



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

TREEO CENTER

Division of Continuing Education
Center for Training, Research and Education
for Environmental Occupations (TREEO)

3900 SW 63rd Boulevard
Gainesville, Florida 32608-3848
352/392-9570
(Fax) 352/392-6910

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 29, 2003

CONTACT: Allison Keating
352-392-9570 x 131

UF/TREEO Center's Les O'Brien Wins National Award

GAINESVILLE, Fla. – University of Florida TREEO Center's Les O'Brien was one of two recipients awarded the Golden Eagle Award from the American Backflow Prevention Association at its international conference in Detroit, Mich. in May 2003. The Golden Eagle Award was introduced in 1998 to recognize individuals for outstanding contribution to the ABPA.



Les O'Brien, CET (left) receives the American Backflow Prevention Association Golden Eagle Award from Ron Chapman (right), the association's immediate past president.

“Les not only meets the criteria required for this award but surpasses them,” said Ron Chapman, ABPA immediate past president. “Les has always shown dedication and support to the association and toward our membership. His many contributions made this year’s choice an easy one, and we are proud that he is a part of the American Backflow Prevention Association.”

O'Brien has been instructing backflow prevention and cross-connection control courses in Florida since 1983 and has been responsible for training instructors of backflow prevention tester training programs worldwide in his position as senior training specialist at UF/TREEO. He is a past president of the American Backflow Prevention Association and currently a member of the association's training committee and public education committee.

The ABPA is a non-profit trade association committed to advancing all aspects of backflow prevention through education and technical assistance for the continued protection of water users.

The University of Florida Center for Training, Research and Education for Environmental Occupations (TREEO) offers more than 250 non-credit, professional development courses each year in the environmental and health and safety fields.