

Issue 1/2011

Nebraska Rural Water Association



NEBRASKA GOOD WATER NEWS



FLOW METERS ✓



SAFETY GLASSES ✓



FLOW METERS ✓



PIPE FITTINGS ✓



SEWAGE PUMPS ✓



SWING CHECK VALVES ✓



MARKING PAINT ✓



IA PLATES ✓



MOWERS ✓



GPS ✓



LAB WARE ✓



WORKWEAR ✓



GAS DETECTORS ✓



BALL VALVES ✓ FLOW TI



SEWAGE PUMPS ✓



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Nebraska Good Water News

Issue 1/2011

“Keeping Our Water Safe”

Board of Directors

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“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.

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Charles Bausch, Training Specialist
Doug Buresh, Training Assistant
Mike Lucas, Source Water Specialist

Website: www.nerwa.org

On the cover:

The Eustis water tower was built in 1912 when it replaced the windmill which was used to supply water to the village. The original tank held 50,000 gallons of water. A raiser was replaced to accommodate a new well in 1991. The tower now houses 60,000 gallons of water. Lou, the village water operator's dog, helps watch over the community. He makes the rounds each morning with Mike while checking things out in the back of the village pickup.

How'd We Do and Letters From...

Village of Bertrand
P.O. Box 295
Bertrand, NE 68927

October 5th, 2010

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa Drive
Wahoo, NE 68066

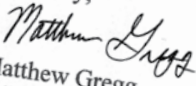
Dear NE Rural Water Association,

The Village of Bertrand would like to thank your entire staff for assisting our Water and Sewer Departments. A special thanks to Russ for locating a water main and to Jim for Videoing a sewer line on short notice. (NeRWA is a great source of knowledge and support to so many small communities... **thank you**, it is greatly appreciated).

Enclosed is a donation toward your equipment fund.

Matthew Gregg, Utilities Supt.
Jason Whetstine, Street Foreman
LaDonna Bennett, Clerk
Rosmary Renken, Secretary
Fred Speigel, Chairman

Sincerely,


Matthew Gregg
Utilities Superintendent

Thank you
from the
City of
Pawnee City

The City of Pawnee City thanks NE Rural Water and Circuit Rider, Randy Hellsbusch for assisting the City with its most recent Sewer Rate Study. Your time, expertise and recommendations are very important to us! We enclose a donation to the important contribution you provide to all of us!

Village of
Doniphan

P.O. Box 189
Doniphan, Nebraska 68832-0189
402-845-6609

A Note For You

Donation for all of
the help that WAS
Given to Allen & the
Water Dept

THANKS
Village of
Speckles



October 18, 2010

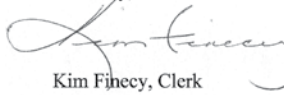
Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa Drive
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear NeRWA:

The Village of Doniphan would like to take this opportunity to once again say "thank you" for all your help over the years and most recently for the use of your valve exerciser. This made a time consuming job much easier!

Enclosed is a donation for your equipment fund. We appreciate all you do and are very grateful that you are always there when we need you!

Sincerely,


Kim Finecy, Clerk
Village of Doniphan

VILLAGE OF MERNA
P. O. BOX 211
MERNA NE 68856
308-643-2281
villageclerk@neb-sandhills.net

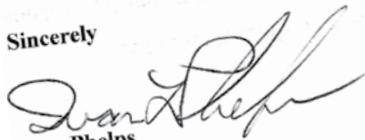
November 10, 2010

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa
Wahoo NE 68066

Thank you to Jim Heyen for the job he did smoke testing and using a camera to check the sewer lines. The time he spent performing these jobs and going over the results is greatly appreciated.

Please accept the enclosed donation to go towards your equipment fund.

Sincerely



Ivan Phelps
Water Operator
Village of Merna

VILLAGE OF DODGE, NEBRASKA
226 Elm St. Dodge, NE 68633
402-693-2239

November 8, 2010

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear NeRWA:

We would like to take this time to thank NeRWA and especially Ken Widhalm for all the help you have given us now and in the past. The services you provide for small communities are invaluable. We really appreciate the dedication and commitment NeRWA has for all of us.

Please accept our check for the equipment fund on behalf of the Village of Dodge.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,



Tom Grovijohn
Utility Supervisor

December 14, 2010

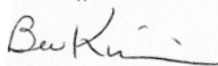
Nebraska Rural Water Association
330 Ponderosa Drive
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear NeRWA,

The Village of Trumbull would like to thank you for your assistance this year. You have helped us with sewer and water rate studies, sewer line video and many other things.

We have enclosed is a donation for your equipment fund as a Thank You. We appreciate the work you do to help us out.

Sincerely,



Bev Kimminau
Village Clerk

VILLAGE OF HAMPTON
P.O. BOX 277
HAMPTON, NE 68843
402-725-3186
FAX 402-725-3255
hampton@hamilton.net
Clerk hours 8:30 to 11:30 and 1:00 to 3:00
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

October 15, 2010

Village Of Plymouth
P.O. Box 218
Plymouth, NE 68424

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear Rural Water Association;

The Village of Hampton employees and the Village Board would like to thank you for the many services that you provide. We would like to extend a big "Thank You" for coming out to exercise our water valves. We are enclosing a donation for your equipment fund. Thanks again for your help.

Sincerely,

Susan Dallegge
Susan Dallegge
Village Clerk

December 30, 2010

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa Drive
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear NE Rural Water Assoc.,

The Village of Plymouth would like thank you for all the help you have given us this 2010 year. Please accept the enclosed donation for assisting us in the location of water lines, scooping sewer lines, and help with our 24 hour composite sample.

It is great to know we have such a valued team, as NRWA, to assist in problems municipalities have. Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

Tana Hofstetter

Tana Hofstetter
Village Clerk/Treasurer

PHONE 402-534-4237
FAX 402-534-5662
EMAIL VOUTICA@WINDSTREAM.NET

VILLAGE OF UTICA
466 1ST STREET
P.O. BOX 158
UTICA, NEBRASKA 68456

REGULAR MEETING
FIRST MONDAY
OF EACH MONTH

January 4, 2011

Nebraska Rural Water Association
555 Commercial Park Rd.
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear NeRWA,

The members of the Village Board of Trustees of Utica, Nebraska, would like to thank you for your efforts and cooperation for the Village of Utica. We appreciate the professionalism and information you offer. Please accept this donation as a token of our appreciation and we look forward to working closely with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Garry Dittmar

Garry Dittmar, Chairperson
Village Board of Trustees

VILLAGE OF PANAMA

PO BOX 117
PANAMA NE 68419

November 15, 2010

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa Street
Wahoo NE 68066

Re: Donation

The Village of Panama would like to thank you for all your assistance in the past.

Russ Topp has helped us with a lot of projects, answered our many questions and always right here when we need him. It is very much appreciated.

On behalf of the Village of Panama Board of Trustees and Kevin Mathis, Maintenance Superintendent, please accept the enclosed donation.

Sincerely,

Dee Harris

Dee Harris
Village Clerk/Treasurer

2011 TRAINING

Backflow Continuing Education Training

January 19	Alliance
January 20	Valentine
February 15	Nebraska City
February 17	Norfolk - Nucor Steel
April 12	Minden
April 14	Wymore
May 18	Atkinson
May 19	Broken Bow
September 21	Falls City
September 22	York
September 27	Ord
October 20	South Sioux City
November 10	Wayne
November 16	North Platte
November 22	Wahoo
December 13	Mitchell
December 14	Imperial
December 15	Cambridge
December 20	Wahoo

Water Operator Training

January 19	Bloomfield
January 20	Firth
April 12	Mitchell
April 13	Chappell
May 10	Eustis
May 11	Newman Grove
June 10	Sutton
June 14	Pawnee City
July 12	Chadron
July 13	Mullen
July 14	Loup City
August 16	Spencer
August 17	Wakefield
October 25	Lyons
October 26	Giltner
December 13	Imperial
December 14	Red Cloud
December 22	Wahoo

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa
Wahoo, NE 68066
www.nerwa.org

Wastewater Training

January 12	Seward/NDEQ
January 19	Wahoo
February 23	Loup City/NDEQ
March 3	Neligh
March 16	Omaha/NDEQ
April 6	Pawnee City/NDEQ
April 12	McCook/NDEQ
April 13	Ogallala/NDEQ
April 14	Gering/NDEQ
April 26	Wahoo
May 11	Newcastle
May 17	Grand Island/NDEQ
June 7	Ainsworth/NDEQ
June 8	O'Neill/NDEQ
June 29	Wahoo
July 13	Madison/NDEQ
August 31	Sidney/NDEQ
September 1	Chadron/NDEQ
October 19	Wahoo
October 20	Wymore
October 27	Lincoln/NDEQ
November 17	Creighton/NDEQ
December 13	Wahoo

Grade 6 Backflow Prevention Cross-Connection Control Course - 5 Day

January 24-28	Wahoo
April 18-22	Wahoo
October 24-28	Wahoo

Wastewater Certification Course

February 8-11	Wahoo
March 29-April 1	Wahoo
June 14-17	Wahoo
August 23-26	Wahoo
November 7-10	Wahoo



Annual Conference March 21-23
New World Inn
Columbus, Nebraska

Western Conference Sept. 13-15
Gering Civic Center
Gering, Nebraska

September 21	Trenching & Shoring	Wahoo
September 22	Confined Space Entry	Wahoo



Be Prepared

By Barney Whatley, Capacity Development Specialist

When I was a youngster, I joined the Cub Scouts and was active in that organization for several years, mainly I think because my mother was a Den Mother and would not let me quit. Due to my father's job, we moved a lot when I was young, and I drifted away from scouting. When I started 6th grade, we moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, and scouting went by the wayside for me. When my son was born, I got involved in scouting again to keep it active, but he showed little interest in it and once again it was left by the wayside. The one thing that I do remember from my experience with scouting is their motto: "Be Prepared!"

In the fall of 2009, we were informed that my wife's step-daughter was pregnant with twins and our extended family was going to become larger. A short time after that we learned our daughter was pregnant as well! In February of 2010, our son's girlfriend was also expecting! We were going to be inundated with an entire herd of babies in the summer. I have played catch and cars and cowboys with my son, and although we have not lived very close to my son since his son was born, we have visited as often as possible and I was used to being around children. Shortly after we were married, my wife and I took a trip to Germany to visit her daughter and grandson, and once again I thought I handled myself well. I was prepared!

In early spring of 2010, we discovered that our step-daughter was going to have twin girls, and we were thrilled for her. Very shortly after that we were informed that both of the other family members were also going to have little girls. Our step-daughter tragically lost one of the twins, but the other one is doing fine, and over the summer we were blessed with three little granddaughters. I have never played with dolls or had "tea parties" or played "house" in my life, and it is now beginning to dawn on me that I am not at all prepared for the reality of my situation.

I would hope that water systems in the state do not find themselves in the predicament that I am in; not having grandchildren, but being unprepared for what life, nature or government throws at them. Systems need to

plan ahead for routine maintenance and replacement of system equipment and infrastructure, but the planning also needs to consider the unplanned. A severe storm could destroy a well house or a treatment plant, and vandals or nature could ruin the paint on a storage tank. Although most systems have insurance for these types of disasters, there is usually a deductible, and sometimes the insurance does not cover the total cost of the repair. The cost of repainting a storage tank might be covered, but the loss of water and testing required to put it back in service might not be covered.

The government could adopt new rules and regulations that could require substantial expenditures for the system to remain in compliance, and we all know that these rules and regulations seldom come with funding for compliance. Long term planning should incorporate substantial reserve funds to cover situations like those above, and it is very hard to convince your customers that they need to provide for something that has never happened before.

This might seem to be an impossible task, and if a system tries to complete it all at one time, it probably would be. Like all large problems, this one should be approached in a reasonable manner by taking one step at a time. The first step would be to insure that your water rates are adequate to fund all of the expenses of the system. Once this is done, the system should start a reserve fund or capital outlay fund. A good starting point for a reserve fund might be 5% of the operating budget, and this fund needs to grow by that much each year. If your operating budget was \$100,000, you could add \$5,000 for a reserve fund, and then make that fund \$10,000 the next year and keep increasing it. This would leave the system with adequate monies for those little surprises in life.

By the way, does anyone have a Barbie® Doll I could borrow?



2011 NeRWA Conference March 21-23, 2011

By Charles Bausch, Training Specialist

Out with 2010 and in with 2011 that means NeRWA Conference is right around the corner. This year's conference theme is "Taking back the Tap". With news media buzz about bottled water and the waste it produces, now is as good of time as any to take back your water customers. I remember when I was operating a water system and we had a main break. After I was able to get the main break fixed I went door to door letting my water customers know what happened and that the water was safe to drink. I came to one house where resident said: "Oh, I never drink water out of the tap. I buy all my water from the store." As I walked away I had to laugh to myself a little. Did that resident know how much more he was spending on bottled water compared to tap water? Did he know that we sample our water more regularly than most bottled water companies? Finally, did the resident know that most bottled water companies get their water from the tap and just run it through a filter. If I only know now what I didn't know then! Outside of bottled water costing 500 times more per gallon than tap water your water system water is highly regulated. Not to mention the numerous samples you take for containments to insure its safety. It's not like we live in a third world country where you might find it's not safe to drink the water. No, we live in America, home of the free and land of the brave who don't fear drinking water from a water fountain in the park.

Now that word is getting out about the waste bottled water is causing, not to mention resources it is using to make the plastic bottles, bottled water companies are now adding vitamins and minerals to their bottled water. This is just another ploy to get you to come back to bottled water. For years bottled water companies boasted how they take minerals out of the water now they want to add them back. Everyone thinks "Oh, I drink bottled water because it's convenient to carry it around." Well, that excuse is running thin with the amount of reusable water bottles. You should buy a reusable bottle. Think of the amount of money you will save from buying bottled water. Think of it this way, the price of bottled water out of vending machine is around \$1.00 for a 20 ounce bottle. That's 5 cents per

ounce. On the average most municipal water systems charge about 1 cent per gallon. Think about this: oil is pumped from the ground and shipped halfway across the world, then it is refined into gasoline which sells for around \$3 dollars a gallon. That's still only 2 cents per ounce. See why bottled water companies can spend so much money on bottled water campaigns. Now imagine the uproar if municipal water systems charged 5 cents per ounce of water or even 5 cents per gallon. But also imagine the benefit every water system would see if you had that type of money for repairs and upkeep to your system.

Finally, most bottled water companies would like you to believe that their water comes from some pristine mountain spring when in all actuality it's just tap water run through a filter. If you would look on an Aquafina bottle you would see public source right on the label. So no mountain stream or glaciers ice, just a public water source. Plan to take back the tap by attending this year's **NeRWA Conference March 21 -23, 2011** and together we can take back the tap and our customers by insuring good safe water for everyone to drink minus the plastic bottle.

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Bill Simmerman – Owner
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simelectric@dawsonppd.com

Nebraska Rural Water Annual Conference Registration

To pre-register for the Annual Conference complete the following form.

* indicates required information

*Name <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	*System <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>
*Address <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	Your Job title is:
*City <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Operator
*State <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Board Member
*Zip Code <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Sales Rep or Factory Rep
*Telephone <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Backflow Tester or Plumber
E-mail <input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Voting Delegate

***Choose the days you will attend**

***Please indicate certificates held and Number.**

Water Operator	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>	Lic #
Backflow	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>	Lic #
Wastewater	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>	Lic #
Onsite Wastewater	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>	Lic #
Well Drillers	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input style="width: 50px;" type="text"/>	Lic #

Operators serving water systems of 3,300 or less are eligible for reimbursement from DHHS. You do not have to be a member of NeRWA for eligibility. NeRWA will bill the DHHS directly for reimbursement so do not send payment.

***System eligible for DHHS funding** Yes No

***Nebraska Public Water System ID Number** NE31

If you have questions or comments, please provide them in the area provided, thank you.

This is a copy of our online registration form. Go to our website at www.nerwa.org. The registration link is in the center right under the NeRWA logo. Click on this link – then click the annual conference on the right side of the next page. Complete all the boxes. Those systems under 3300 are eligible for the reimbursement from the health department. Make sure to enter the PWS ID number in the appropriate box. If you put in your email, you will automatically receive a confirmation after you submit the form.

Nebraska Rural Water Association Annual Conference Pre-Registration

March 21-23, 2011
New World Inn
Columbus, Nebraska

Name (1 person per form) _____
 Certification #: Water: _____ Grade (1,2,3,4) _____ BF _____ WW _____
 Water System/Company Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____

Pre-Registration
Deadline is
March 12, 2011

REGISTRATION INCLUDES TRAINING MATERIALS, MEALS AND BREAKS. There is a breakfast on Wednesday that is complimentary for all operators attending the conference. Registrations received after March 12 will be increased by \$25; after March 17 and on-site will be increased by \$50. Monday is also free for all utility/rural water board members.

I am a Board Member attending Monday (no charge) _____ I am the Voting Delegate _____

DAYS ATTENDING	Member	Member after March 12	Non-Member	Non-Member after March 12
FULL CONFERENCE (all meals)	_____ \$225.00	_____ \$250.00	_____ \$250.00	_____ \$300.00
MONDAY (evening meal)	_____ \$70.00	_____ \$95.00	_____ \$95.00	_____ \$145.00
TUESDAY (lunch & evening meal)	_____ \$90.00	_____ \$115.00	_____ \$115.00	_____ \$160.00
WEDNESDAY (breakfast & lunch)	_____ \$80.00	_____ \$105.00	_____ \$105.00	_____ \$155.00

All meals are included for each registration. Please indicate below if you will be staying for the evening meals. You will not be charged for them. This will give us a better count for the hotel.
 Guests need to purchase a ticket for every meal.

Extra meals available	Your Tickets	Guest Tickets	Cost	Total
Mon evening			\$10	\$
Tues lunch			\$10	\$
Tues banquet			\$20	\$
Wed lunch			\$10	\$

Total meal cost for guest \$ _____

Name of guest _____

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Operators serving water systems of 3,300 or less are eligible for reimbursement from DHHS. You do not have to be a member of NeRWA for eligibility. NeRWA will bill the DHHS directly for reimbursement so do not send payment.

THE PWS ID NUMBER MUST BE ON THIS FORM

DHHS Eligible _____ PWS ID# NE 31- _____

BILL ME (NeRWA members only) _____ PO # if applicable _____ CHECK ENCLOSED # _____

To Register:
 Call: 800-842-8039 or 402-443-5216
 Fax: 402-443-5274
 Mail: Nebraska Rural Water Association
 3390 Ponderosa Street
 Wahoo, NE 68066
 Website: www.nerwa.org

When making room reservations, mention you are with NeRWA

New World Inn—265 33rd Avenue, Columbus, Nebraska
 For reservations call: 800-433-1492

DATE REGISTRATION RECEIVED: _____

CANCELLATION POLICY: Full refund before March 17.

For NeRWA office use only: Payment received _____ Check # _____

Hours: Water _____ BF _____ Wastewater _____ Certificate mailed _____



Spread the Word

By Mike Lucas, Sourcewater Specialist

Another political election period is over and many newly elected persons are assuming their leadership roles in our communities. It's our responsibility as water operators to inform the newly elected/appointed officials about the importance and also the vulnerabilities of their citizens' drinking water sources. This includes: voting citizens, those too young to vote and future generations. As we know, we now have all of the water on this earth that we will ever have and only 1% of that is potable.

We have also seen in recent drought years the increased conflicts regarding water interests between states and municipal, industrial and agricultural interests. I expect that it will only become more intense, especially during drought cycles. Over the last year I have experienced an increasing numbers of calls from municipalities

and rural water districts regarding concerns over protecting drinking water supplies. We've witnessed the expressions of concern regarding the proposed petroleum pipeline across the state.

Nebraska for the most part is well supplied with water. It's a natural resource here that rivals and, in my opinion, exceeds the importance and thus value of the petroleum and precious metal resources of other areas. Few people know better than we, as water operators, the importance of conserving and protecting our safe drinking water sources. Where would we be without them? We need to spread the word. Our legacy should at least equal our inheritance!

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jsnodgrass@utilityservice.com
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Kent Kuehl • 402 689.6708
kkuehl@utilityservice.com
Omaha, NE



Chemical Feed Pump Training

By Doug Buresh, Training Specialist II

The Nebraska Rural Water Association has contracted with the State of Nebraska to provide water operators a Chemical Feed Pump Training Program. The program is sponsored by Nebraska DHHS Division of Public Health. A series of one-day classes will begin January 18th and continue through May or June. Classes will be held throughout the state.

Along with the training, up to 400 systems will receive a Stenner 17gpd peristaltic chemical feed pump and a Hach chlorine pocket colorimeter at no cost. This equipment is valued at approximately \$600. Eligible systems are Community and Non-Community, Non-Transient systems serving 3300 or fewer persons. This program is also eligible for Operator Reimbursement Grants for travel expenses. DHHS has identified 268 systems in need of emergency chlorination equipment. A pump and colorimeter has been reserved for each of these priority systems. A certified operator needs to attend the training class in order for your system to receive the equipment.

Another seventy systems have been identified as having coliform issues during the past year and a half, and will be eligible to receive the equipment as long as a certified operator attends the class. All water operators are invited to attend the classes. Remaining pumps and colorimeters will be given to systems not on the priority list, on a first come-first serve basis. For these non-priority systems, you may not receive equipment on the day of the class, but at a later date as it becomes available.

The training sessions will concentrate on the occasional need for emergency disinfection in water systems due to weather, equipment failure, or other incidents. The training will consist of classroom instruction on the selection, installation, operation and maintenance of chemical feed pumps capable of injecting liquid chlorine. Training will also be conducted on the use and maintenance of chlorine residual test equipment. Hands-on use of the pumps and colorimeters will also be included. The class has been approved for five hours of continuing education credit for water operator grades 1-4. We are also seeking approval for wastewater continuing education credit for this class.

As of this writing, six classes have been scheduled. We plan to hold twenty to twenty-four classes with locations throughout Nebraska. The goal is for no operator to have to travel more than fifty miles to attend a class. I realize we probably will not reach this goal, and some of you may end up traveling more than fifty miles to the nearest class. Location selection is based on proximity to systems on the priority lists and classroom availability. You will be informed of when classes will be held in your area.

I encourage all operators to take advantage of this chemical feed pump training, and for those eligible, to attend in order to receive the free pump and colorimeter for your system. Class size will be limited, so register on-line or call our office as soon as you can once you receive your notification. I'm looking forward to working with you all on this program.

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Some pHacts on Sampling and analyzing pH

By Curtis Christiansen, Guest Journalist

The pH is a measurement of the intensity of the acidic or basic strength of water. Domestic wastewater typically has a pH range of 7.0 to 7.5 and a pH of 7.0 is considered neutral. The pH is a permit limitation in most NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permits, so it is important that every operator understand how to sample and analyze for pH. Most NPDES permits contain information on, or requirements for, sampling and analysis in Appendix A of the permit, so operators should review the permit for their facility before sampling.

Sample collection for pH should be from a location that is representative of the wastewater stream and from a location where the water is well mixed. The outlet of a Parshall flume is a good location to collect a sample of the influent. Effluent could also be sampled from a pipe or open channel. Locations where wastewater pools, such as wet wells, generally should not be used for sampling. A common mistake observed by Department staff is operators testing pH of the 24 hour composite sample and then reporting this as the pH on the facility's DMR reports. Collect a separate grab sample for pH analysis when conducting a required NPDES permit sampling. The pH grab sample can be collected anytime during the 24 hour sampling period.

Holding time is important as the holding time is only 15 minutes for a sample collected for pH. That means the pH analysis must be conducted no more than 15 minutes after collection. Reporting a pH on the DMR report is only acceptable if the operator can deliver the sample to the lab and have it analyzed within 15 minutes of sampling. Large wastewater treatment facilities often have a laboratory at the facility so the 15 minute holding time is not a problem. However, operators at facilities that use a commercial laboratory to analyze samples for other sampling parameters will likely have to conduct their own pH testing at or near the facility since collecting the pH sample, delivering it to the lab, and having the lab test for pH would be difficult or impossible to complete within the required 15 minute holding time.

The method most often used to test pH is the **electronic pH meter**. There are many brands of pH meters available and a wide range in costs. In selecting a meter, there are two features of a meter required by the US-EPA. The meter must have Automatic Temperature Compensation (ATC) and a Two Point calibration that brackets the sample values. Since the pH of wastewater normally ranges between 7.0 and 8.0, every meter should be able to be calibrated at a pH of 7.0 and 10.0. If your wastewater has a pH below 7.0 or you are required to test other areas of your plant, such as digesters that may have a pH below 7.0, the meter will need to have Three Point Calibration, which allows calibrating the meter at a pH of 4.0, 7.0 and 10.0.

continued on page 13

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Quality control and calibration of the pH meter is required to ensure good quality pH data. In larger facilities, where daily pH testing may be required, weekly calibration is often conducted. In smaller facilities where infrequent testing is conducted, such as monthly, it is recommended the pH meter be calibrated prior to each pH analysis event. Calibration records are also important. Every facility that tests for pH should have a log book to record the date and time each time the pH meter is calibrated. If it is difficult to calibrate a pH meter or if the meter responds slowly it may be time to clean the probe. A film of oil will often build up on the pH probe during use, and this buildup will interfere with the pH measurement. Follow the manufacturer's directions for cleaning the probe. It is also important to store the pH probe in the storage solution provided or recommended by the manufacturer. Storing a pH probe in distilled water or a buffer solution will ruin the probe.

Following are some pH **sampling, testing, and reporting problems** observed by NDEQ personnel:

- Not calibrating the meter routinely or never calibrating the meter.
- No buffer solution used or use of an out of date buffer solution to calibrate the meter.
- Using a meter that does not have Automatic Temperature Compensation or two point calibration.
- Using a meter with Two Point calibration that does not bracket the sample pH.
- No log book or not keeping calibration records.
- Not recording the date and time of calibration in the log book.
- Not recording the date and times of the pH sample collection and analysis.
- Improperly storing the pH probe in distilled or DI (deionized) water or buffer solution.



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CONFERENCE
WILL BE
MARCH 21-23
AT THE
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NeRWA is always looking for new and better ways to serve our membership. In sticking with this philosophy, we recently purchased a HURCO SD800 Spin Doctor Hydraulic valve exerciser. It is something we have had many requests for over the past few years. Valve exercising is one of the most important maintenance procedures a system can perform, yet is often the most neglected. Face it, manually turning valves is a very strenuous, time consuming and difficult task. NeRWA field staff will stay on site and assist with the use of the valve exerciser just as we do with any other aspect of technical assistance. A nominal fee will however be required to insure that the equipment is kept properly maintained.

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Conference Agenda

March 21 - 23, 2011

MONDAY Courtyard

12:30	12:45	Welcome
12:45	1:45	Water System Regulatory Update. Jack Daniel, DHHS - 1W
.50		
2:15	2:45	USDA Land Condemnation. Richard Keith, USDA - .75W
2:45	3:30	Come Find Out How Nebraska Development Districts Can Help You On Your Next Project. Emily Bausch, SENDD - .75W
.25 break		
3:45	4:45	Funding Sources 319, Source Water, SRF and Security Grants - This Session Will Discuss When This Funding Becomes Available, How To Get on the List For This Funding and What These Funds Can Be Used For. Mary Schroer, NDEQ/Kris Luebbe & Steve McNulty, DHHS - 1W, 1WW
.25 break		
5:00	5:45	Operator Responsibility on the Work Site When Working With an Outside Contractor. Doug Fletcher, OSHA - .75W, .75WW

TUESDAY	Session A	Session B	Session C	Session D	
8:00	9:00	Is Material Grinder Right for Your System? Thomas Miller, Electric Pump - 1WW	Small System Roundtable. NeRWA Board - 1W	Rural System Roundtable. NeRWA Board - 1W	Backflow Ordinance Review. Rich Koenig, DHHS 1W,1WW, 1BF
.25 break					
9:15	10:15	New Metering Technology. Brad Cutler, Sensus Meter Co -1W	Water Tower Maintenance and Repair. John Snodgrass, Utility Service Co - 1W	Cost Effective Sludge Removal. George Edwards, Edwards Environmental - 1WW	Backflow Ordinance Review. Rich Koenig, DHHS 1W,1WW, 1BF (continued)
.50 break					
10:45	11:45	New Metering Technology. Brad Cutler, Sensus Meter Co -1W (repeat)	Trouble Shooting Chlorine Pumps. Jeff Lafferty, Stenner Pump Company - 1W	UV Light Disinfection. Tony Bilek, Mc2 - 1WW	Improper Installations. Bob Jedlicka, Mack McClain Associates - 1W, 1WW, 1BF
1.25 hour lunch					
1:00	2:00	Confined Space and Gas Dectors. Howard Mermis - 1W, 1WW	Trouble Shooting Chlorine Pumps. Jeff Lafferty, Stenner Pump Company - 1W	Wastewater Record Keeping. Dawn Martin and Reuel Anderson, NDEQ - 1WW	Backflow Regulations Barney Whatley, NeRWA - 1W, 1WW, 1BF
.50 break					
2:30	3:30	Confined Space and Gas Dectors. Howard Mermis - 1W,1WW	Trenching Safety-Jeremy Neill, United Rentals 1W, 1WW	Improving Revenue Collecting for Utilities. Gary Sanders, Logics LLC - 1W	Backflow Quiz Bowl. Rich Koenig, DHHS - 1W, 1WW, 1BF
.50 break					
4:00	5:00	The Ins and Outs of Starting up a Water Treatment System and What to do with its Discharge. Jesse Dutcher and Greg Wolford - W Design - 1W, 1WW	Trenching Safety. Jeremy Neill, United Rentals 1W, 1WW (Repeat)	Fire Hydrant Maintenance. Andy Kohler, Clow Valve - 1W	Alamosa Incident and Lessons Learned. Craig Reinsch, Olsson & Associates/Tony Martinez, DHHS - 1W

WEDNESDAY		Session A	Session B	Session C	Session D
8:30	9:30	Locator Technology. Travis Beran, Subsurface Solutions - 1W,1WW	Why Operators need NIMs and Asset Management Overview. Kris Luebbe/Scott Sprague, DHHS - 1W,1WW	Metering. Bruce Pietig, Mid America Meter - 1W	Chapter 10 - Question and Answer Session on Certification of Operations. Mike Wentink/Doug Woodbeck, DHHS - 1W, 1BF
.25 break					
9:45	10:45	Energy Saving Tips for Your Water and Wastewater System. Joe Francis, UNL - 1W, 1WW	Trenchless Technology. Brian McCrary, Insituform Technologies - 1W,1WW	Metering. Bruce Pietig, Mid America Meter - 1W	Activated Sludge and Nutrient Removal. Todd Steinbach, Aero-Mod - 1WW
.25 break					
11:00	12:00	AMR/AMI Metering. Randy Brady, Utility Solutions - 1W	Trenchless Technology. Brian McCrary, Insituform Technologies 1W,1WW	Regulation Question and Answer Session. NDHHS Field Area Reps - 1W	Dealing with Solids with Dewatering Methods. Jeff Smith, Aero-Mod - 1WW
1.0 hour lunch					
1:00	2:00	Hydrant Flushing. Randy Brady, Utility Solutions - 1W	Vadose Sampling: What Benefits Could this Provide to your Water System. Ralph Pulte/Mary Poe - DHHS - 1W	Benefits of Irrigating from a Lagoon System. Jim Heyen, NeRWA/Larry Wennekamp, City of Schuyler - 1WW	
2:00	3:00	NeWARN. Rich Melcher, City of Aurora - 1W,1WW	NRD Management Practices - 1W		

**Conference Registration begins: 10:00 A.M. on Monday
7:15 A.M. on Tuesday & Wednesday**

Monday:

- All sessions & activities will be held in the main Courtyard
- No lunch provided
- Training sessions will begin at 12:30 P.M.
- Social begins at 5:45 P.M. with the meal at 6:30 P.M., followed by fun night activities

Tuesday:

- Training sessions begin at 8:00 with 4 concurrent classes
- Lunch is provided
- Social begins at 5:00 P.M. with the meal at 6:30, followed by awards & entertainment

Wednesday:

- Training sessions begin at 8:30 with 4 concurrent classes
- Breakfast and lunch are provided

The following CEUs have been applied for:

- Total hours: 14.25 water, 12.75 wastewater, 5 backflow
- Monday: 4.25 water, 1 .75 wastewater
- Tuesday: 6 water, 6 wastewater, 5 backflow
- Wednesday: 5 water, 5 wastewater

REMEMBER YOUR SCAN CARDS that contain your operator information.

Don't forget the Water Contest – details on page 19.

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NeRWA would like to thank everyone who made donations to our equipment fund. Those donations will help our association continue to provide needed quality assistance to Nebraska's water and wastewater systems.

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Arnold	Denton	Lawrence	Snyder
Ashton	Deshler	Lindsay	Spalding
Bancroft	Dewitt	Long Pine	Springfield
Barneston	Diller - 2	Loomis	Stanton
Battle Creek	Dodge	Loup City	Staplehurst
Beatrice Public Works	Doniphan - 2	Madison	Stuart
Beaver Crossing	Cozad	Madrid	Sutton Community Home
Benedict	Emerson	Malcolm	Talmage
Bennet	Eustis	Mead	Trenton
Bertrand	Fairbury	Merna	Trumbull
Blue Springs	Fairmont	Mullen	Utica
Brainard	Franklin	Nemaha RWD2	Valentine Residents - 2
Bruning	Garland	Nehawka	Virginia
Cambridge	Geneva	Neligh	Waco
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Clarkson	Guide Rock	Nucor Steel	
Clatonia	Hampton	Panama	
Clay Center	Harrison	Pawnee City	
Coleridge	Hubbard	Pawnee RWD 1	

The Nebraska Rural Water Association is pleased to announce they will be presenting two \$500 scholarships for higher education purposes for the school year 2011-2012 fall and spring semesters.

The scholarship is available to children and stepchildren of member public water system employees. Employees of the Nebraska Rural Water Association Board of Directors and staff are not eligible. Interested persons should complete and submit the application inserted in this quarterly.

Applications are due March 2, 2011. Winners of the Scholarships will be announced at the Columbus Conference in March 2009. Send all information to:

NeRWA
3390 Ponderosa Street
Wahoo NE 68066.

If you have any questions, please give our office a call – 800.842.8039 or 402.443.5216.



Operator Ethics & Integrity

By Mike Stanzel, Deputy Circuit Rider

As all of you know, NeRWA assists all public water systems across the state. There are approximately 1,450 systems in Nebraska that classify as a PWS.

It seems that we have been focusing a lot on coliform violations these past 6 months. We have assisted several towns with new operators that are receiving “Bad” sample results. To make a long story short, the “New” operator was following the “Old” sample site plan and discovering from the residents that “John Doe” never took a sample here so why are you?

Please take the time to read the following definitions. I know all of you are busy and have an endless list of things to work on, but please take the time to follow your sample site plan and take the samples accordingly. Failure to do this can affect the public’s health and safety and ultimately result in losing your license and job.

Definition of Ethic

1. Of, or belonging to, morals; treating of the moral feelings or duties; containing concepts of morality; moral; as, **ethic** discourses or epistles; an ethical system; ethical philosophy. *The ethical meaning of the miracles.*

Definition of Integrity

1. The state or quality of being entire or complete; wholeness; entireness; unbroken state; as, the **integrity** of an empire or territory.
2. Moral soundness; honesty; freedom from corrupting influence or motive; - used especially with reference to the fulfillment of contracts, the discharge of agencies, trusts, and the like; uprightness; rectitude.

Water Operator

Water Operator means the individual or individuals responsible for making decisions regarding the daily operational activities of a public water system, water treatment facility, and/or distribution system that will directly impact the quality and/or quantity of drinking water.

10-005 WATER OPERATOR CERTIFICATION GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

Persons applying for certificates of competency must meet the following requirements:

1. In adequate physical condition;
2. Able to read and write the English language;
3. Produces evidence of satisfactory attendance at operators’ training meetings or short courses, or completion of education courses available that are consistent with the grade applied for;
4. Able to maintain logs and records of operation and perform maintenance consistent with the grade applied for;
5. Produces evidence of good moral character, integrity, ability to cooperate with others, industry, reliability, initiative, and judgement to the degree necessary to secure satisfactory operating results.

179 NAC 10

10-007.02 The Department may deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse renewal of any such Certificate for due cause. Due cause shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Fraud in processing the certificate;
2. Habitual intoxication or addiction to the use of drugs;
3. Conviction of a felony;
4. Physical or mental incapacity to perform professional duties;
5. Violation of any of the provisions of the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act or any rules or regulations adopted under such act;
6. Failure to pay the required fee; and
7. Falsification or misrepresentation in any application, record, report, or other document submitted, maintained, or used for the purposes of compliance with these regulations.

Operator means the individual or individuals responsible for the continued performance of the watersupply system or any part of such system, during assigned duty hours.

**ANNUAL
WATER
TASTING
CONTEST
MARCH 2011**

Sponsored by
**Nebraska
Rural
Water
Association**



The water contest is to be held at the Conference in Columbus. A panel of distinguished taste testers will judge all samples. The winner will be announced at the banquet on Tuesday, March 22. The winning system will compete against finalists from the other 49 states in the National Contest at the National Rural Water Association Water Rally in Washington DC.

Contest Rules:

1. Sample must be from a Nebraska public water supply system
2. One entry per water system
3. Water must come before any point-of-use treatment
4. Water must come from the distribution system
5. Water should be in clean, unmarked gallon container (preferably glass)
- 6. Entry form must accompany sample**

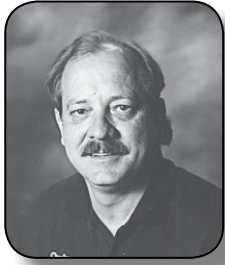
Water must be received by 3:00 pm on Monday, March 21, at the conference registration table.

Water System: _____

Submitted by: _____

If at all possible, please call out office in advance at 800-842-8039 or 402-443-5216 to let us know you are entering. Thank you.

Remember—bring completed form with your water!!!



Washing Machine Smell

By Randy Hellbusch, Circuit Rider

We often get calls from water systems pertaining to taste and odor complaints. Many times the complaint is that there is a terrible odor coming from the washing machine. The following article was given to me some time back by Ed Hamilton, Water Superintendent for the City of Oxford. I have since handed it out to several systems, and many say that it has been a big help. It is a response to a website with many ideas and suggestions about how to remedy the "Washing Machine Smell." The common denominator in many instances appears to be liquid detergent.

The following article was retyped from this website:

<http://www.thriftyfun.com/tf452244.tip.html>

RE: Washing Machine Smell

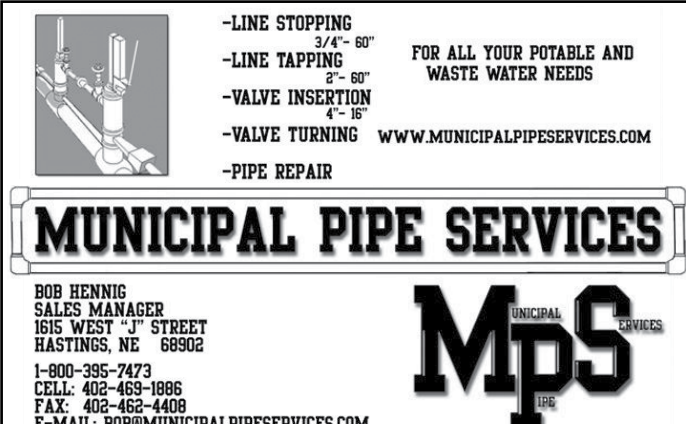
Thank you to JDW and everyone else who posted info about their smelly washers on this site! We have a Maytag Performa top loader. For the past year it has had a really bad, funky smell coming from it. To me it smelled like rotting stinky socks and/or sort of like sewage. However, we checked ALL the hoses, drains, traps, etc., and nothing - no problem with them. Still, the smell persisted and was driving me absolutely crazy. My husband says I have a nose like a bloodhound. I say I have an unusually sensitive nose and stinky smells bother me A LOT.

We tried running extremely hot wash with bleach in it through the machine. We tried running extremely hot wash with 1 cup Cascade through the machine. No luck with either in getting rid of the smell. It seemed to work for a day or so, and then the smell was right back.

We finally decided we were going to just have to get rid of the machine. As a last ditch effort, I decided to search "washing machine smells" on Google and thank goodness this website popped up as one of those listed. Thanks to all the helpful info posted, we decided to take our washer apart today to see if we too had the horrid soap scum and lint build up that others spoke of. Boy, did we ever. The soap scum and lint build-up was ½" thick or more all the way around the top inside of the drum assembly, and since there are 3 layers to the

assembly, the scum/lint build up was caked on all three layers. Completely disgusting. We have now cleaned everything off and wiped it all down with hot soapy water with bleach in it.

My husband is an instrument mechanic by trade (e.g. he can fix pretty much anything (BreeMar Services 604-302-2416) so he didn't have a problem with it. Our problem has just always been trying to figure out exactly where the smell was coming from. For awhile we thought it might be the pump (wrong). Thankfully, the washer is now spic and span. We will never use liquid soap again (we usually use Zero for gentle wash) and will cut down on amount of powdered soap we use. We've also decided to do our white loads last when we're doing laundry, so that the last wash we do is with extremely hot water with bleach in it. We have also taken note of the Borax tip, and plan to use that occasionally too. Hopefully, we won't have this problem again. If we do though we now know how to fix it. It takes awhile to take machine apart and clean it out, but is much better than the expense of having to go out and buy a new washer or call a repairman who charge huge \$\$\$ just to show up at your house, never mind the expense of actually servicing the machine after that. Also, dealing with 1-800 Customer Service is a complete waste of time. If you don't have a warranty don't bother, and even with a warranty they just give you the run around and treat you as if YOU are the problem, not their poorly designed machine.



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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
(Application must be typed)

Personal Data

NAME _____
Last First Middle
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Eligible System Employee Data

NAME _____ TITLE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
MEMBER SYSTEM _____ TELEPHONE _____
RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT _____

High School Data

SCHOOL NAME _____ GRADUATION DATE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
YOUR CLASS RANK _____ NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN CLASS _____
YOUR GRADE POINT AVERAGE _____

(Transcript must be submitted with application if applying for the first time.)

LIST BELOW ANY ACADEMIC AWARDS, MEMBERSHIPS OR OTHER SPECIAL RECOGNITION YOU HAVE RECEIVED DATING BACK TO YOUR SOPHOMORE YEAR.

College/University Data

IS THIS YOUR FIRST YEAR OF HIGHER EDUCATION? YES _____ NO _____
IF "NO" INDICATE CREDIT HOURS COMPLETED _____
NUMBER OF CREDIT HOURS REQUIRED TO GRADUATE _____
COLLEGE GRADE POINT AVERAGE _____
SCHOOL NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PLEASE INDICATE: _____ 4-YEAR COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY
_____ 2-YEAR COMMUNITY/JUNIOR COLLEGE
_____ VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL

MAJOR COURSE OF STUDY _____
Priority will be given but not limited to water related studies.

Essay

ON A SEPARATE PAGE IN 250 WORDS OR LESS, WRITE A BRIEF MESSAGE ON YOUR GOALS AS THEY RELATE TO YOUR EDUCATION, CAREER AND FUTURE PLANS

Certification

IN SUBMITTING THIS APPLICATION, WE CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IS COMPLETE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE. FALSE INFORMATION WILL RESULT IN THE REVOCATION OF ANY SCHOLARSHIP GRANTED.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____


Official Rules

This grant of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) will be made to a student to defray the cost of tuition, books, or room and board at an accredited institution of higher learning approved by the Nebraska Rural Water Association (NeRWA). Disbursement of the money will be made upon presentation of winner's college or university invoice as proof of full-time enrollment. The scholarship money will be paid directly to the student, two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per semester. The scholarship will be awarded to children or stepchildren of member utility system employees. In order to be eligible for scholarship, applicants must complete the application form in its entirety by filling in all blanks. If item is not applicable please place a N/A in the blank. Upon completion return it to the NeRWA Scholarship Committee by the entry deadline, March 2, 2011. All applications will be first screened on the basis of leadership responsibilities in community and school activities as well as grade point average. Applicants will be evaluated on a comparative basis at the sole discretion of the committee. Decisions will be final. Application material and decisions of the committee shall be confidential. Acceptance of scholarship constitutes permission to use recipient's name and/or likeness for purpose of promotion.

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Underground Utilities Color Codes

By Russ Topp, Circuit Rider

January 1, 2011 marked my tenth year with Nebraska Rural Water Association. As many of you know, among other things, I have been providing leak detection services for most of those ten years. When I first started the best way to find a leak was with a ground microphone, at best, this was a hit and miss operation. Several years ago the association was able to acquire a leak correlator through the help of the Department of Health and Human Services, this dramatically increased our accuracy in finding leaks. Nebraska Rural Water Association has since purchased a correlator thanks to the generous donations to the equipment fund by many water systems across the state.

After a water leak has been correlated is when the real work begins. Typically I can pinpoint a leak to a certain area to be excavated, that is when I ask the million dollar question, anything buried here?

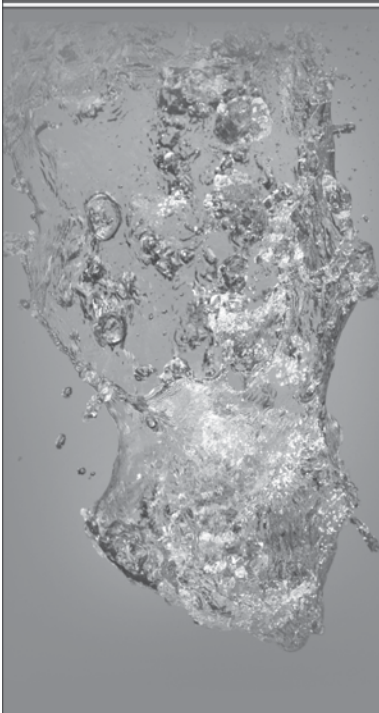
Diggers hotline has been around since 1994. It is law that you call before you dig. The Nebraska hotline number is 811 or 1-800-331-5666. There is a 48 business hour waiting time to allow other utilities in the affected area to mark their lines. Usually on a small leak waiting the 48 business hours is not a problem. In the case of a water main break waiting may not be an option. You may have to call in an emergency locate. According to the Diggers Hotline of Nebraska's website, an emergency means any condition which constitutes a clear and present danger to life, health, or property or which demands immediate action to prevent or repair a major service outage. The proposed excavation site should be marked by white flags.


After all of the other utilities have marked their underground lines you may end up with a sea of colored flags. Knowing what these flags and their corresponding colors mean will be a great benefit when excavating your water or sewer line. The following chart is from the American Public Works Association Uniform Color Code. It may be helpful to become familiar with this color code. You can also visit Nebraska Diggers Hotline on the internet at www.ne-diggers.com.

American Public Works Association Uniform Color Code

RED	Electric power lines, cables or conduits, and lighting cables.
YELLOW	Gas, oil, steam, petroleum or other hazardous liquid or gaseous materials.
ORANGE	Communications, cable TV, alarm or signal lines, cables, or conduits.
BLUE	Water, irrigation, and slurry lines.
GREEN	Sewers, storm sewer facilities, or other drain lines.
WHITE	Proposed excavation
PINK	Temporary survey markings.
PURPLE	Reclaimed water, irrigation and slurry lines.

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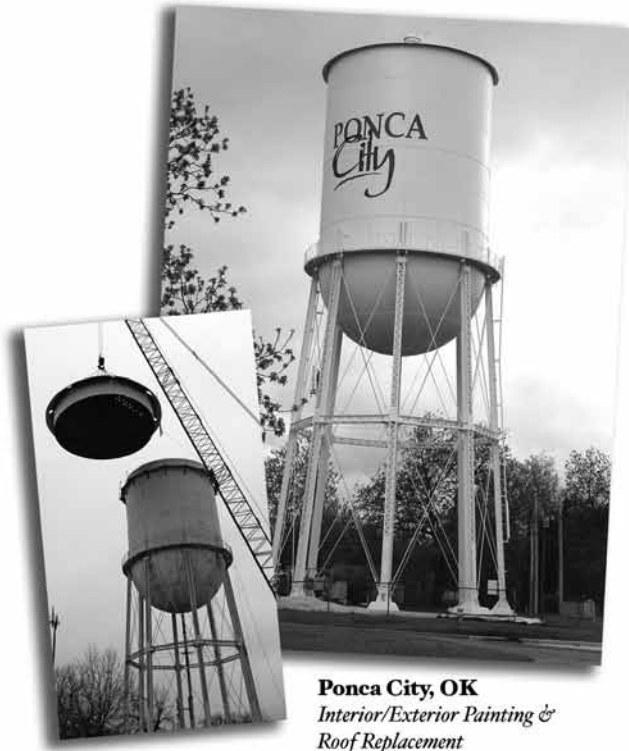


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Announcing Certification Training

By Jim Heyen, Wastewater Technician

The wait is over! NeRWA will offer five opportunities, starting in February, for operators to attend a 4 day comprehensive workshop to better prepare for the Nebraska Wastewater Certification Test. We are also including a 1 day class for the Lagoon Operator Test.

The classes will be held at the Wahoo Training Room and will be co-taught by myself and Gil Frey. I am excited to finally offer an organized format to better equip operators with the knowledge they need to prepare for the Certification Test.

We have also teamed up with NDEQ to provide

additional sections on understanding permits, completing DMR's and techniques of Sampling within the 25 Wastewater Classes offered during 2011.

The dates of the workshops can be found on our website or on the Coalition calendar. If you are interested in attending one of the Certification Workshops or any of the Wastewater Classes, registration can be made on-line.

For additional information don't hesitate to contact me at 402-480-8524 or by email jim@nerwa.org

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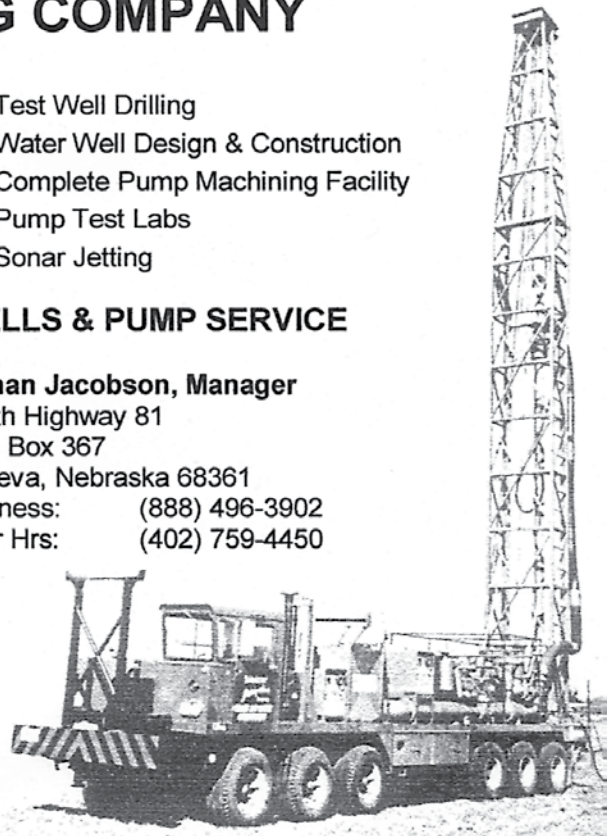
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Wellhead Protection Spotlight Community City of Stanton

By Mike Lucas, Sourcewater Specialist



The picturesque City of Stanton is home to 1,627 residents and is located in the beautiful Elkhorn River valley of northeast Nebraska.

Stanton was designated the county seat by election in 1869. Until then, the proposed town was an open space in the center of the county. After the election, there was sufficient confidence in the location to transact

county business there. As a result, the town of Stanton began to grow and was officially platted in 1871. The business district of Stanton is generally located to the west of the original town.

The City of Stanton currently supplies water to its citizens by pumping from two wells southeast of the community drilled in 2001 and 2004. They have an additional well by the ball field that is high in iron and manganese and is maintained as a standby emergency source of water only. This emergency well proved its value when flooding of the Elkhorn River this year destroyed the transmission line from the well field into the City. Stanton had a nitrate violation of 12 mg/l at well #831 in April 2003 but that well has been properly decommissioned. The two newer wells have remained low in nitrates. Water quality and quantity have not been a problem with them. They are outside of the city limits but within the city's zoning area. City leaders have elected to develop a wellhead protection management program to protect the drinking water for current and future generations.

NEBRASKA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE & UTILITY EXPO

**WILL BE HELD AT THE
HEARTLAND EVENT CENTER
IN GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA,
ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:**

2012—March 19-21

2013—March 18-20

2014—March 17-19



CONFERENCE RAFFLE PRIZES

These are a few of our raffle prizes for this year's conference. Tickets will be available starting Monday at 1:00 pm through 11:00 am Wednesday. The drawings will be right after lunch on Wednesday. There are some game activities planned for Monday after the meal, including basketball, Chinese horseshoes, Balloon bust, and a variety of Wii games. Winners of the games will be awarded tickets. The game tickets can either be exchanged for raffle tickets or used to win prizes. The game tickets are only redeemable on Monday night. So stick around for the social, meal and fun.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The following NeRWA board members will be running for re-election to the association Board of Directors at the annual conference in Columbus held on March 21-23, 2011.

Greg Bouc, Village of Valparaiso
 Dennis Hoback, Cass County RWD 1
 Bob West, Cass County RWD 2

The positions must be filled by a delegate from a municipality, a rural water district, and one from either a municipality or a rural water district.

Requirements for the above position:

- Must be the voting delegate or alternate delegate from system
- Must attend monthly board meetings
- Attendance at the spring conference is required
- Attendance at the fall conference is encouraged
- Occasional out-of-state travel is possible

If you are interested in running for the board, please submit a letter and resume so indicating. The deadline is March 11, 2011. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.



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EPA Drinking Water
Nebraska DEQ
League of Municipalities
Nebraska Section, AWWA
AWWA Library Reference Listings
NeRWA Associate Members
Archived "Good Water News" Articles

NeRWA Contact Information:

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 3390 Ponderosa Street
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