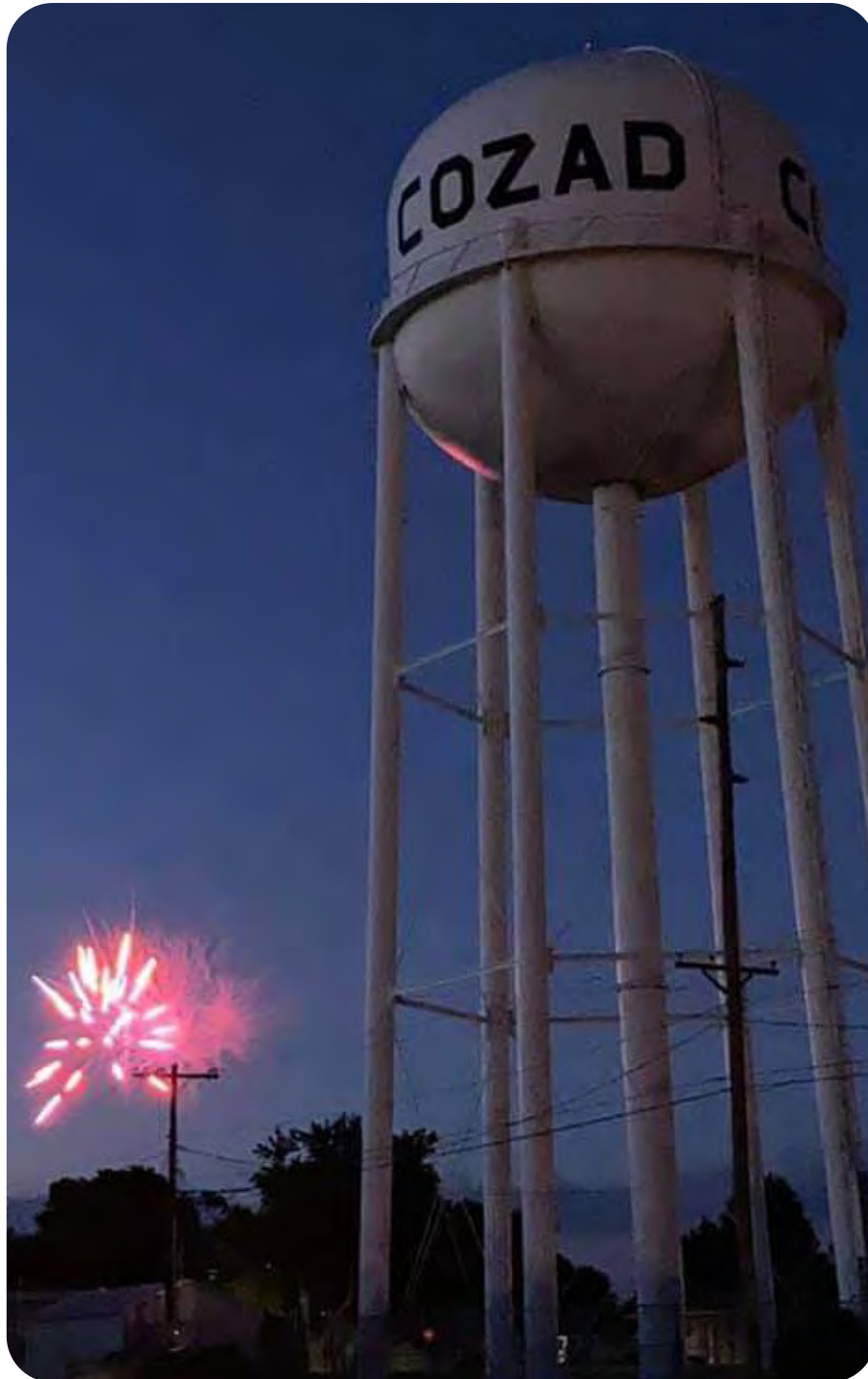


# Nebraska Good Water News

ISSUE 3/2021



**Nebraska Rural Water Association**

# CLOGGED PUMPS?

*Tackle wipes and large debris with these solutions from USABlueBook!*

## FOR SMALLER APPLICATIONS AND LIFT STATIONS

### Goulds GFK and GFV Series Sewage Pumps

- Non-clog impellers handle wipes and 2" solids

### FlowRake Rag Catchers

- Catch and retain flushables



OPERATOR  
DESIGNED



USABlueBook  
EXCLUSIVE

## FOR LARGE MUNICIPAL LIFT STATIONS

### Deming Demersible Chopper Pumps

- Slice the most troublesome solids into small pieces

### StationGuard Manual Bar Screens

- Capture damaging wipes and debris

DEMING®



OPERATOR  
DESIGNED



**USABlueBook®**  
GET THE BEST TREATMENT™

GET PRODUCT DETAILS AT  
[usabluebook.com/NoMoreClogs](http://usabluebook.com/NoMoreClogs)

800.548.1234 • [usabluebook.com](http://usabluebook.com)

# Nebraska Good Water News

Issue 3/2021

*“Keeping Our Water Safe”*

*Board of Directors*

## Table of Contents

2021 Training .....	2
Fall Conference Update .....	3
Notes of Thanks .....	4-5
Sample Stations .....	6
Customer Water Complaints .....	7
NeWRA Fall Conference Exhibitor Registration.....	8
Diaphragm Pumps vs Peristaltic Pumps .....	9
Sewer Smoking .....	10
NeRWA Special Training Classes Registration .....	11
Training Suggestions .....	12
NeRWA Fall Conference Early Registration .....	13
Learning in the Hot Summertime .....	14
Farewell .....	16
Village of Marquette Project / Informational Brochures .....	17
Guidelines for Continuing Ed Hours .....	19
NeWRA Contact Information .....	20
Fun Facts! .....	21

### **President:**

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

### **Vice-President:**

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

### **Secretary/Treasurer:**

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

George Wagner  
P.O. Box 226  
Hooper, NE 68031  
(402) 654-3649

Tom Grovijohn  
226 N. Elm  
Dodge, NE 68633  
(402) 693-2239

Jordan Bang  
P.O. Box 98  
Bennet, NE 68317  
(402) 782-3495

Cope Clark  
P.O. Box 518  
Hartington, NE 68739  
(402) 254-6758

### **Staff:**

Amy Kemerling, Office Assistant  
Salli Kemerling, Office Manager  
Randy Hellbusch, Circuit Rider  
Mike Stanzel, Circuit Rider  
Scott Finke, Circuit Rider  
Adam German, Source Water Technician  
Charles Buckley, Wastewater Technician  
Pat Petersen, Training Specialist

*“Nebraska Good Water News” is a quarterly publication of the NEBRASKA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION, 3390 Ponderosa, Wahoo, Nebraska 68066. Phone 1-800-849-8039 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.*

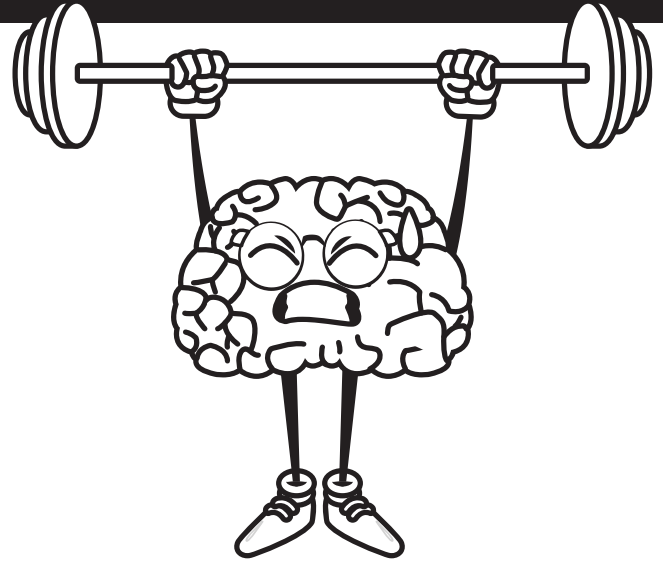
**Website: [www.nerwa.org](http://www.nerwa.org)**

### **On the cover:**

Cozad Water Tower from Tim Bice, Cozad, Nebraska.

"This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer."

# 2021 TRAINING



## Wastewater Operator Training

August 11	Hartington
October 12	Franklin
November 16	Ogallala
December 14	Firth

5 water hours

## NeRWA Office 3390 Ponderosa Street, Wahoo

August 8  
Trenching Class  
8 water & 8 wastewater hours

August 19  
Confined Space Class  
8 water & 8 backflow, 8 wastewater hours  
\$150 each class

**FULL**

## Backflow Continuing Education Training

September 21	McCool Junction
September 23	Ord
October 5	So. Sioux City
October 7	O'Neill
November 17	Wahoo
December 7	Mitchell
December 9	Cambridge
December 15	Wahoo

5 water, 5 backflow  
5 wastewater hours

## Wastewater Training

August 25	Bridgeport
October 6	Omaha
November 17	Duncan
December 8	Wahoo

5 wastewater hours

## Fall Western Conference

September 28-30  
Gering Civic Center  
Gering, Nebraska

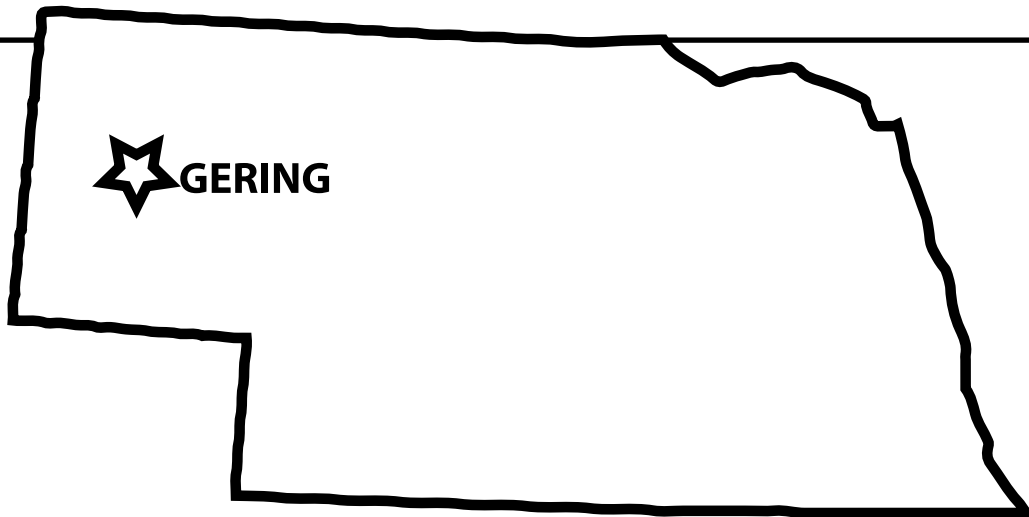


To register, please visit:  
[www.nerwa.org](http://www.nerwa.org)

# FALL CONFERENCE UPDATE!!!

Please be aware that the Gering Civic Center will be undergoing a major renovation during our scheduled Fall Conference. We are still going through the planning process and feel we will be able to keep the entire conference at the center. Some things may be a little crowded and set up differently but please remember that our main purpose of the conference is to provide all of you not only valuable information, but the continuing education hours that you all need for re-certification. We apologize for this in advance and the City of Gering is doing everything possible to make our conference an enjoyable one! I can't wait to see the new and improved Gering Civic Center!

Thank you for understanding and hope to see you in September.



## FALL CONFERENCE TOPICS

This is just a temporary list of the topics that will be at the fall conference. Of course, there will be several chances to speak with the Department of Health Rule Managers and Compliance staff. Hope to see a lot of you in Gering.

Backup Generation  
Hydrant & Meter Technology  
Tower & Tank Maintenance  
Chlorination Pump Troubleshooting  
Hands on Demonstration of Sewer Lining



# NOTES *of* THANKS

NeRWA Board & Staff  
 Thank you for selecting me to receive the Scholarship Award offered by your Association. I was thrilled to learn of my selection for this honor, and I appreciate your support. This award will make a great financial impact as I pursue my Civil Engineering degree with a minor in Spanish at UNO. Part of my decision to pursue this field was when I assisted my dad as a part of a structure career project at my high school. He is the manager of Crook County Rural Water District #2 based in Elmausood. It was a positive experience. Thank you again for this honor.

Sincerely,  
 Kyle Hogue

Village of Doniphan  
 P.O. Box 189  
 Doniphan, Nebraska 68832-0189  
 402-843-6609

July 12, 2021

Nebraska Rural Water Association  
 3390 Ponderosa Drive  
 Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear NeRWA:

On behalf of the Doniphan Village Board and staff, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for your assistance over the years and most recently for help locating a water leak and for your expertise with chlorine disinfection following our E-coli bacteria contamination that was discovered in our water supply.

Enclosed is a donation for your equipment fund. It's nice to know that you're only a phone call away. We appreciate all you do for communities such as ours!

Sincerely,  
 Ryan Nickerson  
 Ryan Nickerson, Chairman  
 Doniphan Village Board of Trustees

WARRANT	211	NE RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION	15335
INVOICE #	REFERENCE	GL ACCOUNT #	NET
75132021	WATER & SEWER STUDY 2021	02-00-5610	
75132021	WATER & SEWER STUDY 2021	03-00-5610	

Thank you Bandy for coming down & doing this for the City of Franklin. We are raising both water & sewer rates soon.  
 Raquel

CHECK DATE	5/13/21	CHECK #	15335
------------	---------	---------	-------

Village of Burchard

Burchard, Nebraska 68323

P.O. Box 245

This is a donation to the Nebraska Rural Water Association for the work Scott Finke performed in finding the water leak in the Village of Burchard. His assistance may have saved us hundreds of dollars in water loss and possibly structural damage to the fire hall.  
Thank you for your assistance to villages in Nebraska.

For the board,

Ron Seitz, Village Clerk

Dear Randy and Staff,

Thank-you so much for coming down and inspecting the transmission main! We appreciate all you've done and are doing to help us! We are at a loss as to what to do. Thank God for you and Nebraska Rural Water! Please thank all those who came down with you to help. Thank-you again for all your help and may GOD BLESS all of you!

The Village Board  
*Mama Katz* Board chair person

VILLAGE OF DORCHESTER

701 Washington Ave., PO Box 287 | Dorchester, NE 68343  
Phone: 402-946-3201 | Fax: 402-946-3571 | dorchester@tdo.com.net



May 28, 2021

Nebraska Rural Water Association  
3390 Ponderosa Drive  
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear NeRWA staff,

The Village of Dorchester Board of Trustees and employees would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Nebraska Rural Water Association for the many services you provide to our community. Your organization is always willing to share your knowledge and provides prompt service so that our utilities continue to run smoothly.

Your ongoing efforts to manage and promote safe, clean water for the citizens of Nebraska are commended. Please accept our donation to continue in

Best Regards,

Gloria J. Riley,  
Village Clerk - Treasurer

NeRWA,

We would like to thank NeRWA and Randy Hellbusch for putting our water & Sewer Rate Study's together for us. We truly appreciate the time and effort spent on it. Sincerely,  
Village of Bernitz



## Sample Stations

By Mike Stanzel, Circuit Rider

When a new operator takes over a town it is very common for them to change the sample site plan, mainly because the previous operator's house was probably one site and nowadays people may not want you in their residence.

Gaining access into private homes for coliform sampling seems to be becoming more difficult. It seems a lot of residents work out of town and the days of not locking your house when you're gone are long gone. Recently several operators have asked my opinion about sample stations. The questions range from where should I install the stations to can they be properly disinfected once I have them in?

If you decide to utilize sample stations, I would like to offer a couple of suggestions to consider. First thing you will want to do is find representative sites in your distribution system. A good site would be a site that has easy access to the water main. Under a paved street would be cost prohibitive, perhaps a water main in the right of way would be a more cost effective. Never tap a sampling station to a fire hydrant lead, because you will be sampling a dead end. This is never

a good idea. Once you have found good sites you will want to submit a map to the DHHS for approval. There is no use installing a sampling station only to find out you can't use it for routine samples.

Disinfecting a sample station once it's installed shouldn't be a problem. The best way to disinfect any sample tap is to insure all internal surfaces have been in contact with chlorine. An easy way to accomplish this is with the use of a new two-gallon garden sprayer. Adapt the wand end of the sprayer to fit the 1/4-inch tube on the sample station. Fill the sprayer with chlorine bleach attach the wand end to the 1/4 inch tube and fill the entire tap with the chlorine until the chlorine comes out of the tap. Finish off the process by using a baggie with chlorine to disinfect the outside of tap. After three to five minutes of contact or until you are sure there has been sufficient contact time you will be ready to flush the hydrant. Flush until you are sure you have fresh water from the water main. Shut the stream down to a pencil sized stream and collect the sample. Be sure to wash all brass fixtures with clear water as chlorine is very aggressive on brass.

The main disadvantage to sampling outdoors is you are subject to the elements. You will have to watch the forecast for a good calm day or at least have a pop-up tent available to break the wind.



- Municipal Pipe Cleaning
- CCTV Pipe Inspection
- Foam Root Treatment
- Manhole Rehabilitation
- Trenchless Sewer Liners
- Point Repair Liners
- Pipe Bursting

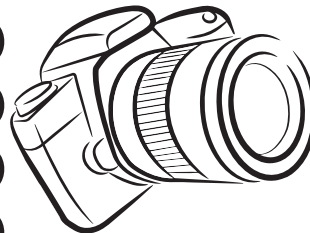
Phone - (308) 237-6651

Fax - (308) 234-5390

PO Box 1065 Kearney, NE 68848

[johnsonservicecompany.com](http://johnsonservicecompany.com)

**GOT A COOL PHOTO  
YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE  
FOR OUR  
NEWSLETTER  
COVER?**



Contact Salli at:  
[Salli@nerwa.org](mailto:Salli@nerwa.org)





# Customer Water Complaints

By Randy Hellbusch, Circuit Rider

I get a lot of calls from water systems regarding customer complaints about water taste and odor. Many of the complaints are hard to understand because it is only one customer in a certain area or neighborhood. Most of the time the complaint is about the smell of the water. (It smells like rotten eggs!) The vast majority of time the problem can be traced to the water heater. It is often difficult to get the water customer to understand this. The usual comment is, it isn't just the hot water. The cold water smells too. Anyone who has attended a backflow class understands that after water is heated, it expands and often times backs up into the cold-water lines. This is often hard to explain to the average water customer.

Water heaters are supplied with an anode rod. This is the same concept as cathodic protection in a water reservoir. Anyone who has cathodic protection in their water storage facility knows that it has to be maintained. How many anode rods in residential water heaters do you suppose receive any maintenance? The owner's manual for any water heater states: The anode rod must be maintained to keep the tank in operating condition. **The anode rod in the tank is designed to be slowly consumed cathodically, minimizing corrosion in the glass lined tank. A hydrogen sulfide, rotten egg odor, may result if water contains high sulfate and/or minerals. Failure to inspect and/or replace the anode rod will result in voiding the warranty.** As the rod is pitted and deteriorates it can actually do more harm than good to the water quality. Owner's manuals also recommend that a water heater be drained periodically to prevent sediment build-up in the tank. How many of your water customers do you think do this? Of course, it is just natural for a customer to blame the water utility for water quality. In a sense they are right. It is the make-up of the water that causes these problems. But in most of Nebraska, the ground water that we use is fairly corrosive and contains minerals, this is practically unavoidable. A little simple maintenance on the water heater would avoid a lot of these problems. Ask your local plumber if he can get you a copy of an owner's manual of a residential water heater and show it to some of your customers the next time they are


having a problem with water taste and odor. Many times the removal of the anode rod will eliminate the problem. But be sure the customer is aware that removal of this rod will void the warranty of the water heater if it is still under warranty. Showing customer what the owners manual says is the easiest way to explain the problem.


Another possible cause of odor issues can be caused by certain dishwashing and laundry detergents. Especially in the newer water saving appliances.

## Sargent Drilling Co.

---

- **Test Well Drilling**
- **Water Well Design and Construction**
- **Complete Pump Machining Facility**
- **Pump Repair**
- **Loaner Motor Service**
- **Pump Test Labs**
- **Video Surveying**
- **Acidizing and Chemical Treatment**
- **Sonar Jetting**





**Complete Municipal Water Well and Pump Service in Nebraska, Wyoming, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Colorado, & South Dakota**

**24 Hour Emergency Service**

---

**MUNICIPAL AND INDUSTRIAL DIVISION**

<p><b>Broken Bow Office</b> PO Box 627, 263 South 23rd Broken Bow, NE 68822</p> <p>Gary McCracken, Branch Manager Shad Yarrington, Salesman</p> <p>Office: (308) 872-5125 After Hours: (308) 870-0138</p>	<p><b>Geneva Office</b> PO Box 367, 846 South 13th Geneva, NE 68361</p> <p>Doug Yantzie, Municipal Manager</p> <p>Office: (888) 496-3902 After Hours: (402) 759-2929</p>
---	--

# Nebraska Rural Water Association

Gering Civic Center  
1050 M Street

**Exhibitor Registration**  
**Western Nebraska Fall Conference**  
**September 28-30, 2021**  
**Gering, Nebraska**

Monument Inn Motel  
1130 M Street  
308-436-1950

<b>Associate Member Registration</b> _____ \$300	<b>Non-Member Registration</b> _____ \$600
--	--

**REGISTRATION INCLUDES 2 PEOPLE INCLUDING MEALS**

Name of Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Rep(s): (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, state, zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Additional reps—\$75 each: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Vendors who would like to attend but not have a booth (meals are included):**

NeRWA Members: Full conference-\$200 \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Members-\$250 \_\_\_\_\_

Members: Wed-\$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Thurs-\$125 \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Members: Wed-\$125 \_\_\_\_\_ Thurs-\$150 \_\_\_\_\_

Exhibition days are Wednesday and Thursday.  
**WE NEED A COUNT FOR THE CATERER, SO PLEASE INDICATE MEALS YOU ARE STAYING FOR.**  
Breakfast on Wednesday morning is complimentary for anyone attending the conference.

MEALS ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_ Wed Banquet \_\_\_\_\_ Thurs Lunch

Outside space for trailer \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Donating a door prize (giveaway) \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No Item \_\_\_\_\_

FOR THOSE ATTENDING TRAINING SESSIONS: \$80—all 3 days \$50—Wed, Thurs

YOU NEED TO COMPLETE A SEPARATE REGISTRATION FORM FOR EACH PERSON ATTENDING THE TRAINING SESSIONS. PLEASE INDICATE THE LICENSES YOU NEED CEUs FOR.

*Deadline for registering is September 17.  
**Payment must** be included with registration.  
You will not be guaranteed a booth until  
payment is received.*

**Nebraska Rural Water Association**  
3390 Ponderosa Street  
Wahoo, NE 68066

If you have questions, please contact our office:  
800-842-8039 or 402-443-5216  
info@nerwa.org

**Total enclosed \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate how many are participating in the following:

Golf tournament, Sept 28 \_\_\_\_\_

Trap Shoot, Sept 29 \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

For NeRWA office use only: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Check# \_\_\_\_\_



# Diaphragm Pumps vs Peristaltic Pumps What's the Best Choice?

By Scott Finke, Circuit Rider

Diaphragm pumps vs. Peristaltic pumps. Both styles have distinct advantages and disadvantages over the other. Let's start by weighing the pros and cons between diaphragm pumps vs peristaltic pumps.

If you are currently using diaphragm pumps in your work and having success, the odds are good you are educated on the basics of maintaining your diaphragm pump. I'm also sure the more you've learned, the more successful your pumps are. Although today's diaphragm pumps are more sophisticated with better valves, diaphragms, drive mechanisms, etc. than years ago; they still require a basic understanding for a successful program. Peristaltic pumps on the other hand are initially simpler to use and require less experience to operate under adverse conditions. This is where we begin: Diaphragm pumps vs peristaltic pumps...

## Diaphragm chemical metering pumps

### Pros

- A well-maintained diaphragm metering pump costs you less to operate over time.
- Diaphragm metering pumps are more energy-efficient, using more motor torque on the foreword (power) stroke, but far less on the backstroke.
- Overcoming line pressure is easier with properly sized diaphragm metering pumps.
- Less danger of leakage – A poorly maintained diaphragm metering pump may lose its prime, but it seldom leaks or damages area.

### Cons

- The solution being pumped needs to be clean. Diaphragm metering pumps operate best when the solution being pumped is clean and free from particulates. The reason, diaphragm metering pumps have check valves in the suction and discharge side of the pump head. If either set of check valves becomes fouled (dirty), the pump will first lose its ability to meter accurately, and finally, loss of prime will occur.
- Difficult to prime against pressure - These pumps prime best when there is little to no backpressure. Some pumps are fitted with a bleed valve to aid in this challenge.
- Difficulty priming with dirty check valves - Diaphragm pumps prime best when (check balls) are clean and there is little to no backpressure, and the diaphragm stroke is on the full or maximum setting.

- Difficulty priming when the stroke (feed rate adjustment) is on a low setting. Most diaphragm metering pumps have a diaphragm stroke (feed rate) adjustment, and some also have a motor speed adjustment. Priming is best achieved when the stroke adjustment is above 60% area. These adjustments can be confusing, try to minimize your variables as much as possible. Avoid adjusting the diaphragm stroke lengths.

In summary (the Diaphragm pump) will require you to be a bit more knowledgeable about the pump valves, and proper priming and adjustments characteristics. Once you understand the pump and work within its normal limits you will be assured of a successful program.

## Peristaltic metering pumps

### Pros

- Peristaltic metering pumps are initially easier to use because they are more forgiving than diaphragm metering pumps.
- Peristaltic pumps work well with high levels of particulate in solution (un-dissolved solids) being pumped. There are no check balls to foul within the pump tube.
  - Peristaltic pumps feed rates are less affected by pressure, or the nature of chemicals.
  - Peristaltic pumps are superior at priming, excellent suction.

### Cons

- The constant squeezing of the pump tube weakens (degrades) the tube, and the feed rate is slowly diminished.
- Squeezing the pump tube requires the drive motor to be under a constant load (similar to a boat motor), and uses more power.
- When neglected (pump tube not changed), or injection point not serviced, the pump tube may leak and could damage the pump or worse.
- Pump tubes begin to wear the moment the pump is started, and continue degrading until worn out completely. Most manufacturers rate the tubes in hours. Users must be cognizant of the total number of hours of the pump operating. This is a common problem with peristaltic pump users, who generally underestimate how many hours the pump has operated.

I've probably confused you on these pumps but if you pick one and learn how they work you will be fine. We here at NeRWA have Peristaltic Stenner pumps to loan out. If you are in need of one, please call one of us circuit riders or contact the office (402-443-5216) and we can get one out to you.



---

# Sewer Smoking

*By Charles Buckley, Wastewater Technician*

---

Sewer smoking or smoke testing is a low-cost way to identify areas of infiltration, openings to the collection system, illegal connections and possible damage to the system. We usually ask for \$50 to reimburse for the cost of a gallon of liquid smoke. Ahead of sewer smoking, the town is asked to notify those connected to the system. We do have a notification flyer on our website. We also ask that the fire department, as well as dispatch, are notified of the date we are smoking. The sewer smoke is not toxic or flammable.

When sewer smoking, we set up a high-capacity blower over the exposed manhole and let it run for a few minutes until the blower gets heated up. We then open the valve and introduce the liquid smoke to the blower. The smoke travels through the collection system exiting open areas. We look for smoke exiting the roof vents to see how far it travels. Usually, the smoke travels about three blocks in all directions. We then travel in the directions of the pipe looking for smoke coming up from areas not desired. We

like to flag and note the problem areas so the operator can address it later.

In my experiences with sewer smoking, we have had residents with dry drains or improperly plumbed pipes that get smoke in their homes. I tell the resident it is good that we found this problem and recommend they have a plumber check into it. Usually, it's just a dry trap. I also let them know that if the smoke got in their home, then possibly deadly sewer gasses could get in as well. Also, in my experiences we have found numerous problems like broken or missing clean-out caps, storm sewers leeching into the sanitary sewer, resident and business gutters attached to the sewer system, smoke around the outside of manholes and smoke coming up cracks in the ground.

Sewer smoking is an essential part of your maintenance program. Sewer smoking can also save the town a lot of money. Let me know if we can assist you.



*Sewer smoking in Mullen. L to R: Kaleb Browning, USDA; Charles Buckley, NeRWA; Sara Pierce, USDA; Mike Stanzel, NeWRA and Dave Fulton, USDA*



**SPECIAL TRAINING CLASSES**  
**NeRWA Office**  
**3390 Ponderosa Street**  
**Wahoo, Nebraska**

**Payment must accompany registration.**  
**Only paid registrations will be**  
**guaranteed a place in class.**

NeRWA is sponsoring this special training for the benefit of its membership. Competent Person for Excavation and Trench will be held on Wednesday, August 18. Confined Space Entry will be held on Thursday, August 19. Both classes will be held at the NeRWA office.

Instructors for both training sessions are Mid West Fire Training Associates of Burlington, Kansas. Their staff consists of Certified Professional Instructors and the two training courses have been recognized as meeting OSHA requirements for these topics.

Both Excavation and Confined Space Training provide hands-on opportunities for participants, using MSFTA's portable training equipment. Each class is specially designed for municipal water and wastewater personnel, electric and gas utility workers, fire and rescue personnel, line and street crews and others who need to be aware of trench, excavation and confined space hazards.

Trench training will provide 8 hours for Grades 1-4 and Wastewater.

Confined Space training will provide 8 hours for Grades 1-4, Grade 6 and Wastewater.

**Cost for attendance is \$150 a day per person. Class each day will be 8:00-5:30. Morning and afternoon breaks will be provided along with one hour for lunch. Pre-payment is required.**

**August 2021**  
**Excavation & Trench Agenda**

**August 19, 2021**  
**Confined Space Entry Agenda**

Definition of a Trench  
 Duties of the Competent Person  
 Weight & Pressures of Dirt  
 Types of Cave-ins  
 Soil Classification  
 Testing of Soil  
 General Requirements 1926.651  
 Sloping and Benching  
 Timber Shoring  
 Aluminum Hydraulic Shoring  
 Trench Boxes  
 Understanding Shoring Requirement  
 What To Do In A Trench Emergency  
 Hands On:  
     Review equipment, install hydraulic shores, and install pneumatic shores  
 Final Test  
 (Limit of 24 attendees)  
 8 hours: Grades 1-4 & Wastewater

Definition of a Confined Space  
 Definition of Permitted Confined Space  
 Duties of Participants  
 OSHA & NFPA Regulations  
 Fall Protection  
 Personal Protective Equipment  
 Hazardous Materials  
 Communications  
 The Rescue Team  
 Atmosphere Testing  
 Ventilation  
 Hands On:  
     Strap on full body harness, operate retrieval system, make vertical and horizontal entry, lockout-tag out SCBA Awareness, ventilation equipment  
 Final Test  
 (Limit of 32 attendees)  
 8 hours: Grades 1-4, Grade 6, Wastewater

\_\_\_\_ August 18-Trench Safety-\$150      \_\_\_\_ August 19-Confined Space-\$150      **Total \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/St \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

W# \_\_\_\_\_ WW# \_\_\_\_\_ BF# \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Date received in NeRWA office \_\_\_\_\_ Payment method \_\_\_\_\_



# Training Suggestions

*By Pat Petersen, Training and Technical Assistance Specialist*

Each year the program that I work under from the EPA has a specific start date and completion date. This year my program will end on July 31 and start up on August 1. At the start of each new year I am asked to reach out to our primacy agency, The Department of Health and Human Services and EPA Region 7 for specific training needs for the State of Nebraska Water Operators.

The question is: List the top 3 priority training areas identified and agreed upon through the collaborative process. Last year they were 1. RTCR and the importance of assessment, 2. Lead and Copper Rule, and 3. CCR-Public Notification, sampling requirements, and UCMR, (Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule). The Lead and Copper Rule will continue to be a hot topic and the RTCR can seem to be a bit challenging at times. We will see these once again this year at some of my trainings. With that being said, I would like to offer the same question to the water operators of the State of Nebraska. What do you (as operators) feel are the top 3 training priorities? Knowing and following the regulations are vital to a water operator but what else do you feel is a major component of operating a water system?

Is it the age of your infrastructure and how to adapt to a newer, more modern method of operations? What about the continuity between the operator and the city or village leaders? Do you have the proper equipment to do your job correctly and efficiently? These are just some of the questions I like to throw out there when we are having an operator forum. I would love to hear from the operators out there with your suggestions! I really enjoy the end

of the day operator forums to help us figure out what is working for one operator but is not working for the other. We usually can find a common ground on how we can approach certain issues each system may be having.

As most of you know, the pandemic has made it difficult for some of you to get all of your hours needed for recertification. We have 4 one-day trainings left for this year. August will be in Hartington, October we will be in Franklin, November in Ogallala, and December we will be in Firth. Also, in August we will be having our Confined Space Training and Trench and Excavation training. These two classes have a fee but they are very educational and a good way to receive 8 hours of continuing education. The dates for those two classes are August 18-19, here at the office in Wahoo. Please stay tuned to our website and mailings for the possibility of an extra class or two so we can make sure everyone gets the hours they need.

I look forward to seeing all of you at one or all of the remaining classes. Feel free to reach out to me for any questions you may have about training hours you may need. Stay safe and have a great rest of your summer!



*Clean water is such a treasure that we take for granted in America.*

— HANNAH TETER



**Municipal Automation & Control**  
 Design, Build, Service  
[municipalautomation.com](http://municipalautomation.com)  
 WATER/WASTEWATER CONTROL SYSTEMS  
**Bill Simmerman - Owner**  
 Cell: (308) 233-4729  
[bill.s@municipalautomation.com](mailto:bill.s@municipalautomation.com)  
 211 N. Tyler  
 PO Box 393  
 Elm Creek, NE 68836  
 Office/Fax: (308) 856-4730

# Nebraska Rural Water Association

## EARLY REGISTRATION

### Western Nebraska Fall Pre-Conference and Conference

September 28-30, 2021  
 Gering Civic Center  
 1050 "M" Street  
 Gering, Nebraska

*One name per form. Make sure to indicate all your licenses to insure proper credit hours.  
 There will be a \$25 charge for name changes and cancellations made after September 22;  
 \$50 for no shows at the conference.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate numbers: Water # \_\_\_\_\_ Grade 6# \_\_\_\_\_ WW # \_\_\_\_\_ Well Driller \_\_\_\_\_

System/Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

DAYS ATTENDING	MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
FULL CONFERENCE WITH PRECONFERENCE— (all meals included)	_____ \$180.00	_____ \$210.00
FULL CONFERENCE (WED & THURS) (all meals included)	_____ \$125.00	_____ \$150.00
PRECONFERENCE (TUES) (includes lunch)	_____ \$90.00	_____ \$115.00
WEDNESDAY ONLY (includes Banquet)	_____ \$85.00	_____ \$110.00
THURSDAY ONLY (includes breakfast buffet and lunch)	_____ \$90.00	_____ \$115.00
GUEST BANQUET TICKETS— \$25 x _____	TOTAL \$ _____	TOTAL \$ _____
GUEST LUNCH TICKETS—\$20 x _____	TOTAL \$ _____	TOTAL \$ _____
GOLF TOURNAMENT ON TUESDAY AFTERNOON _____ YES		
TRAP SHOOT ON WEDNESDAY MORNING _____ YES		

**Meals are included with the conference registration. Extra meal tickets are available above.**

The venue needs a count for the evening meal.

Please indicate if you will staying for the Wed evening meal: Yes \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE REGISTER ONLY ONCE. DO NO SEND IN MORE THAN ONE REGISTRATION.**

<p><b>EARLY REGISTRATION ENDS                  SEPTEMBER 17.                  FEE INCREASES \$25 FOR                  REGISTRATIONS DATED OR                  POSTMARKED BETWEEN                  SEPT 18 AND SEPT 22.                  NO REGISTRATIONS AFTER SEPT 22.                  \$50 increase at the door.</b></p>	<p>TOTAL DUE \$ _____</p> <p>Late charge, if any \$ _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Total \$ _____</p> <p>BILL ME _____ PO# _____</p> <p>CHECK ENCLOSED _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Note: Certificates will not be mailed until payment                  is received in NeRWA office.)</p>
---	---

**To Register (no phone registrations):**

Fax: 402-443-5274  
 Online: www.nerwa.org  
 Mail: Nebraska Rural Water Association  
 3390 Ponderosa Street  
 Wahoo, NE 68066

When making room reservations, mention you are with NeRWA  
 Monument Inn, 1130 "M" Street  
**308-436-1950**

DATE REGISTRATION RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_

**For NeRWA office use only:** Hours: Water \_\_\_\_\_ BF \_\_\_\_\_ Wastewater \_\_\_\_\_ WD \_\_\_\_\_

Payment received \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Certificate mailed \_\_\_\_\_




# Learning in the Hot Summertime


By Adam German, Source Water Technician


The month of June brought quite a few new learning experiences. The highlight being the in-service trip to Orlando, Florida the second week of the month. The nice thing about this trip was that my wife and daughter were able to tag along. While I was learning everything about source water protection from specialists across the country, they were out spending all of our money checking out the sights and sounds of Orlando. I was able to meet many different source water guys and gals from the entire United States of America, including the guy from Hawaii that brought chocolate covered macadamia nuts to share. They were fantastic. Once the classes were over, I was able to meet up with the family and enjoy a little pool time. We were able to get out on Thursday and check out a park, ride a 400-foot Ferris wheel and check out Blake Shelton's place, Ole Red. It was a great time with great people.


Things are getting hot and dry across our great state. Nebraska towns and their operators are keeping a close eye on water usage. Many are already only allowing watering of lawns on odd or even days. The summer months are only just getting started. This promises to be an ongoing issue for the summer of 2021. It won't be long though and things will cool off again, and our football stadiums will be full. Stay safe out there.






**6 EASY WAYS TO PREVENT NITRATES FROM ENTERING NEBRASKA'S GROUNDWATER**  
WWW.NRDNET.ORG


**AVOID OVER-FERTILIZING**  
 Follow recommended guidelines to use the proper amount of fertilizer. Look at the rate and timing of fertilizer applications.

**AVOID OVER-WATERING**  
The amount of nitrate lost to leaching is related to the volume of water that moves past the root zone. Schedule irrigation events so the amount of water applied meets the plants' needs. 

**USE COVER CROPS**  
 Help use up excess nitrates in the soil before they leach to groundwater by planting cover crops. They improve soil health, prevent soil erosion and conserve soil moisture.

**DECOMMISSION OLD WELLS**  
Decommissioning old and abandoned wells helps eliminate a direct path for nitrates and other contaminants to get into the groundwater. 

**MAINTAIN SEPTIC SYSTEMS**  
 Make sure to have your septic system inspected regularly and pumped periodically to avoid leaks into the soil and groundwater.

**CALL YOUR NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT**   
Each Natural Resources District (NRD) has ways to help battle nitrate issues in the groundwater below your soil. You can find your local NRD at [www.nrdnet.org](http://www.nrdnet.org)



**BG Peterson Is Your Source for Hartzell Fans/Blowers & Quest Climate Dehumidifiers In Nebraska**



Hartzell fans and blowers are designed to perform in demanding, corrosive, noxious and highly regulated environments



Eliminate Condensation And Manage Humidity In Your Water Treatment Facility with Quest

Rural Nebraska Sales Reps.  
Ben Peterson  
Office: 402-341-4311 x222  
Cell: 402-680-4132

Joe Dowdy  
Office: 402-341-4311 x211  
Cell: 402-680-1137

**EST. 1936 BGP**

BG Peterson  
Factory Representatives  
2966 Harney St.  
Omaha, NE 68131  
[www.BGPeterson.com](http://www.BGPeterson.com)

**Please Support Our Local Sponsors! THANKS!**

***Downey*  
*Drilling, Inc.*  
Municipal & Industrial**



**Complete Well Construction – Chemical Rehabilitation – Efficiency Testing**

**Pump Service Work – Sonar Jet – Video Survey – Discharge Piping – Test Well Drilling**

**Geophysical Logging – Dewatering Wells – Design & Engineering**

Lexington (Corporate Office)  
75471 Road 435  
PO Box 278  
Lexington, NE 68850  
308-324-2303

877-WELL-H2O  
[www.downeydrilling.com](http://www.downeydrilling.com)

Adam Messenger  
Municipal/Industrial Manager  
308-730-1267

Dan Freese  
Salesman  
308-325-6755

## FAREWELL...

We would like to say goodbye and good luck Ken Halvorsen. He joined the board of directors in May of 2014. Ken took over the Source Water position in 2016 and moved to the Board Trainer position in 2016. He was a great asset to the NeRWA team. Enjoy whatever endeavor you take on next.

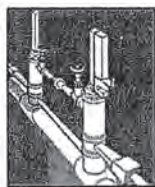
Don't  
Forget!



**Early Registration for  
NeRWA Western Nebraska  
Fall Pre-Conference and Conference  
in Gering, Nebraska Ends  
September 17th! (form is on page 11).**

**Fee increases \$25 for registrations dated  
or postmarked between Sept 18 and Sept 22.  
\$50 increase at the door.**

## MUNICIPAL PIPE SERVICES



- LINE STOPPING 3/4" - 60"
- LINE TAPPING 2" - 60"
- VALVE INSERTION 4' - 16"
- VALVE TURNING
- PIPE REPAIR

**FOR ALL YOUR POTABLE AND  
WASTE WATER NEEDS**

Billy Laws  
Sales Manager  
1615 West J Street  
Hastings, NE 68901

1-800-395-7473  
Cell: 515-238-4693  
Fax: 402-462-4408  
Email: billylaws78@gmail.com  
BILL@MUNICIPALPIPESERVICES.COM

**MpS**  
MUNICIPAL SERVICES  
IPE

**WWW.MUNICIPALPIPESERVICES.COM**

## FORD Secura-Lok

Patent 10,794,514

INTEGRATED VALVE LOCKS BY  
**FORD METER BOX**



- LOCK OPERATIONAL
- LOCK OPEN
- LOCK CLOSED



260-563-3171  
fordmeterbox.com

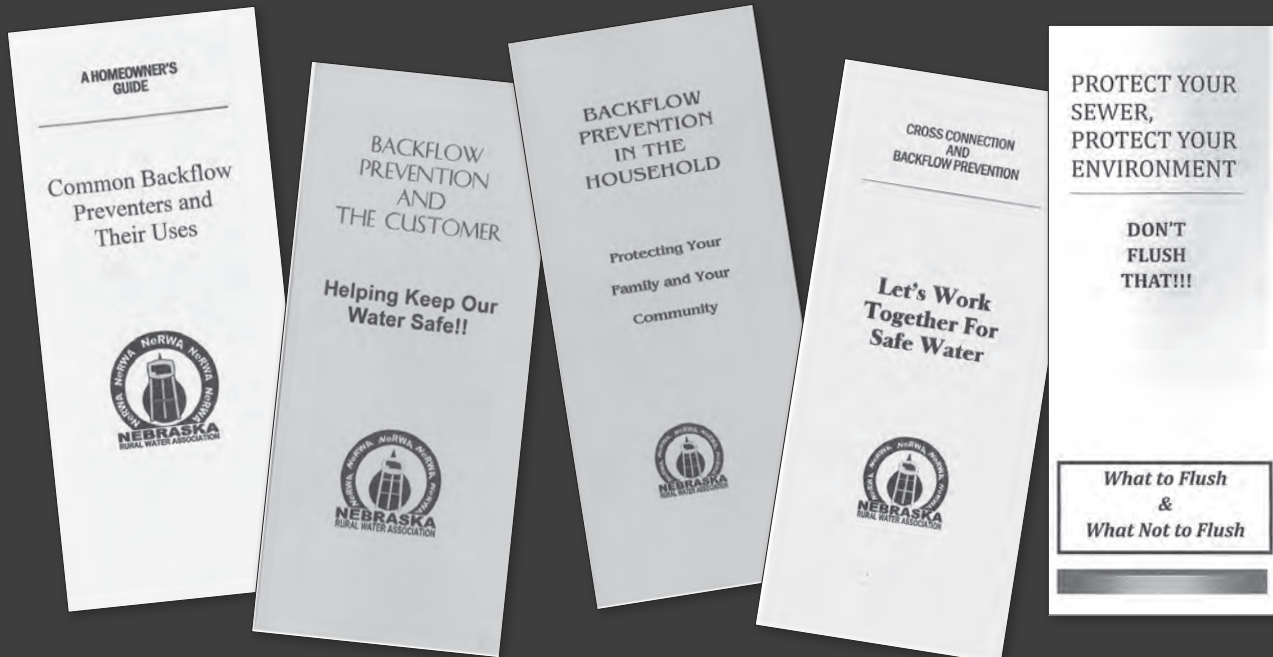


## UPKEEP FOR THE FUTURE!

The Village of Marquette took on this tower project with the intention of extending the overall longevity of not only the actual tower, but the service it provides to residents in the future.

## INFORMATIONAL BROCHURES

NeWRA has five brochures available for your use. There are four backflow and one wastewater and sewer.



You can purchase them for 20¢ each or download them from our website and print them yourself.





# ADVANCED CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES

Civil Engineers • Surveyors

133 W. Washington St. • P.O. Box 218  
West Point, NE 68788  
Phone: (402) 372-1923



**Miller & Associates**  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, P.C.

**308.234.6456**

[www.miller-engineers.com](http://www.miller-engineers.com)

ENGINEERING

•

ARCHITECTURE

•

SURVEYING

•

COMMUNITY PLANNING

•

GRANT WRITING



# GUIDELINES FOR CONTINUING ED HOURS

This article addresses all training including backflow licensure, backflow continuing ed classes, water and wastewater classes, and both conferences.

All water and backflow licenses need to be renewed by December 31, 2021. The next license period will be 2022-2023. A wastewater license is renewed 2 years after the date your license was issued.

The hours required for renewal for each license are listed below:

- Water and backflow – 2-year renewal period requiring 10 continuing ed hours. The end of the renewal period is always December 31 of odd numbered years. An easy tip is to get 5 hours per year. Start early in the year to get your hours. **THE LAST 3 MONTHS OF THE RENEWAL YEAR GET VERY BUSY.** Register early! We have people trying to register for classes in October thru December close to the date of the class. November and December classes are usually full 2 to 3 months before the classes.

- Wastewater – A 2-year renewal period with 20 continuing ed hours.

When you attend any class, you get a certificate. Keep that certificate in a place where you can easily find it. Sometimes you will have to send a certificate to the state department as proof of attendance. If you lose the first certificate, you can request a second one. After that, each certificate will cost \$20.

Flyers for all training classes (unless they are full way in advance) are either mailed or emailed to all our members. The classes are listed in our quarterly magazine which is also mailed to our members. We publish a training calendar each year that is mailed to all operators we have listed. This calendar is available on our website also. A tip for all operators – bookmark our website or save it in your favorites. This way you can keep updated on class dates, addresses, and the agenda. Agendas are posted about a month before the class. Cancellations, and whether a class is full, will also

be noted there.

When you register online for any fee-based class, you can also pay online. If you choose not to pay, we will send you an invoice. **EXCEPTION:** ALL backflow and special training classes that are held from August to December need to be paid with the registration.

**DO NOT MAIL A REGISTRATION WITHOUT PAYMENT OR REGISTER ONLINE WITH PAYING WITH A CREDIT CARD** unless you have made arrangements with our office. Registrations received without payment will not be registered.

**THIS IS A RENEWAL YEAR. YOU SHOULD BE REGISTERING FOR WATER AND BACKFLOW NOW – DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE OR THERE WILL BE NO SPOTS LEFT. CLASSROOMS ONLY HAVE SO MUCH ROOM.**



Water & Waste Water Solutions  
**Gurney**  
Relationships • Technology • Service

**Chris Johnson**  
**Lee Dunn**  
**Matt Moul**

**Location:**  
4428 South 108th Street  
Omaha, NE 68137

**(402) 551-7995**  
**(402) 553-5879 Fax**

Providing a value based, total solution, for all Water Treatment, Wastewater Treatment, and Chemical Feed Equipment.

**Jon Harger** (612)805-6383 Cell  
**Cory Sonner** (515)509-0470 Cell  
Ames, IA • **Office** (515)233-8599

**www.vesco.com**

# Nebraska Good Water News

Nebraska Rural Water Association - 3390 Ponderosa Drive - Wahoo, NE 68066  
 Home | Office | Membership Info | Training | Annual Conference | Fall Conference

Contact NeRWA... ▼

## NeRWA Staff

Water Circuit Rider I
Water Circuit Rider II
Water Circuit Rider III
Training Specialist
Wastewater Tech. I
Wastewater Tech. II
Sourcewater Protection Specialist
Systems Specialist
Office Manager
Secretary
Board of Directors
Office Assistant

## News & Downloads Page

NEW



Register on Line for Training

## Red Alert



## Informational Links

National Rural Water
USDA Rural Development
NE Public Water Supply
HHS License Information
SDWIS System Data
EPA Wastewater
EPA Drinking Water
Nebraska DEQ
League of Municipalities
Nebraska Section, AWWA
AWWA Library Reference Listings
NeRWA Associate Members

## NeRWA Contact Information:

Nebraska Rural Water Association  
 3390 Ponderosa Street  
 Wahoo, NE 68066

Office phone numbers: (800) 849-8039  
 (402) 443-5216  
 Fax: (402) 443-5274  
 Website: [www.nerwa.org](http://www.nerwa.org)  
 Email: [office@nerwa.org](mailto:office@nerwa.org)



	Cell #
Charles Buckley	(402) 277-6632
Scott Finke	(402) 607-2249
Adam German	(402) 443-6157
Randy Hellbusch	(402) 443-8535
Pat Petersen	(402) 277-6699
Mike Stanzel	(402) 672-9084
Amy Kemerling	
Salli Kemerling	

Email
<a href="mailto:buckley@nerwa.org">buckley@nerwa.org</a>
<a href="mailto:scott@nerwa.org">scott@nerwa.org</a>
<a href="mailto:adam@nerwa.org">adam@nerwa.org</a>
<a href="mailto:randy@nerwa.org">randy@nerwa.org</a>
<a href="mailto:pat@nerwa.org">pat@nerwa.org</a>
<a href="mailto:mike@nerwa.org">mike@nerwa.org</a>
<a href="mailto:amy@nerwa.org">amy@nerwa.org</a>
<a href="mailto:salli@nerwa.org">salli@nerwa.org</a>

# Fun Facts!

It seems that there is a day for everything. These are the days to celebrate in August.

1. National Best Friends Day
2. National Ice Cream Day
3. National Watermelon Day
4. National Chocolate Chip Cookie Day
5. Work Like a Dog Day
6. National Root Beer Float Day
7. International Beer Day
8. International Cat Day
9. National Rice Pudding Day
10. National S'Mores Day
11. Son & Daughter Day
12. Baseball Fans Day
13. National Filet Mignon Day
14. National Creamsicle Day
15. National Relaxation Day
16. National Bratwurst Day
17. National Black Cat Appreciation Day
18. National Fajita Day
19. National Potato Day
20. National Bacon Lover's Day
21. National Spumoni Day
22. National Bao (Chinese gelato) Day
23. National Sponge Cake Day
24. National Waffle Day
25. National Whiskey Sour Day
26. National Dog Day
27. National Banana Lovers Day
28. Red Wine Day
29. Lemon Juice Day
30. National Toasted Marshmallow Day
31. Eat Outside Day



**je** JEO CONSULTING GROUP

**Services**

- Rate Studies & Flow Analysis
- System Mapping
- Booster Stations
- Rural Water Districts
- Storage
- Wells & Transmission Mains
- Distribution Mains
- Water Treatment

**jeo.com**  
Engineering | Architecture | Surveying | Planning



**Nebraska Rural Water Association**

3390 Ponderosa  
Wahoo, NE 68066

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
MAIL U.S.A.



10707 S. 149th Street  
Omaha, Nebraska

*"Local Service, Nationwide"*

Sensus Meters & AMR Equipment  
Smith-Blair Clamps & Couplings  
Ford Meter Box Company  
Watts/Febcu Backflow Devices  
Tyler Fittings & Valve Boxes  
US Pipe Ductile Iron Pipe  
AY McDonald Curb Boxes  
Uni-Flange Adapter Flanges  
Megalug Mechanical Joint Restraint  
Star Pipe Products  
McElroy Equipment Rental

American Flow Control Valves & Hydrants  
JM Eagle PVC Pipe  
PVC Round Meter Boxes  
Hymax Couplings & EZ-Max Repair Clamps  
Contech Construction Products  
Cherne Testing Equipment  
Live Tapping Services  
Northern Pipe Products  
Waterous Valves & Hydrants  
ADS HDPE Corrugated Pipe  
GPK Products

**Phone (800) 247-6811**

**FAX (402) 896-6379**