there were 2 remaining open spots in the national competition, it was determined to allow the other two contestants to move on to the National contest as well. (See page 11 for more information).

FUTURE LEADERS PROGRAM

The addition of an extra day offered the opportunity to add a new Future Leaders Program to the convention. The following 8 sessions occurred on Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning:

- "The Nuts and Bolts of a Mental Health Safety Plan" - Mike Keller, Helpline Center
- "Maximizing Your Plumbing/HVAC Industry Impact" - Jed Scheuermann, IAPMO
- "Soft Skills for Technicians" - Bill Hanke, Johnstone Supply
- "Management & Accountability" - Darin Williamson, EOS Worldwide
- "Ok, I'm a leader, now what?" - Thomas Asfeldt, The Twelve7, LLC
- "How to be a Great Boss" - Katie Johnson, EOS Worldwide



Mike Keller



Jed Scheuermann

**2026 SDAPHCC ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION
FEBRUARY 24-27, 2026 - THE LODGE, DEADWOOD, SD**



Bill Hanke



Ron Sell



Darin Williamson

- "Communication, Coaching, Conflict" – Thomas Asfeldt, The Twelve7, LLC
- "Increase Capacity, Reduce Risk, Save Money - How Leaning on Experts in AI, HR, & Financial Services Can Impact Your Bottom Line"- A Panel Discussion featuring Jason Boutwell, ProResources; Kevin Elsing, ELBO Computing Resources; and Harony Kolling, Brady Martz

CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES AND WELCOME RECEPTION

Wednesday afternoon transitioned to Continuing Education for both plumbing and HVAC.

Tom Hines presented the four hour continuing education course required by the Plumbing Commission for annual plumbing license renewal. The course this year focused on the changes in the new 2024 Code.

In addition, Ron Sell, Johnstone Supply, conducted a four hour HVAC Continuing Education Class for those with HVAC licenses.

Following the Continuing Education Classes, attendees enjoyed a fun welcome reception.

BOARD MEETING

The SDAPHCC Board of Directors held their regularly scheduled Board meeting on Wednesday night.

During the meeting, the Board reviewed the current state of the Association with regards to finances, membership, and apprenticeship. Updates were given regarding educational opportunities, golf events, and the 2026 Convention. The Board also discussed upcoming events, and new programs.

Ryan Sheesley, Mitchell Plumbing & Heating, completed his term as Board Member and Lanny Murphy, Frisbees Plumbing & Heating, became the newest Board Member. In addition, Adam Kaskie, Plumbing & Heating Wholesale, completed his 2 year term as Sustaining Member with Jimmy Walsh, Hilti, replacing him.

2026 SDAPHCC ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION FEBRUARY 24-27, 2026 - THE LODGE, DEADWOOD, SD

NATIONAL HVAC APPRENTICE COMPETITION

The National HVAC Apprentice Competition began on Wednesday morning with 9 contestants. Apprentices from South Dakota, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Tennessee, and California competed all day Wednesday and Thursday morning. The contest showcased the talent, dedication, and professionalism of the next generation entering the industry. (For more information, see pages 13 & 14)

SOUTH DAKOTA PLUMBING APPRENTICE COMPETITION

The South Dakota Plumbing apprentice Competition was held all day on Wednesday. Three apprentices from SDAPHCC companies competed for the opportunity to advance to the national competition at Connect in October (For more information, see page 12).

THURSDAY MORNING SEMINARS and GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday morning started off with breakfast and a full slate of seminars. Thomas Asfeldt, The Twelve7, LLC, presented "Extreme Ownership" based on the book by Jocko Willink and Leif Babin. Katie Johnson, EOS Worldwide, then presented "Exit Stage Left - How to Successfully Transition Your Business".

Mid-morning, attendees transitioned into the Annual General Business Meeting in which reports were given on the current state of affairs for all areas of the Association and new board members were officially elected.

Following the Business Meeting, Andrew Renn with Federated Insurance shared updates and important information on fire safety.

Lastly, the morning sessions wrapped up with a panel discussion featuring Jason Boutwell, ProResources; Kevin Elsing, ELBO Computing Resources; and Harmony Kolling, Brady Martz. The panel discussion was titled "*Expensive Mistakes - How Mistakes in HR, Finance, & AI Can Unravel a Lifetime of Hard Work*"



Thomas Asfeldt



Jason Boutwell, Harmony Kolling, Kevin Elsing, Andrew Renn



Katie Johnson

2026 SDAPHCC ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION FEBRUARY 24-27, 2026 - THE LODGE, DEADWOOD, SD



Ryan Sheesley &
Jeremy Seeman



SDAPHCC 2026 Board Installation



Jeremy Seeman &
Josh Hollub

STUDENTS

High school students from Hill City High School arrived at the convention mid-morning on Thursday. The students learned about the hands-on apprentice contest and visited with volunteers about the p-h-c industry. They discussed how to enter the industry and why it is a great career choice.

AWARDS LUNCHEON

At noon, attendees enjoyed the Awards and Installation Luncheon. During lunch, Dan Quinonez, PHCC Educational Foundation Executive Director, addressed the group and shared with attendees the latest developments within the PHCC Academy.

Dan was followed by Josh Hollub, PHCC National Secretary. Josh presented updates from the National association as well as installed the 2026 SDAPHCC Board of Directors.

Ryan Sheesley was recognized for his completed term as Board Member. Jeremy Seeman was also recognized for completing his term as Association President.

Lastly, SDAPHCC President Jeremy Seeman presented the Contractor of the Year Award to Midwestern Mechanical (Brett Kaltvedt) and Wolff's Plumbing & Heating (Dan Hartman) for their outstanding support of the association especially regarding workforce development and the apprentice competitions.

SPOUSE EVENT

On Thursday afternoon, a group of spouses learned how to make fun and interesting charcuterie boards. The class was taught by Joselyn Haines with Amazing Graze Charcuterie.



Julie Taecker, Jenn Christensen,
Tracy Kaltvedt, Sara Farstad,
Shelly Kruse

2026 SDAPHCC ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION FEBRUARY 24-27, 2026 - THE LODGE, DEADWOOD, SD

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SEMINARS

Thursday afternoon was filled with demonstrations and trainings in the smaller side rooms. Northwest Pipe hosted one room and featured a display from Mulcahy Co. Dakota Supply Group hosted a second room and offered trainings from Bradford White, Uponor, & Victaulic. Johnstone Supply and Granse Trio hosted the third room.

TRADE SHOW

The Trade Show was held on Thursday night with 35 companies participating as vendors. Attendees enjoyed a buffet meal while networking with each other and the vendors.

Jeremy Seeman announced the winners of the State HVAC and State Plumbing apprentice contests. (For more apprentice contest details see pages 11 & 12). The Wholesaler of the Year Award was presented to Ferguson, and the Manufacturer's Rep of the Year Award was presented to Mechanical Sales SD.

Next, Dan Quinonez from PHCC National Educational Foundation announced the winners of the National HVAC Apprentice Competition. (For more information see pages 13 & 14).

In addition, a gun raffle and silent auction were held during the trade show. Congratulations to Larissa Cook, Wolff's Plumbing & Heating and Ashlie Terrasaz, Howe, Inc, on winning the gun raffle.



CONVENTION WRAP UP and PLANS FOR 2027

The convention closed on Friday morning with breakfast and tear down.

The next Annual State Convention will be held at The Lodge in Deadwood, SD on March 2-5, 2027. (Please note the date change).

**2026 SDAPHCC ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION
FEBRUARY 24-27, 2026 - THE LODGE, DEADWOOD, SD**

SDAPHCC HVAC Apprentice Contest

On February 24, three South Dakota apprentices competed in the state HVAC hands-on competition during the SDAPHCC Annual Convention at The Lodge in Deadwood, SD.

The following HVAC apprentices had the 3 highest written test scores in their division allowing them to compete in the hands-on competition:

- Michael Baker, Howe, Inc
- Will Lauseng, Waterbury Heating & Cooling
- Wesley Stroh, Howe, Inc

The winner of the HVAC division was Will Lauseng. Will automatically advanced to the National HVAC Competition held on February 25 & 26.

There were several members who worked hard to make this competition possible. A special thank you to the following:

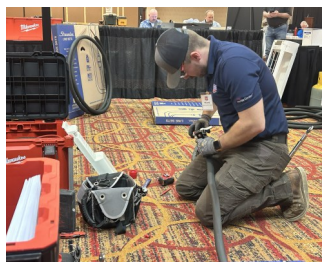
- Howe Inc; Midwestern Mechanical; and Wheelhouse Plumbing for hosting the written test in December.
- Ron Sell, Johnstone Supply; and Colin Wunder, Energy Dynamics for judging.
- Dan Hartman for organizing and administering the HVAC hands-on competition.
- Dakota Supply Group, Rapid City Winsupply, Energy Dynamics, and Johnstone Energy for sponsoring materials and jackets.



Wesley Stroh, Michael Baker,
& Will Lauseng



Will Lauseng



Will Lauseng



Michael Baker



Wesley Stroh

**2026 SDAPHCC ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION
FEBRUARY 24-27, 2026 - THE LODGE, DEADWOOD, SD**

SDAPHCC Plumbing Apprentice Contest

On February 25, three South Dakota apprentices competed in the state plumbing hands-on competition during the SDAPHCC Annual Convention at The Lodge in Deadwood, SD.

The following apprentices had the 3 highest written test scores in their division allowing them to compete in the hands-on competition:

- Kyle Bailey, Howe, Inc
- Chris Cool, Midwestern Mechanical
- Miguel Perez, Midwestern Mechanical

The winner of the plumbing division was Chris Cool. Chris will advance to the National Plumbing Competition which will be held at CONNECT 2026 in Milwaukee, WI.



Kyle Bailey, Chris Cool, Miguel Perez

There were several members who worked hard to make this competition possible. A special thank you to the following:

- Howe Inc; Midwestern Mechanical; and Wheelhouse Plumbing for hosting the written test in December.
- Vince Berry, Southeast Technical College; and Xavier Devlieck, Western Dakota Tech; for judging.
- Brett Kaltvedt for organizing and administering the plumbing hands-on competition.
- Dakota Supply Group, & Ferguson for sponsoring materials and jackets.



Jeremy Seeman
& Chris Cool



Kyle Bailey



Chris Cool



Miguel Perez

**2026 SDAPHCC ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION
FEBRUARY 24-27, 2026 - THE LODGE, DEADWOOD, SD**

PHCC National HVAC Apprentice Contest

The SDAPHCC hosted the National HVAC Apprentice Competition during its Annual State Convention at The Lodge in Deadwood, SD. Top apprentice talent and industry guests from across the country participated in the event.

The competition took place all day Wednesday, February 24 and the morning of Thursday, February 25. Apprentices tackled challenges designed to test them in real-world scenarios. Judges, composed of experienced industry professionals, assessed each participant's performance.



The following apprentices competed in the event:

- Vincent Califano, John Cipollone, Inc - Havertown, Pennsylvania
- Jantzen Fisher, Midwestern Mechanical - Rapid City, South Dakota
- Cole Kelley, Pipefitters Local 537 Boston - Boston, Massachusetts
- Nathaniel Magner, CroppMetcalfe - Fairfax, Virginia
- Dominic Valles, ACCO Engineered Systems - Pasadena, California
- Hayden Woods, Interstate Mechanical - Knoxville, Tennessee
- Michael Baker, Howe, Inc - Sioux Falls, SD
- Will Lauseng, Waterbury Heating & Cooling - Sioux Falls, SD
- Wesley Stroh, Howe, Inc - Sioux Falls, SD

A special thank you to the following individuals who helped with the technical committee and/or judging:

- Dan Hartman, Wolff's Plumbing & Heating
- Moe Kersjes, Wolff's Plumbing & Heating
- Dale Powell, PHCC National Educational Foundation
- Matt Bub, Quality Heating & Sheet Metal
- Scott Stringfellow, Rheem
- Chris Elam, Rheem
- David Brannen, Rheem
- Colin Wunder, Energy Dynamics
- Ron Sell, Johnstone Supply
- Craig Kaufman, Copeland



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FEBRUARY 24-27, 2026 - THE LODGE, DEADWOOD, SD**

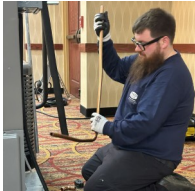
PHCC National HVAC Apprentice Contest

Congratulations to the top three winners:

- First Place - Cole Kelley, Pipefitters Local 537 Boston - Boston, Massachusetts
- Second Place - Jantzen Fisher, Midwestern Mechanical - Rapid City, South Dakota
- Third Place - Will Lauseng, Waterbury Heating & Cooling - Sioux Falls, SD



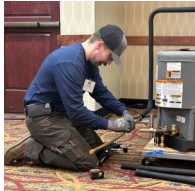
Josh Hollub, Dan Hartman, Jantzen Fisher, Cole Kelley, Will Lauseng, & Dan Quinonez



Nate Magner



Jantzen Fisher



Will Lauseng



Wesley Stroh



Michael Baker



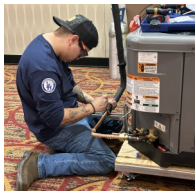
Vince Califano



Cole Kelley



Hayden Woods



Dominic Valles

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East River Golf Tournament

Thursday, June 25, 2026

Grand Falls Casino Golf Course

Larchwood, IA

9 Hole Scramble

Shotgun Start at 2pm

West River Golf Tournament

Thursday, September 10, 2026

Elkhorn Ridge Golf Course

Spearfish, SD

9 Hole Scramble

Shotgun Start at 2pm



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ACCA and PHCC Poised to Pursue Strategic Collaboration

By Staff Writer, PHCC-National Association

The leading organizations representing plumbing and HVACR contractors in the United States have launched a strategic collaboration as a part of their shared mission to strengthen the contracting industry.

As the two most established trade associations in the plumbing, heating, and cooling contracting industry, the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association (PHCC) and the Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA) have collaborated for years to help advance the business interests of businesses and professionals in their industry.

This new strategic relationship will allow PHCC and ACCA to deliver enhanced value propositions for their respective memberships and identify new opportunities to position the plumbing and heating/cooling contractor sectors for long-term growth and success.

“This strategic collaboration with ACCA will support growth for the plumbing and HVACR industry,” said PHCC CEO Cindy Sheridan.

“Because we share a similar mission and strategic goals, it makes sense to work more closely together and use our resources more strategically and effectively, while preserving our independent identities and strengths.”

A Steering Committee composed of volunteer leaders from both organizations is evaluating opportunities for the strategic collaboration. The organizations are exploring ways they can collaborate in key areas including events, education, workforce development, and legislative partnerships.

“ACCA’s job is simple—we work every day to make contractors’ lives better,” said ACCA President and CEO Barton James. “Collaborating with PHCC just makes sense. When two strong associations align, we amplify our voice, expand our reach, and deliver more practical value to the people in the field. This collaboration means more resources, stronger advocacy, and fewer headaches for our members. And that’s what it’s all about—helping contractors succeed, lead, and build better businesses.”

In the near term, PHCC and ACCA are collaborating to maximize events and legislative efforts. PHCC and ACCA members will be eligible for special registration discounts to attend the other organization’s major events. PHCC members can receive a special discount off the upcoming ACCA 2026 conference March 15-18; ACCA members are also eligible for a reduced rate to attend the May 5-6 PHCC Legislative Conference.

Additionally, ACCA’s advocacy leaders will take an active role in joining and participating in the PHCC Legislative Conference in both in 2026 and in 2027.



Regulatory Report



By Chuck White, PHCC National Vice President of Regulatory Affairs

PHCC Supports Appeal to U.S. Supreme Court

PHCC has joined with HARDI to file an amicus curiae brief in support of the Gas Industry petition to the U.S. Supreme Court (SCOTUS). At issue are two rules from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) which force both residential/mobile home gas furnaces (GF's) and commercial gas storage water heaters (WH's) to be condensing only products.

Per the rules, WH's would have an implementation date in October of this year while GF's would implement late in 2028. The amicus brief sets forth the co-filers rationale for SCOTUS to agree to consider the case. PHCC has long been opposed to mandating condensing only products, particularly in the case of GF's, believing that in some installations, venting issues could be costly if not prohibitive to the consumer. PHCC will continue to monitor the actions of the Court and provide any additional information as needed.

EPA Overturns Endangerment Rule

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has overturned the 2009 Endangerment Rule finding that the Obama Administration overstepped it's authority when the rule was created. This action eliminates the federal Green House Gas (GHG) emission standards for all vehicles and engines of model years 2012 to 2027 and beyond that resulted from the rule. EPA believes this action will make reduce the cost of cars and trucks for the American consumer and result in lower transportation costs for goods and services as well. NBC News reports that groups including the American Public Health Association, American Lung Association, Alliance of Nurses for a Healthy Environment and Physicians for Social Responsibility, along with environmental groups such as the Center for Biological Diversity, Conservation Law Foundation, Environmental Defense Fund, Natural Resources Defense Council and Sierra Club have filed suit to challenge EPA's decision.

OSHA Reportable Injury Information Due March 2

Under OSHA's electronic reporting regulations at 29 CFR 1904.41, many establishments are required to annually submit to OSHA's Injury Tracking Application (ITA) certain information from their OSHA recordkeeping forms (OSHA Forms 300A, 300, and 301). Covered establishments must electronically submit their OSHA injury and illness data by March 2 of the year following the covered year of the data. OSHA has a web portal for reporting last year's data available [here](#).

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A Second PHCC Visionary Peer Group is Ramping Up - Sign Up by April 30

PHCC National is launching a second round of Visionary Peer Groups in 2026.

These groups offer an exciting new opportunity for service and repair business owners and general managers to connect, collaborate, and grow alongside fellow contractors who share similar goals, challenges, and a passion for success.

Each peer group will meet monthly with an experienced business coach to exchange ideas, solve problems, and sharpen strategies in key areas such as: business growth and profitability; leadership and team management; and operations and efficiency.

Don't go alone in 2026 - join a community of forward-thinking professionals committed to helping one another thrive.

Be sure to sign up by April 30, as space is limited.

For more information, contact Beth Dobkin at atdobkin@naphcc.org or 916-835-5013.

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Continuing Education Classes Scheduled for March

SDAPHCC and IAPMO have partnered together to provide SD Continuing Education Classes for SD Plumbing Contractors and Journeymen. These classes have been approved by the South Dakota State Plumbing Commission to fulfill the required four hours of continuing education credit needed for annual license renewal.

Important Class Information

- Classes are held from 6:00 pm to 9:45 pm with scheduled breaks.
- Pre-registration is strongly encouraged; walk-in registrants will be accepted only if space allows. Walk-in registrants should arrive no later than 5:30 pm.
- Attendees will be required to sign an attendance log.
- If inclement weather conditions prevent travel, a class may be postponed. Information will be posted at www.sdphcc.org and emails will also be sent to registrants. Please be sure to include a valid email address with your registration. Attendees should exercise their own discretion and judgement.
- If you are unable to attend the class you registered for, please call IAPMO (708-995-3000) as soon as possible to cancel or transfer your registration.
- Registration Questions? Contact Customer Service at 708-995-3000



What to Bring

- Pen or Pencil
- SD Plumbing Code Book
- Your SD Plumbing License Number

Continuing Education Information

- This course has been approved by the SD State Plumbing Commission to fulfill the required four hours of continuing education credit needed for annual license renewal for journeymen, contractors, and third year licensed by examination apprentices. Other apprentices are invited to attend but are not required to acquire continuing education credit.
- This course is also approved for Iowa Continuing Education Credit. The course number will be announced at the class.
- Certificates of attendance can be downloaded from your iapmolearn.org account within 45 days after your class completion.
- For those unable to attend an in-person class, two virtual classes have been scheduled and the online course will be available late summer; both can be accessed at www.sdphcc.org.

2026 Plumbing Continuing Education Class Schedule

Aberdeen - March 16

Holiday Inn Express - Gold Rush Rm
3310 7th Ave SE

Brookings - March 3

Brookings Inn - A, B, & C Rm
2500 E 6th St

Huron - March 23

Crossroads Hotel
100 4th St SW

Mitchell - March 12

Mitchell Technical College-Nordby Trades Ctr
1800 E Spruce St **note new room**

Mobridge - March 17

Wrangler Hotel - Conference Rm
820 W Grand Crossing

North Sioux City - March 9

North Sioux City Community Center
205 Sodracs Dr

Pierre - March 18

Red Rossa Italian Grille – Highlands Room
808 W Sioux Ave **note new location**

Rapid City - March 5 (Last name A-K)

Rapid City - March 24 (Last name L-Z)

Western Dakota Technical College
Event Center - 800 Mickelson Dr

Sioux Falls - March 5 (Last name A-G)

Sioux Falls - March 10 (Last name H-M)

Sioux Falls - March 19 (Last name N-Z)

Ramkota Hotel - Jefferson/Lincoln or Harvest Rm
3200 W Maple St

Spearfish - March 3

Holiday Inn
305 N 27th St

Watertown - March 17

Watertown Events Center-Swan/Whitewood Rm
1901 9th Ave SW

Winner - March 19

Holiday Inn Express
1360 E Hwy 44

Yankton - March 16

Best Western Kelly Inn
1607 E Hwy 50

Virtual Classes

March 31, 2026 or November 16, 2026
6:00pm-10:00pm CST

Registration Information

Three Ways to Register for In-person or Virtual Classes

1. Online - Visit www.iapmo.org/SD or www.sdpfcc.org
2. Email - Complete the Registration Form and email it with credit card payment to seminars@iapmo.org
3. Mail - Complete the Registration form and mail it with payment to IAPMO at the address on form

Class Fee: \$80 payable to IAPMO

Acceptable Payment Methods:

Visa, MC, American Express, Check, Money Order

Registration deadline:

2 days prior to selected class date

Rapid City & Sioux Falls Classes:

Please make every effort to attend the date that corresponds with the first letter of your last name. If you are unable to attend on your designated date, pre-registration for another classes is greatly appreciated.

Registration Questions? Contact Customer Service at 708-995-3000



Registration Form



2026 South Dakota Continuing Education for Plumbing Contractors, Journeymen & Apprentices

Approved by the SD State Plumbing Commission to fulfill the requirements needed for license renewal

ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. FAST, EASY AND AUTOMATIC CONFIRMATION.

To secure your seat, register online any time at www.iapmo.org/SD
Online registration payment options available: Electronic-check or credit card

Registration Deadline: 2 days prior to the selected class date
Each attendee must complete a registration – photo copy this form as needed.

Please PRINT clearly

Class Location: _____ Class Date: _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____ Middle Initial _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

*Phone _____ *Email Address _____

*South Dakota Plumbing License Number _____

Iowa Plumbing License Number (if you hold an Iowa License) _____

**Required: Phone & email information is needed to contact you with questions regarding your registration or class notifications.*

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Register online at www.iapmo.org/SD • Registration Fee: \$80.00 • Class Time: 6:00pm to 9:45pm

MasterCard Visa American Express

Money Order/Check

Email Form and payment to:
seminars@iapmo.org

Mail money order/check payable to IAPMO to:
IAPMO, 18927 Hickory Creek Dr, Suite 220, Mokena, IL 60448

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ CVV _____

Name on Credit Card _____ Signature _____

Billing address for credit card _____

PHCC NATIONAL'S CANDIDATE'S CORNER

There currently is one candidate running for 2026 PHCC—National Vice President. Meet Tyler Arndt ... and watch for more messages from him in future issues.

"I was recently invited to attend the PHCC Leadership Summit in my home state of Wisconsin, held in Milwaukee. Bringing leaders together reinforced the strength of PHCC at every level. The Summit focused on collaboration, innovation, and preparing our association for the challenges ahead. Meaningful conversations and shared ideas came from leaders committed to moving PHCC forward. Experiences like this highlight the importance of engaged accessible leadership and strong communication across all levels. As PHCC continues to evolve, I'm encouraged by the direction and honored to be part of the conversations helping shape its future."

The election will take place at the 2026 PHCC Annual Business Meeting.



Whole-House Ventilation

Inside air can be up to 10 times more polluted than the air outside. To combat the issue of poor ventilation, many studies and building science experts indicate that today's homes need balanced ventilation throughout the day to maintain a healthy indoor environment.

Ask your DSG Sales Rep for details.



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PIERRE (605) 224-8855

RAPID CITY (605) 348-7100
SIOUX FALLS (605) 336-3880
WATERTOWN (605) 657-7800

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SDAPHCC Educational Foundation Scholarship Application

The purpose of the South Dakota Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors (SDAPHCC) Educational Foundation scholarship is to help individuals prepare for careers in the plumbing, heating, and cooling industry. This scholarship is particularly intended for students enrolled in trade related training programs in the state of South Dakota.

Two scholarships in the amount of \$2000 will be available for award each year.

Applicants should be planning to seek a career in the plumbing, heating, and cooling industry.

- Graduating high school seniors and non-traditional individuals are encouraged to apply.
- Part-time studies will be considered if applicant can show good cause for other than full-time studies.
- Preference will be given to those intending to or who are enrolled in a South Dakota based training program and who will incur out of pocket expenses for said program.
- Recipients are eligible to apply a second time for a subsequent training period. No more than two awards per person.

A letter of application to the SDAPHCC Educational Foundation including the following information is required for consideration.

- Applicant's contact information
- A typewritten paragraph sharing your career goals
- A sponsorship letter from a member in good standing of the SDAPHCC
- A letter of recommendation from a person that is influential in your life
- Brief description of work history (as appropriate)
- Grade transcripts if a current student

Letter of application and supporting documents must be received at the SDAPHCC office by the 1st of April and may be submitted in person, by mail or electronically. Award decision will be made in the month of April and notification of such award shortly thereafter. Disbursement will be made upon receipt of the request form from the training institution.

Awards are at the sole discretion of the SDAPHCC Educational Foundation Board of Directors. Immediate family members of the Board of Directors are ineligible.

Submit letter of application and all supporting information to the SDAPHCC office by April 1.

707 E 41st St. Ste 220, Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Email: kristie.phcc@midco.net - Phone: 605-271-7255

www.sdpfcc.org

Colorado Law Bans the Use of Most Propane Residential Water Heaters

By Bradford White Corporation



On June 1, 2023, Colorado Governor Jared Polis signed HB23-1161 into law after it was approved by both chambers of the Colorado General Assembly. The bill encompassed sweeping appliance efficiency changes that have a significant impact on water heaters that would be shipped into the state after the beginning of 2026. Perhaps most notably, the law would effectively ban the shipment of all non-ENERGY STAR® -certified propane water heaters into the state.

The law implements stringent nitrous oxide (NOx) emissions limits to all residential and commercial gas-fired water heater products that do not meet federal ENERGY STAR criteria. These standards are similar to emissions regulations that have existed for over two decades in other portions of the country, most notably in certain areas of the State of California.

However, in all those other jurisdictions there is no exemption for ENERGY STAR products, but there are exceptions for all residential propane water heaters. The reason propane water heaters are exempt elsewhere is because there are no residential propane water heaters on the market today that can satisfy the emissions requirements that have been established by the state.

As a result, the implementation of HB23-1161 will, unfortunately, leave limited options for the individuals and families who reside in the over 100,000 Colorado homes that rely on propane for water heating when their current product reaches the end of its life. Once the current supply of these products in the state is depleted, these homeowners will be compelled by the state to pursue one of two options, both of which may result in significantly increased costs.

The first option would be for the homeowner to replace their propane water heater with its more expensive ENERGY STAR counterpart, assuming one exists. This tradeoff often comes with significant, additional, installation costs for the homeowner that are largely related to modifying the vent system needed for the new water heater. For those not wanting to go the ENERGY STAR route, the second option would be to fuel switch to an electric water heater. However, this option often comes with significant, increased installation costs as well. These costs typically range in the thousands of dollars if electric panel upgrades or additional electrical wiring in the home are necessary. In either case, homeowners utilizing propane in Colorado could be left paying significantly more out-of-pocket to replace their water heater than they would have last year.

On Jan. 14, 2026, the Colorado General Assembly officially gaveled back into session, giving state lawmakers an opportunity to revise this law to exempt propane water heaters from the state's NOx emissions standards. This would make the state's law more consistent with all other laws and regulations like it around the country. If you know homeowners in the state that utilize propane, or are simply concerned about the impact this law will have on individuals and families in Colorado, [click here](#) to reach out to lawmakers in the state and make your opinion known.

If you have any questions about this matter, or any others related to government and regulatory affairs in our industry, BWC's Government and Regulatory Affairs team would like to speak with you. Also, if you know of any legislative or regulatory activity in your community or state that would impact our industry, please do not hesitate to contact us at BWCGovReg@bradfordwhite.com.

PHCC Leaders Unite to Enhance Member Value and Industry Impact

By Staff Writer, PHCC-National Association

Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors—National Association (PHCC) leaders from across the country came together January 31 in Milwaukee for the PHCC Leadership Summit, a forward-focused gathering designed to strengthen collaboration and alignment across all levels of the association.

“By bringing leaders together for meaningful conversation and collaboration, the PHCC Leadership Summit helped lay the groundwork for a stronger, more connected enterprise-wide PHCC—one that is better positioned to support the evolving needs of the industry,” said PHCC President Jason Pritchard.

Participants explored how PHCC National and state and local chapters can work together more effectively and efficiently to support contractors nationwide.

Key areas of discussion included gaining a deeper understanding of the unique roles each level of the association plays in serving members, building trust and alignment across the organization, and identifying opportunities for change that will increase value and impact for contractors and chapter members.



“As a result, PHCC members can look forward to deeper insights, stronger community support and expanded educational opportunities to help them adapt their businesses quickly, make informed decisions, and maintain a competitive edge,” added Pritchard.

Insights and momentum from the Leadership Summit, along with a strategic planning session held the previous day, will continue as PHCC leaders collaborate throughout the year. Many of these conversations will carry forward to CONNECT 2026, taking place October 19–22 in Milwaukee, and other PHCC initiatives focused on advancing the plumbing, heating, and cooling industry.



Do you know a company that could benefit from being a member in the SDAPHCC?

Contact the SDAPHCC Office (605-271-7255) to refer a potential new member.

From the Executive's Desk



By Kristie Brunick

Annual State Convention

What a fantastic few days we had together at the Annual State Convention in Deadwood! I can't help express the following gratitude I have after such a

great week:

- To Our Members - We had outstanding attendance and incredible engagement from our members. It's was so fun to walk through the convention and not only see contractors having good discussions with vendors, but also with each other.
- To Our Speakers - Our speakers delivered excellent presentations filled with practical information and new ideas for our industry. Many of them volunteered their time, and expertise to bring value to our event. I especially enjoyed hearing from attendees who gained useful information from our sessions.
- To Our Vendors and Specialty Room Sponsors - We had 35 vendor booths and 3 training rooms sponsored by our sustaining members. These members faithfully support the convention year and year and play a huge role in its success.
- To Our Sponsors - We are so fortunate to have dedicated members willing to financially support the convention and association. Not only do we have 5 major year-long sponsors, but we also had several event activity sponsors.
- To Our Volunteers - A special thank you to everyone who volunteered to help with various duties throughout the week. It's so encouraging to have members willing to assist with whatever is needed.
- To The Apprentice Competition Team - We especially had an incredible team of volunteers running the apprentice competitions! They invested a considerable amount of time, and effort to make the competitions a huge success.
- To PHCC National Educational Foundation - Thank you for partnering with the SDAPHCC to reinvent the HVAC Apprentice Competition. It was truly an honor and joy to welcome apprentices and guests from across the country to our event.



Please welcome our newest
SDAPHCC Contractor Member!

Carlson & Stewart Refrigeration
Hunter Evenson
3601 N St. Paul Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
605-334-7900

Please welcome our newest
SDAPHCC Sustaining Members!

Saniflo
Robert DeLuna
105 Newfield Ave
Edison, NJ 02237
732-225-6072

Applied Vision Works
Brad Matthies
8605 E Saddle Creek Rd
Sioux Falls, SD 57110
605-215-4920

Executive Message Continued

Between the educational sessions, competitions, trade show, and fun activities, this year's convention was a great reminder of the strength of our association and the value of coming together as an industry. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed.

I'm already looking forward to 2027!

Continuing Education Classes start in March

This month we are focused on our annual plumbing continuing education classes. We have 16 in-person classes planned throughout the state during March. In addition, 2 virtual classes have been scheduled and the online class will be available mid-year. Be sure to pre-register for the class that works best for you and your employees. Please see pages 22-24 for information and registration.

Scholarship Application

If you know a high school senior who is considering entering the industry, please have them submit a scholarship application. I've included the form on page 26. The deadline for the 2026-2027 school year is April 1, 2026.

Golf Tournaments

Summer is right around the corner and it is not too early to starting thinking about golf. Check out the dates on page 16, mark your calendar and plan to attend!

SD STATE PLUMBING COMMISSION

217 W Missouri Ave,
Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: 605-773-3429
Email: SDPlumbing@state.sd.us
Website: <https://dlr.sd.gov/plumbing/default.aspx>

Next Commission Meeting: 4/23/26, 10:00 am

Mandy Nielsen, Program Director

Commission Members

Jonathan Kist, President, Plumber Member
Jeffrey Leuning, Vice-President, Public Member,
Duane Levanen, Plumbing Contractor Member
James Bailey, State Health Dept Rep
Brian Cooper, Public Member



South Dakota Association of Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors

707 E 41st St, #220, Sioux Falls, SD 57105

1-605-271-7255 or 1-800-640-7422

www.sdphcc.org