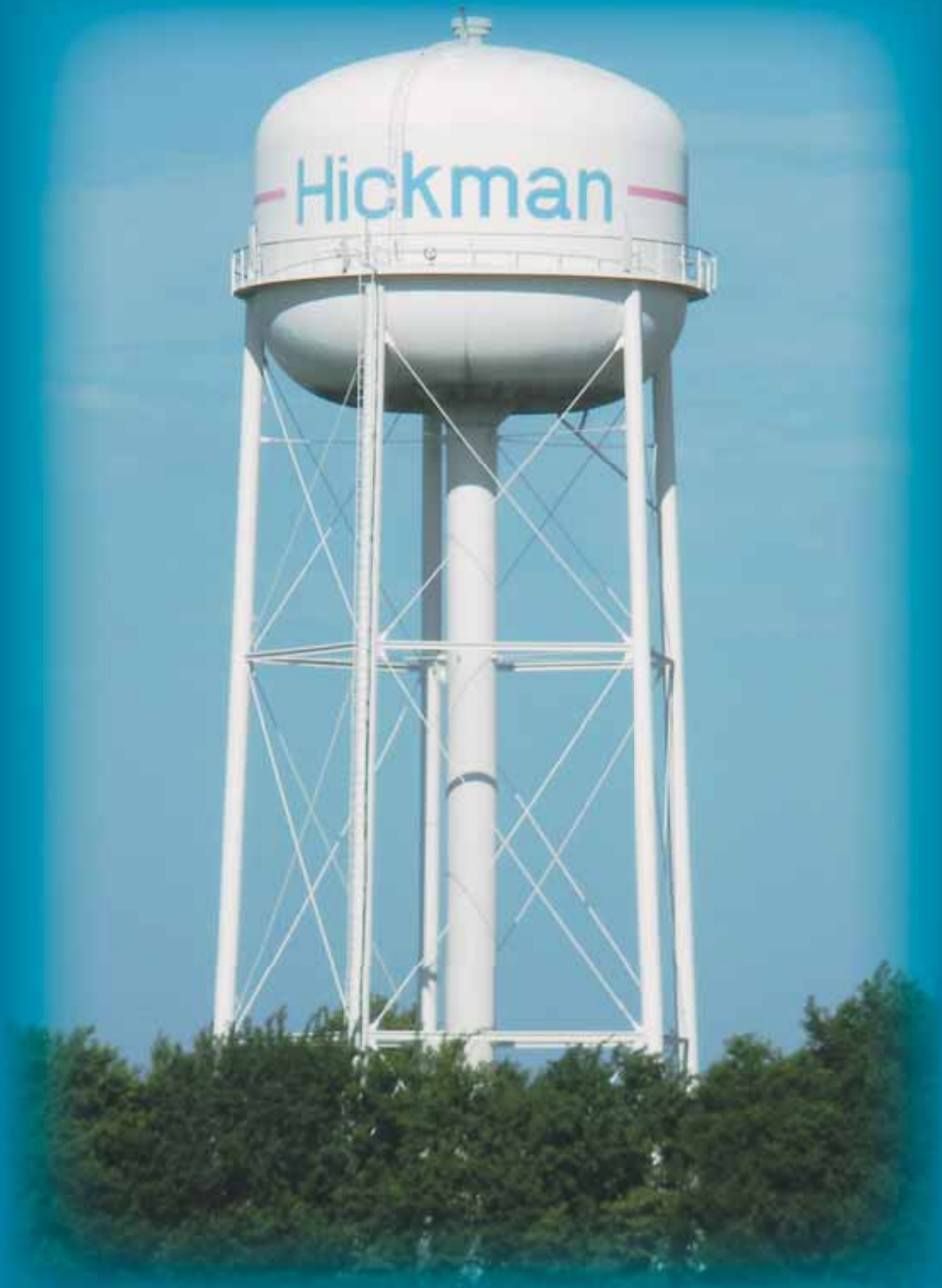


Issue 3/2009

Nebraska Rural Water Association



Nebraska Good Water News



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President:

Tom Goulette, National Director
444 S. Main St.
West Point, Nebraska 68788
(402) 372-2466

Vice-President:

Bob West
220 West "G" St.
Elmwood, Nebraska 68349
(402) 432-0298

Secretary/Treasurer:

Greg Bouc
Box 353
Valparaiso, Nebraska 68065
(402) 784-2313

Dennis Hoback
317 Hoback Road
Union, NE 68455
(402) 235-3077

Gene Schroeder
88963 541 Avenue
Bloomfield, Nebraska 68718
(402) 254-6758

Lyle Juracek
801 K St.
Neligh, Nebraska 68756
(402) 887-4735

Larry Wennekamp
124 E. 11th Street
Schuyler, Nebraska 68661
(402) 352-5444

Staff:

Salli Kemerling, Office Manager
Carol Jasa, Secretary
Randy Hellbusch, Circuit Rider
Russell Topp, Circuit Rider
Mike Stanzel, Deputy Circuit Rider
Barney Whatley, Capacity Development Specialist
Jim Heyen, Wastewater Technician
Charles Bausch, Groundwater Technician
Doug Buresh, ARRA Circuit Rider

Website: www.nerwa.org

"Nebraska Good Water News" is a quarterly publication of the NEBRASKA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION, 3390 Ponderosa, Wahoo, Nebraska 68066. Phone 1-800-842-8039 or (402) 443-5216 or FAX (402) 443-5274. Copies are mailed to all member rural and municipal water operators, Federal and State Legislators, associates and individual members.

The NEBRASKA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION is dedicated to the improvement and assistance of all public water systems in the State of Nebraska.

NOTICE: Nebraska Rural Water Association does not endorse any particular product or company in this publication. Membership and advertising should not be taken as an endorsement.

On the cover:

Water tower for Hickman, Nebraska

The Hickman water tower was constructed in 1976-1977. Since then it has been repainted 3 times. Its capacity is 300,000.

How'd We Do and Letters From...



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Beautiful

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April 27, 2009

Nebraska Rural Water Association
Barney Whatley
3390 Ponderosa St.
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear Barney -

Thank you so much for displaying information at the KFB Eco-Fair! This is the largest educational event of the year for Keep Fremont Beautiful with over 450 students and 100 adults attending the three sessions.

The success of the Eco-Fair is due in great measure to the quality of the educational displays and the experts who interact with the students. Thank you for donating a portion of your day to assist KFB and provide needed information to the students.

Mark your 2010 Calendar - the KFB Eco-Fair will be held on April 21, 2010. We hope you will be able to display next April!

Best Regards,


Sue Reyzlik
KFB Exec. Director

VILLAGE OF HOWELLS

P. O. BOX 351, 128 North 3rd Street
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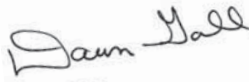
June 4, 2009

Nebraska Rural Water Assn.
3390 Ponderosa Street
Wahoo, NE. 68066

Dear Rural Water Association,

The Village Board as well as the employees of Howells would like to express their thanks for your assistance with the water/sewer rate study you helped us with earlier this year. Also the use of your equipment is invaluable to us. Please accept this token of our appreciation for all you do.

Thank you.


Dawn Gall
Howells Village Clerk

VILLAGE OF BELLWOOD

P.O. Box 188
Bellwood, NE 68624
Phone: Utilities Superintendent 402-538-4025
Village Clerk 402-538-4026

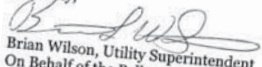
April 14, 2009

NRWA
3390 Ponderosa Street
Wahoo, Ne. 68066

To Whom It May Concern,

Once again the Village of Bellwood has utilized the services of the NRWA. In my 20+ years of tenure with the Village of Bellwood as Utility Superintendent, your organization has helped me personally and the Village of Bellwood numerous times. We would like to thank all of the staff members, especially Randy, Russ and Jim, whom we have had numerous opportunities to work with in the last several years. Without this program, the Village of Bellwood would be forced to find other companies that could provide the same service for a fee which in turn would make the cost of the water and sewer fees higher for the citizens of Bellwood. As we all know, increasing costs are causing a hardship for all of Nebraska and we must continue to work together to find a feasible solution to any of the issues that may arise for the Village of Bellwood. Please accept this small token of appreciation to go toward your equipment fund; something that we find very helpful, knowing that the special equipment that you have is just a phone call away if needed.

Sincerely,


Brian Wilson, Utility Superintendent
On Behalf of the Bellwood Village Board

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patscook@threeriver.net

June 18, 2009

Nebraska Rural Water Assn.
3390 Ponderosa Drive
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear RWA,

Thank you for filming our sewer main again. Please accept our donation to your equipment fund. We appreciate all your help.

Sincerely,


Patsy Cook
Clerk

CITY of YUTAN

May 20, 2009


Mr. Randy Hellbush
Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear Randy:

We would like to thank the Nebraska Rural Water Association for the many services that all of you has provided to the City of Yutan. Your assistance in the water/sewer rate study has helped us immensely. We are enclosing a donation for your equipment fund as an expression of our appreciation for all that your staff and organization has done for us.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

CITY OF YUTAN

Gary L. Duncan
City Administrator

Members of Nebraska Rural Water Association,

I would like to express my upmost gratitude towards you and the Board of Directors for awarding me the 2009 scholarship. It is greatly appreciated and I look forward to putting it to good use as I continue my education and pursue my dreams this fall and next year. Thank you very much!
Cathy E. Weatherly

Gordy Fleming
Mayor

Julie A. Buescher
City Clerk



THE CITY OF DESHLER

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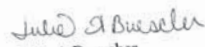
April 30, 2009

Nebraska Rural Water Association
ATTN: Randy Hellbusch
3390 Ponderosa Drive
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear Randy:

We have included a donation as a Thank you for you performing our sewer and water rate studies. Your services are invaluable and we really appreciate everything you do for us.

Sincerely,


Julie A Buescher
City Clerk/Treasurer

Village of Dalton
306 Main St.
Dalton, NE 69131

June 25, 2009

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear Sirs,

The Village Board of Trustees, Clerk, and Water Operator from the Village of Dalton would like to extend a special thank you to Russ, Randy, Barney, Jim, Mike and Charles for all the help you have given us in the past with our water and sewer issues.

We truly appreciate all your help. Please apply the enclosed check to your Equipment Fund and again a big 'Thank You'.

Sincerely,

Lloyd Searles
Utilities Superintendent
Village of Dalton

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In Sympathy...

We are sad to report that Glenadine Mencl passed away July 11, 2009. Glenadine lived with John, her husband of 42 years, in Virginia, Nebraska. John

was on the NeRWA Board of Directors for 23 years, first as a member and then president. Glenadine was always with John, volunteering at association functions. For years she volunteered her time preparing and then conducting the spouse program at the annual conferences. John and Glenadine have one son and two grandchildren.

Cards may be sent to 104 3rd Avenue, Virginia NE 68458.



360

degrees

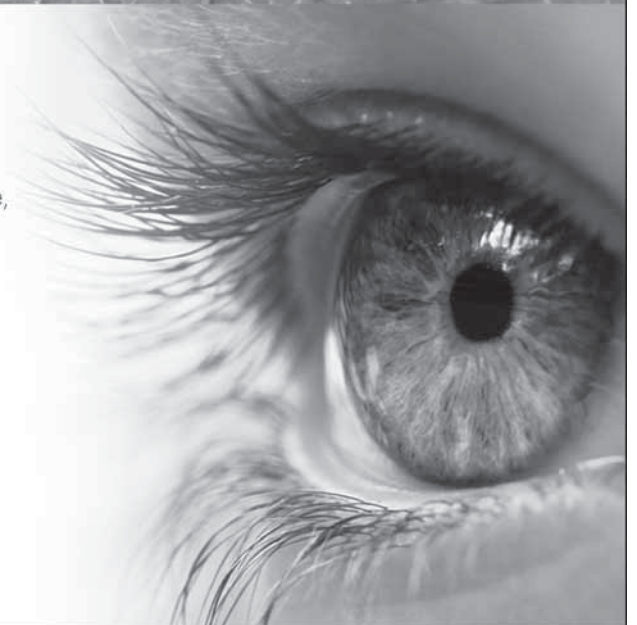
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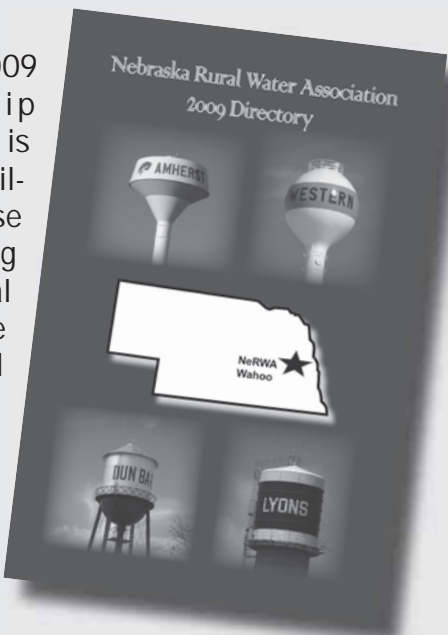
2009 TRAINING UPDATE

<u>Water Operator Training</u>		<u>Backflow Re-Certification Training</u>		<u>Wastewater Training</u>	
August 5	Kearney-Rule Managers	September 9	McCool Junction	September 24	Denton
August 18	O'Neill	November 17	Broken Bow	October 14	Wahoo
October 27	Eustis	November 19	Valentine	October 21	Alda
October 28	Red Cloud	November 24	Wahoo	November 18	Creighton
October 29	Beatrice-Rule Managers	December 15	Mitchell	December 8	Wahoo
December 8	Hartington	December 16	Imperial		
December 9	Wahoo	December 17	Cambridge		
December 10	Johnson				

FALL CONFERENCE		TRENCHING & EXCAVATION SAFETY	
September 1-3 Gering		September 9 Wahoo	
		CONFINED SPACE ENTRY	
		September 10 Wahoo	

UTILITY EXPO		Grade 6 Backflow Prevention	
September 30 Fremont		Cross-Connection Control Course - 5 Day	
		October 19-23 Wahoo	

NeRWA's 2009 Membership Directory is now available. All those attending the annual conference received one. We are mailing them out to those who did not attend the conference. If you did not receive one and would like one, please contact our office at 800-842-8039 or office@nerwa.org.

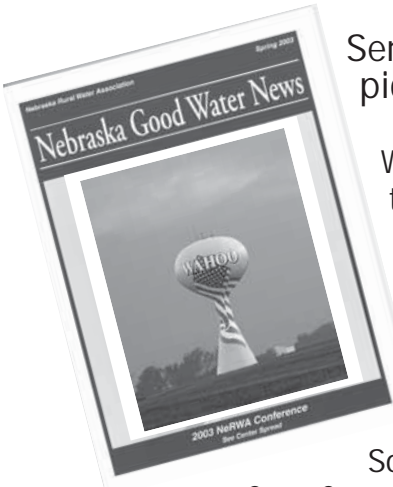


Send us your pictures!!!

We would like to put the water towers of Nebraska on our cover. We want to feature a different tower on each issue.

So far we have had Cass County RWD1, Louisville, Bloomfield, Litchfield, Columbus, Logan East RW, Papio-MO Dakota County, and Wahoo.

Let us add your name to our list and see how long it gets. Either send a photo to our office or e-mail a picture to our website.





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Hello From Doug

By Doug Buresh, ARRA Circuit Rider

Greetings! I am Doug Buresh. I reside in Valparaiso, Nebraska. My background includes working in the family plumbing, heating and cooling, and electrical business, where I worked for my parents for twenty five years. I have been a water and wastewater operator since 2002. My favorite pastimes are deer and mushroom hunting and karaoke.

I recently began working for the Nebraska Rural Water Association as the ARRA Circuit Rider. This a new position being funded by USDA Rural Development through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). This has been written before my training begins in early July, so I do not know a lot of the job specifics yet. One of my main duties will be to assist eligible systems in applying for loans and grants from Rural Development to help provide safe drinking water and improved wastewater treatment.

While visiting systems throughout the state, I have already met many fine folks, and look forward to meeting many more of you. You can contact me on my cell phone at (402) 480-3596 or E-mail at doug@nerwa.org.

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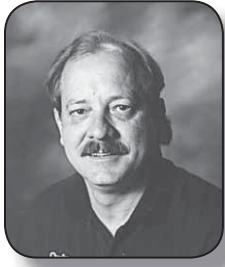
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NeWARN Update

By Randy Hellbusch, Circuit Rider

NeWARN is moving forward and picking up steam. The latest count of members was at 63 and growing. The NeWARN board of directors met in Bennet, Nebraska, at the Lancaster Co. RWD #1 office on June 23. The main topic discussed at the meeting was the development and operation of the website. With much discussion and an eventual conference call on June 29, a contract was signed with Jasmine Mach to begin the web site design. This is a very important aspect of the NeWARN program. Eventually every member system will list its inventory and manpower availability on the website. Each member will have a password to access the site. When and if the need arises each member system will be able to see where the equipment, tools, pipe, fittings and any other help needed can be obtained. Inventory listed by a system does not, however, obligate that system in any way to relinquish assets that they feel are too essential to the operation of their own system.

NeWARN is very unique in that it is its own entity. It is owned and controlled by the member systems themselves. The current board of directors are: Rick Melcher, Aurora (402-694-6992); Dennis Watts, Norfolk (402-844-2000); Robert Smith, Grand Island (308-385-8444 ext. 280); Chuck Schmid, St. Paul (308-754-5936); Ken Swanson, Auburn (402-274-4981); Mike Lucas, Broken Bow (308-872-2270); Pat Davison, Imperial (308-882-5151); Jim Green, McCool Junction (402-724-2525); and Doug Pollak, Seward (402-643-3433).


The mission of the Nebraska Water/Wastewater/Stormwater Agency Response Network (NeWARN) is to support and promote statewide emergency preparedness, disaster response, and mutual assistance matters for public and private water and wastewater utilities.

The NeWARN Program provides its member utilities with:

- A standard omnibus mutual assistance agreement and process for sharing emergency resources among members statewide.
- The resources to respond and recover more quickly from a disaster.
- A mutual assistance program consistent with other statewide mutual aid programs and the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- A forum for developing and maintaining emergency contacts and relationships.
- New ideas from lessons learned in disasters.

If your system has not yet looked into becoming a part of NeWARN, I would strongly encourage you to consider it. A copy of the NeWARN agreement can be found by clicking on the NEWARN logo at www.nerwa.org or if you have any question feel free to call any of the above board members or NeRWA at 1 (800) 842-8039.



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Pre-Conference Insight

By Charles Bausch, Training Specialist

As of June 1, I have officially moved from being the Groundwater Specialist to being the Training Specialist. This should not be a big change since I have been filling in by doing the water operator training since December. I am excited about this new endeavor and hope to bring some new training opportunities to all the hard working water operators in Nebraska.

One of my first tasks will be the Fall Conference in Gering. This year we will once again offer a pre-conference to bring more continuing education hours to operators. This year's pre-conference will cover emergency preparedness. Emergency preparedness is something most operators do not take the time to think about or to prepare for. During this training class we plan to focus on what you will do when you have to pull that emergency plan off the shelf and actually use it.

The first part of the pre-conference will be your emergency plan. Topics discussed will include who should be included on your plan and do they know what their duty is when called upon. An emergency plan with a lot of numbers and names looks good, but if these people don't know what to do or that they are even on your contact list, what good is the emergency call list in the first place.

Another part of pre-conference will be a panel discussion with state and local officials on what they experienced in the 2006 ice storm that struck several communities in Nebraska. This will be a question and answer session with the people that experienced this emergency situation from the trenches. This should give us good insight into what part of the emergency plan worked and what parts needed to be revised.

The next part of the pre-conference will be a table-top exercise. During this portion of the class, participants are given an emergency situation that they must preplan for. Participants will start with several different points of view such as a Financial Committee, WARN (Water/Wastewater Response Network) Committee, Utility Committee and look at each group's responsibility during each stage of an emergency. This should provide good hands-on experience for all participants and a good opportunity to apply the information gained from the first two sessions.

The final session of the day will involve the WARN network. During this time there will be discussion over the WARN network, how to be involved in WARN, who can be involved with WARN, and several other topics. I'm sure by now many of you have heard of WARN, but some of you may not know what role WARN will play in an emergency.

Our goal at the end of pre-conference will be for participants to be able to prepare for several different types of emergency situations, and, additionally, to have information they can take back to their community and immediately put into practice during an emergency situation. Remember, an emergency can happen anytime, and the only control we have is how we respond to the situation. Good emergency planning is the key to a speedy recovery.

As I said before I look forward to getting out and meeting more of you in my new position. If you ever have questions do not hesitate to give me a call. I hope to see you at our Fall Conference in Gering.

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GOLF TOURNAMENT

Tuesday, September 1
 2:30-6:00 pm

Scottsbluff Country Club
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TRAP SHOOT

Wednesday, September 2
 8:30 am-12:00 noon

Mitchell Gun Club



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Washburn, ND	701-462-8588
Willow Springs, IL	708-467-0125

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2009 Western Conference
September 1,2 & 3, 2009

Tuesday, September 1, 2009 - Preconference Sessions

7:30 - 8:00	Pre Conference Registration
8:00 - 9:00	Emergency Plan Essentials - Kris Luebbe, DHHS 1W, 1WW What is required in an Emergency Plan in order for it to be accepted, and why are the contents so important. Attendees will learn the answers to these questions and more.
9:00 - 10:00	2006 Ice Storm Panel Discussion - Emergency Personnel & Water Operators Involved. 1W, 1WW Learn from those who were present what it was like during the ice storm of 2006/2007. The panel will include State of Nebraska personnel, Emergency Services personnel and a water operator from an affected system. Preparation for the storm, actions taken during the storm and the road to recovery will all be covered in this session.
10:00 - 10:15	Break
10:15 - 12:15	Emergency Preparedness Tabletop Exercise - Kris Luebbe, DHHS & Charles Bausch, NeRWA 1W, 1WW This exercise will take attendees through the process of preparing for an emergency situation from the first indication of approaching problems. Starting 24 hours prior to the emergency and then progressing toward the onset of the problem, actions that might alleviate the impact of the emergency will be discussed. The attendees will then look at actions that can be taken during the emergency situation and steps that will be needed to recover from the event.
12:15 - 12:45	Lunch
12:45 - 1:45	NeWARN and Emergency Situations - Rich Koenig, DHHS 1W, 1WW This session will discuss the Nebraska Water, Wastewater and Storm water Agency Response Network (NeWARN) and how it can assist systems during emergencies. Different types of emergencies will be discussed, together with ways that the NeWARN system could be put to use to assist in preparing, managing and recovering from each situation.
2:30 - 6:00	Golf Tournament

Wednesday, September 2, 2009

8:30 - 12:00	Trap Shoot
10:00 - 1:00	Conference Registration
1:00 - 2:00	Regulatory Update and SRF Status - Jack Daniel, DHHS 1W, .5WW Jack Daniel will give the annual report on the state of Nebraska's water systems, along with an update on upcoming regulations and how they might effect Nebraska systems. An update on the State Revolving Loan Fund, stimulus monies that it received and the status of those funds will also be discussed
2:00 - 2:30	Break
2:30 - 3:00	USDA Update - Brenda Darnell, USDA .5W, .5WW An update on USDA projects and the availability of funds for system improvements will be discussed, including stimulus funds received by USDA, projects funded with those funds and the requirements that need to be met when using stimulus funds.
3:00 - 3:30	Financial Dashboard - Jo Ella Hoye, Environmental Finance Center .5W, .5WW The Environmental Finance Center is a grant funded organization created to help communities provide the best environmental services to the most people at the least cost for the long term. The Financial Dashboard is a free budgeting tool designed to help decision makers understand the effects of their financial decisions on the sustainability of their water systems.

Wednesday, September 2, 2009 (cont.)

3:30 - 4:00	Break
4:00 - 5:00	H1N1 Virus Preparation - Randy Fisher, Division of Public Health 1W, 1WW This session will look at the H1N1 virus and gives tips on how systems can continue to operate if the virus becomes a significant threat to personnel. Operating short-handed and taking steps to stem the spread of the virus will be discussed, along with assistance available through state and federal agencies.
5:00 - 6:00	Social Hour
6:00 - 7:00	Banquet and Awards

Thursday, September 3, 2009

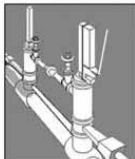
6:30 - 7:30	Breakfast
7:00 - 8:30	Conference Registration
7:30 - 8:30	Valve Exercising (Oregon Trail) - Russ Topp, NeRWA 1W Different types of valves, their uses and advantages and disadvantages will be discussed. The importance of a valve exercising program will be discussed and participants will have the opportunity to exercise main valves using NeRWA's valve exerciser. Speaking with Confidence (Platte/Pioneer) - Willard Kamerzel, Scottsbluff Toastmasters 1W, 1WW This session will give operators tips on speaking to their Village Board or City Council with confidence. Speaking to the general public may become necessary for an operator during the course of their job, and speaking with confidence will help to inform the public and give them a better opinion of the professionalism of their water operator, and therefore the water system. Discharge & Monitoring Reports (Fire Hall) - Jim Heyen, NeRWA 1WW Discharge and Monitoring Reports (DMRs) are a fact of life for many wastewater treatment plant operators. This session will go over the requirements of these reports and show how they should be completed. Questions concerning the reports will be answered also.
8:30 - 8:45	Break
8:45 - 9:45	Groundwater Rule & Sanitary Survey Changes (Oregon Trail) - Steve Drda & Doug Woodbeck, DHHS 1W The upcoming Groundwater Rule will affect most of the systems within the state. The Rule Manager will go over the requirements of this rule and how it will affect Nebraska systems. The Sanitary Surveys will also be updated to comply with the requirements of this rule, and those changes will be explained. Fire Hydrant Maintenance (Platte/Pioneer) - Andy Andreatta, Mueller Co. 1W This session will discuss the installation, proper maintenance and care of fire hydrants. A breakdown model of a fire hydrant will enable attendees to actually see the working internal parts of a fire hydrant. Cross Connection Control Program Requirements (Fire Hall) - Rich Koenig, DHHS 1W, 1BF, 1WW This session will act as a refresher course for many water operators, discussing the requirements of an effective cross connection control program. Changes in regulations and the need for cross connection control will also be discussed.
9:45 - 10:00	Break

Thursday, September 3, 2009 (cont.)

10:00 - 11:00	<p>Sampling and Lab Update (Oregon Trail) - Mary Boden, State Lab 1W, 1WW</p> <p>Session will include a basic overview of the present Public Environmental Lab, the lab website, how to access it, what you will find there; the use of lab notes to order kits, get results, and communicate with customer service; Proper and timely sample collection reminders and impact of not following collection procedures; the New Lab Information System; 2009 test fees.</p> <p>Fire Hydrant Maintenance (Platte/Pioneer) (cont.) - Andy Andreatta, Mueller Co. 1W</p> <p>This session is a continuation of the previous session and not a stand alone session. To receive maximum benefit, attendees should attend both sessions.</p> <p>Innovations in Backflow Protection (Fire Hall) - Bob Jedlicka, Mack McClain 1W, 1BF, 1WW</p> <p>This session will look at new products available in the field of backflow prevention, as well as a review of the "good old standards" in the field.</p>
11:00 - 11:15	Break
11:15 - 12:15	<p>Preparing for a Sanitary Survey (Oregon Trail) - Tony Martinez & Doug Allen, DHHS 1W</p> <p>Area Field Representatives will go over the things a water operator can do to prepare for an upcoming sanitary survey. Since the Sanitary Survey is not scheduled, the wise water operator will check the items noted routinely to insure they are prepared.</p> <p>Manhole & Vault Rehabilitation (Platte/Pioneer) - Jamie Simmerman, Diamond Engineering 1W, 1WW</p> <p>This session will show how operators can rehabilitate sewer manholes, meter pits and vaults rather than going to the expense of replacing them. New technology makes the process useful, easy and economical for most systems.</p> <p>Proper and Improper Installations (Fire Hall) - Rich Koenig, DHHS 1W, 1BF, 1WW</p> <p>This session will concentrate on the proper and improper use of backflow preventers. Illustrations and pictures taken in the field will give a wide range of situations encountered within Nebraska and around the country.</p>
12:15 - 1:15	Lunch
1:15 - 2:15	<p>Test Regulator Knowledge (Oregon Trail) - Field Staff, DHHS 1W</p> <p>This session gives water operators the opportunity to ask the field staff any question they want concerning the regulations governing public water supplies. Dig deep into the regulations and see if you can find an obscure fact to question, but be prepared to back up your answer with the current regulations.</p> <p>GPS/GIS (Platte/Pioneer) - Charles Bausch, NeRWA 1W, 1WW</p> <p>This session is an introduction to GPS and GIS mapping. The basics of GPS will be explained, and also the relationship to GIS and system mapping. Attendees will then complete a field exercise using GPS units and the information they received.</p> <p>Backflow Exercise (Fire Hall) - Barney Whatley, NeRWA 1W, 1BF, 1WW</p> <p>Participants will divide into groups and receive blueprints of different facilities. The groups will then draw the plumbing onto the blueprints indicating where and what type of backflow prevention would be needed to protect the water supply as well as any customers or employees of the facility. Groups will then explain what they required.</p>

Thursday, September 3, 2009 (cont.)

1:15 - 2:15 (cont.)	<p>Introduction to CUPSS (Community College) - Scott Sprague, DHHS & Bob Dunlevy, EPA 1W, 1WW</p> <p>Attendees at this session will work hands-on with the Check Up for Small Systems Asset management software. System data can be entered into the program, and the usefulness of asset management will be explained. Students will be given copies of the software and memory sticks to save their data on to take home and use.</p>
2:15 - 2:30	Break
2:30 - 3:30	<p>Trenching & Shoring - Jeremy Neill, United Rentals 1W, 1WW</p> <p>Soil analysis, review of shoring types, discussion of trench safety concerns; Installation of hydraulic and pneumatic shoring.</p> <p>Developing a Department Budget - Randy Hellbusch, NeRWA 1W, 1WW</p> <p>Session will explain developing and maintaining separate budgets for water and wastewater departments and provide specific examples of budget considerations from the operator's perspective.</p> <p>Backflow Quiz Bowl - Rich Koenig, DHHS 1W, 1BF, 1WW</p> <p>Compete for prizes in this challenging test of your backflow knowledge led by some of the best minds in backflow! Quiz may include questions about regulations, proper installations, and CCC program requirements.</p> <p>Introduction to CUPSS (cont.) (Community College) 1W, 1WW</p> <p>This is a continuation of the previous session and not a stand alone session. Attendees will continue to enter data and learn the usefulness of CUPSS Asset management software.</p>
3:30 - 3:45	Break
3:45 - 4:45	<p>Water Storage Sanitary and Safety Issues - Dick Frankforter, Maguire Iron 1W</p> <p>This session will cover sanitary and safety issues related to water storage tanks and give the operator tools and information for properly maintaining a water storage structure. The importance of a well maintained tank to insure sanitary conditions and regulatory compliance will be discussed.</p> <p>Water Operator Licensing and Use of Formulas - Mike Wentink, DHHS 1W, .5WW</p> <p>This session will explain the changes that will be coming in the water operator licensing procedures, and the second section will go over common formulas used in the operation and maintenance of water systems.</p>




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Nebraska Rural Water Association REGISTRATION FORM

Western Nebraska Fall Pre-Conference and Conference
September 1-3, 2009
Gering Civic Center
1050 "M" Street
Gering, Nebraska

Name (One (1) person per form) _____

Certificate numbers: Water # _____ Grade _____ Backflow # _____ Wastewater # _____

System/Company Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

REGISTRATION	MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
PRECONFERENCE—September 1—NO REGISTRATIONS AFTER AUGUST 24	_____ \$35.00	_____ \$50.00
FULL CONFERENCE WITH PRECONFERENCE	_____ \$125.00	_____ \$150.00
FULL CONFERENCE (includes all meal tickets)	_____ \$100.00	_____ \$125.00
WEDNESDAY ONLY—includes Banquet	_____ \$60.00	_____ \$85.00
THURSDAY ONLY—includes breakfast buffet and lunch	_____ \$60.00	_____ \$85.00
GUEST BANQUET TICKETS— \$15 x _____	TOTAL \$ _____	Total \$ _____
GUEST LUNCH TICKETS—\$10 x _____	TOTAL \$ _____	Total \$ _____
GOLF TOURNAMENT ON TUESDAY AFTERNOON	___ YES	___ YES
TRAP SHOOT ON WEDNESDAY MORNING	___ YES	___ YES

Meals are included with the conference registration. The Civic Center needs a count before the actual days of the conference. PLEASE INDICATE WHICH MEALS YOU WILL BE STAYING FOR:

___ Wed night ___ Thurs lunch

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS AUG 24.
 AFTER THIS DATE, YOU WILL HAVE TO
 REGISTER AT THE CONFERENCE.
 FEE AFTER THIS DATE INCREASES \$50.**

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Systems with a population of under 3300 may be eligible for NDHHS reimbursement.
 If eligible include PWS ID# NE31- _____

BILL ME _____ CHECK ENCLOSED # _____ PO # if applicable _____
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Summer Weather Safety

By Mike Stanzel, Deputy Circuit Rider

With the dog days of summer upon us it seems appropriate to share a few tips on heat stroke and heat exhaustion. Working in extreme heat can be dangerous and even deadly. First, you need to know the signs of “Heat Exhaustion”. As the peak of summer approaches and the outside temperature increases to unbearable highs, the risk of heat exposure increases. Common signs of heat exhaustion are sweating, moist clammy skin, weakness and fatigue, nausea and or vomiting, elevated body temperature, headache and disorientation. If you or someone you know or are working with experiences signs like these, you should immediately remove the victim from the heat. Apply cool wet towels and fan the victim. However, you should stop fanning if victim develops goose bumps or shivers. If victim is conscious it is alright to give them fluids to drink. Water or sports drinks are the best in this instance.

- DO NOT give alcohol or caffeinated drinks as these actually increase dehydration.
- Do not apply ice directly to skin as this can cause cell damage and frostbite.
- Do not allow victim to become so cold that he or she shivers as this actually increases body temperature.
- Do not leave the victim alone. Seek medical attention if victim does not improve within an hour or so.

Second, you need to know the signs of “Heat Stroke”. Signs and symptoms are hot dry skin, red or spotted skin, extremely high blood pressure, mental confusion, convulsions, or loss of consciousness. If these symptoms occur get the victim in a cool bath if possible or apply cool compresses to body. Do not give fluids as they are at risk for vomiting and aspiration and seek medical attention as soon as possible.

Some safety tips to prevent injury from the extreme heat are as follows:

1. Try to schedule strenuous outdoor projects in the early morning hours when the temperatures are cooler.

2. Wear a hat and sunscreen to protect yourself from the UV rays.
3. Dress in light-weight, light-colored clothing, and shorts if possible.
4. Drink plenty of water even if you do not feel thirsty.
5. Take frequent breaks in the shade or a cool building.
6. If you have a large project, have plenty of assistance there to avoid over working yourself.
7. Avoid drinking alcohol.

Hopefully these tips will help you have a safe and productive summer.

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Conserving Water...and Wastewater!!!

By Jim Heyen, Wastewater Technician

It is that time of the year when water/wastewater conservation is on everyone's mind (even though this year probably not as much). Conserving is simple, yet we seem to think about it when the temperature exceeds 70 degrees. The reality is that water, especially in the west, is a scarce commodity; and the conservation of this most precious resource needs to be practiced all year round. Conserving is so simple and dramatically helps the environment as well as our checkbook. Remembering to conserve water throughout your everyday life will eventually become an engrained habit that you won't even have to think about. Here are some simple tips that will help you save water.

1. When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Instead, fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
2. Some refrigerators, air conditioners, and icemakers are cooled with wasted flows of water. Consider upgrading with air-cooled appliances for significant water savings.
3. When buying new appliances, consider those that offer cycle and load size adjustments. They are more water and energy efficient.
4. Designate one glass for your drinking water each day or refill a water bottle. This will cut down on the number of glasses to be washed.
5. For cold drinks, keep a pitcher of water in the refrigerator instead of running the tap. Every drop will go down you and not the drain.
6. By shortening your shower time by a minute or two, you will save up to 150 gallons per month.
7. If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model.
8. Run the clothes washer and dishwasher only when full. By doing this, you can save up to 1000 gallons per month.
9. Don't use running water to thaw food. Defrost food in the refrigerator for water efficiency and food safety.
10. Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable waste instead and save gallons every time. You will also reduce the chance of plugging your sewer line, as disposal of wastes tend to accumulate in the sags of your sewer line.
11. Monitor your water bill for unusually high use. Your bill and water meters are tools that can help you discover leaks.
12. Wash your fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of running water over them.
13. Spreading a layer of organic mulch around plants retains moisture and saves water, time and money.
14. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean your driveway and sidewalks and save water every time.
15. Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation.
16. If water runs off your lawn easily, split your watering time into shorter periods to allow better absorption.
17. Aerate your lawn at least once a year so water can reach the roots rather than run off the surface.
18. We are likely to notice indoor leaks so don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers, and hoses for leaks.
19. Check the root zone of your lawn or garden for moisture before watering by using a trowel

or spade. If it is still moist 2 inches under soil surface, you still have enough water.

20. Rather than following a set-watering schedule, check for soil moisture 2 to 3 inches below surface before watering.
21. Adjust sprinklers so that only your lawn is watered and not the house, sidewalk or streets.
22. Choose shrubs and groundcovers instead of turf for hard-to-water areas such as steep slopes and isolated strips.
23. Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn shades roots and holds moisture better than if it is closely clipped.
24. Use sprinklers for large areas of grass. Water small patches by hand to avoid waste.
25. Walkways and patios provide space that doesn't need watering. These useful "rooms" add value to your property.
26. Use drip irrigation for shrubs and trees to apply water directly to the roots where it is needed.
27. When planting a lawn, choose grass seeds that are native to the region in which you live.
28. Reduce the amount of lawn in your yard by planting shrubs and ground cover appropriate to your site and region.
29. Teach your children to turn off faucets tightly after each use.
30. Remember to check your sprinkler system valves periodically for leaks and keep the sprinkler heads in good shape.
31. Soak pots and pans instead of letting water run while you scrape them clean.
32. Don't water your lawn on windy days when most of the water blows away or evaporates.
33. Water plants deeply but less frequently to encourage deep root growth and drought tolerance.
34. Know where your master water shut-off valve is located. This could save water and prevent water damage to your home.
35. Group plants with the same watering needs together to avoid over-watering some while under watering others.

36. Turn off water while brushing teeth and save 25 gallons of water per month.
37. If the toilet flapper doesn't close after flushing or seal properly replace it.
38. When the kids want to cool off, use a sprinkler in an area where your lawn needs it most.
39. Insulate hot water pipes for more immediate hot water at the faucets for energy savings.
40. Leave lower branches on trees and shrubs and allow leaf litter to accumulate around soil. This keeps the soil cooler and reduces evaporation.

Everywhere you go people are talking about energy conservation for a cleaner environment. What they should be saying is conserve water because it is the root to a much cleaner environment. By conserving water, we will save in electrical costs at the water and wastewater treatment as well as pumping stations.

Hopefully this will help our readers and their customer to have good habits about conserving water in their homes

Sources: *Wyoming Connection, Issue Spring 2009, pages 19-21*





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How Old is Your Storage Tank?

By Barney Whatley, Capacity Development Specialist

The question has come up as to where the oldest water storage tank still in service in the state is located. I have looked through the sanitary survey forms used by state field representatives on all public water systems in the state, and there does not seem to be any place for the actual date the storage tank was built. Currently, the oldest water storage facility in the state known to me is the standpipe in Plattsmouth, which was constructed along with the original water system in the late 1800s.

According to Water and Wastewater Superintendent Gary Hellwig, Paul Baburek of Baburek Metal Preserving Company has told him that this is the oldest water storage facility he knows of in the state of Nebraska. The contract for the construction of the water project was signed on March 11, 1886 and the city had a celebration of the completion of the project on May 5, 1887. Part of that project was the construction of the 25 foot diameter, 80 foot tall standpipe with a capacity of just over 290,000 gallons.



*Plattsmouth Standpipe
Constructed in 1887*

In 1956, the City of Plattsmouth added more storage capacity with the construction of a second standpipe, having a capacity of 1 million gallons. When the 800,000 gallon capacity of the clear well at the water treatment plant is added to these, the city has a storage capacity in excess of 2 million gallons.

Plattsmouth is in the engineering phase of a project to remove the original standpipe and replace it with an elevated storage tank with a capacity of 500,000 gallons. This project is expected to be started this fall, and when it is completed, the original standpipe will no longer be the oldest storage tank known to be in existence in the state.

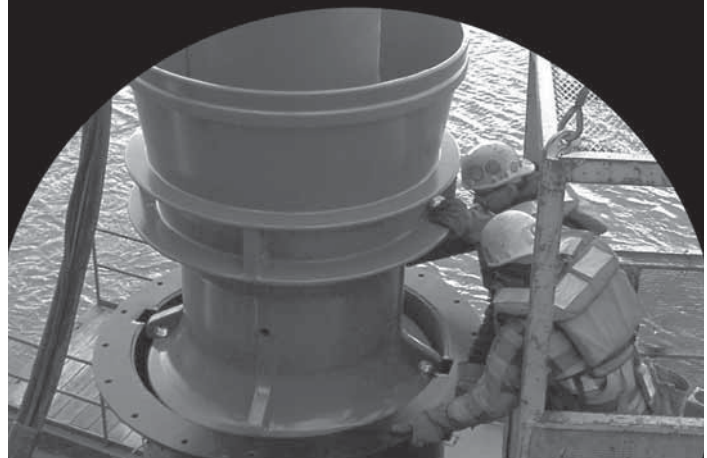
If you have a water storage tank that is older than the one in Plattsmouth, or if you think yours might be the oldest

when Plattsmouth has completed their water project, we would like to know about it. Send us a picture of your storage facility, along with the information on the date of construction, and we will feature your system and storage facility in an upcoming edition of our magazine.



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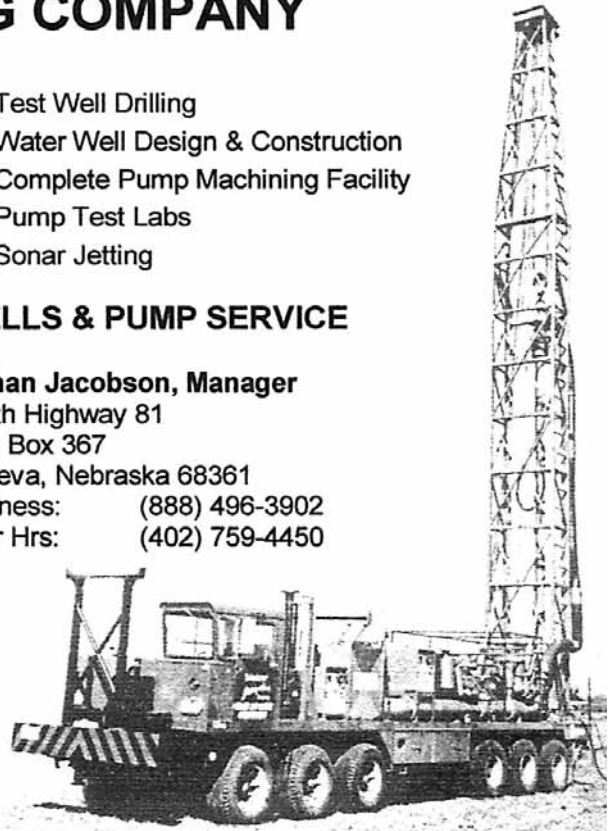
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Flow Testing and Color Coding Fire Hydrants

By Russ Topp, Circuit Rider

Over the last couple of months I have had several requests from water systems to use our fire hydrant flow gauges. I thought it might be a good time for a refresher course on hydrant flushing and color-coding. Color-coding just might help prevent a collapsed water main or a piece of water main from being sucked into a \$200,000 fire truck. It seems the fire truck manufacturers just keep making those new trucks bigger and better every year. Some of these trucks can pump up to 1500 gallons per minute or more. The problem is that most of the water mains in our towns across the state are the same mains that used to supply trucks that were lucky to pump 100 gallons per minute.

Here are some suggested steps to take for fire flow testing. You will need a hydrant flow gauge and a hydrant pressure gauge. If you don't have a flow gauge, give us a call and we can loan you one. A pressure gauge can be made from an old hydrant cap that is tapped to accept a pressure gauge.

1. Flush the hydrant you want to test to get rid of the rust, sand, iron and manganese and any other foreign material. This will prevent the pressure gauges from becoming fouled.
2. If you want to record the residual pressure on a hydrant downstream you will need a helper. A set of two-way radios is very helpful.
3. Put the flow gauge on a hydrant to be flow tested.
4. Put the residual pressure gauge on a hydrant downstream.
5. Open the hydrant with the residual pressure gauge and record the static pressure.
6. Open the flow hydrant and record the flow.
7. While the flow hydrant is flowing have your partner record the remaining residual pressure on his pressure gauge.
8. Slowly close the flow hydrant. And remove flow recorder.

9. Close residual pressure hydrant and remove pressure gauge.
10. Record readings on the hydrant card.

Now that you have gone to all the trouble to fire flow your hydrants, it would be a great time to color-code them. Don't forget to educate your local fire department as to how to identify approximately how much water they could expect to get from each fire hydrant.

The American Water Works Association (AWWA) recommends to color-code them as follows.

Class	Flow	Color of Bonnets & Caps
AA	1,500 gpm or greater	Blue
A	1,000 gpm or greater	Green
B	500 - 1,000 gpm	Orange
C	Less than 500 gpm	Red

Firefighters can pick from available hydrants the one with the best flow, using a traffic light scheme for ease of memory. Green means go, the hydrant flow will be over 1,000 gpm; Red means stop, the flow is less than 500 gpm; Orange means caution, the flow is between 500 and 1,000 gpm. Blue means 1,500 gpm or greater.

If you need help flowing your hydrants or need a flow gauge please give us a call.

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Randy Hellbusch	402-443-8535	Randy@nerwa.org
Jim Heyen	402-480-8524	Jim@nerwa.org
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