

6/8/05

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Don't Miss the NeRWA Utility EXPO!!!

If you haven't done so yet, mark your calendar for Wednesday, July 20, 2005,

Then, pack your car, pick-up or utility truck and head to the First Annual NeRWA Utility EXPO at Christensen Field, Fremont, NE, for a full day of VERY INTERESTING activities and demonstrations!

Everyone is welcome because there will be something there for each of you—water and wastewater operators, city employees in any capacity, clerks, bookkeepers, board and council members, mayors, administrators Bring your wife or husband, girl friend or boy friend, and their neighbors. You may want to bring your kids and even your mother-in-law. Cancel that trip to Worlds of Fun or Las Vegas, because on July 20, all roads will lead to Christensen Field for the NeRWA Utility EXPO!

You can tell that I am excited about this new event. Here's why you will want to attend:

- Opportunity to see live, working exhibits and demonstrations
- Opportunity to see and test out a variety of vehicles and machines
- Complimentary lunch provided
- CEU's offered for Water and Wastewater
- INDOOR and OUTDOOR events
- Opportunity to see other people's girl friends, boy friends or their neighbors

NeRWA has flooded the mails with information for exhibitors and attendees, so most readers already have a picture of what to expect from the EXPO. Those of you who are familiar with our conferences in Columbus and Gering will see NEW and DIFFERENT exhibitors at the EXPO—from swimming pool vendors to those who deal in street sweeping equipment, lawn and garden equipment, backhoes and large construction equipment, among others. This is in addition to our long-time associate members who provide water and wastewater equipment and services. The goal of the EXPO is to expand the exhibits to include topics of interest to EVERY city and water/wastewater system in Nebraska.

Through the willingness of various sponsors, you be able to see an excavated area with shore boxes and hydraulic shores installed, with tips on practical safety for trenching and excavation that meet OSHA standards. You will be able to test out an automated meter reading system (radio read) and try your hand at reading some Fremont water meters while "driving by." You will be able to take GPS readings of water system components and download them onto a map of

Christensen Field. You will see firsthand how portable hydropneumatic tanks can be used to keep your pumps running smoothly in the event you have to take your water tank out of service--without the usual water running down the streets from fire hydrants. Have you heard of "pipe bursting" but never seen it in practice? Come to the EXPO! These are just some examples of the demonstrations and special activities being planned by equipment suppliers.

After checking out the OUTSIDE demos and exhibits, go inside the air-conditioned EXPO center and see more exhibits. Or attend training classes on the topics of Lift Station O & M, Swimming Pool Chemistry, or Lawn Irrigation Practices for Water Conservation, among others. (A minimum of 4 CEU hours for water or wastewater will be offered at the EXPO.) Or, relax and swap stories with old friends and make new friends.

Learn more about a Fleet Vehicle Purchase Program available for all utility members of NeRWA that provides deep discounts on a wide variety of Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge vehicles, including their best selling trucks, SUV's vans and passenger cars. Gene Steffy's of Fremont will be there to exhibit and talk terms if this program interests your utility.

Much more is in the works.

There is an old expression that goes something like this: Are you going to talk about it or are you going to do it? I'm done talking about the EXPO for now, and the time to DO IT is just around the corner.

I hope you take the time to DO IT as well. Make plans to attend the NeRWA Utility EXPO on July 20, 2005 at Christensen Field in Fremont. We look forward to seeing you there!