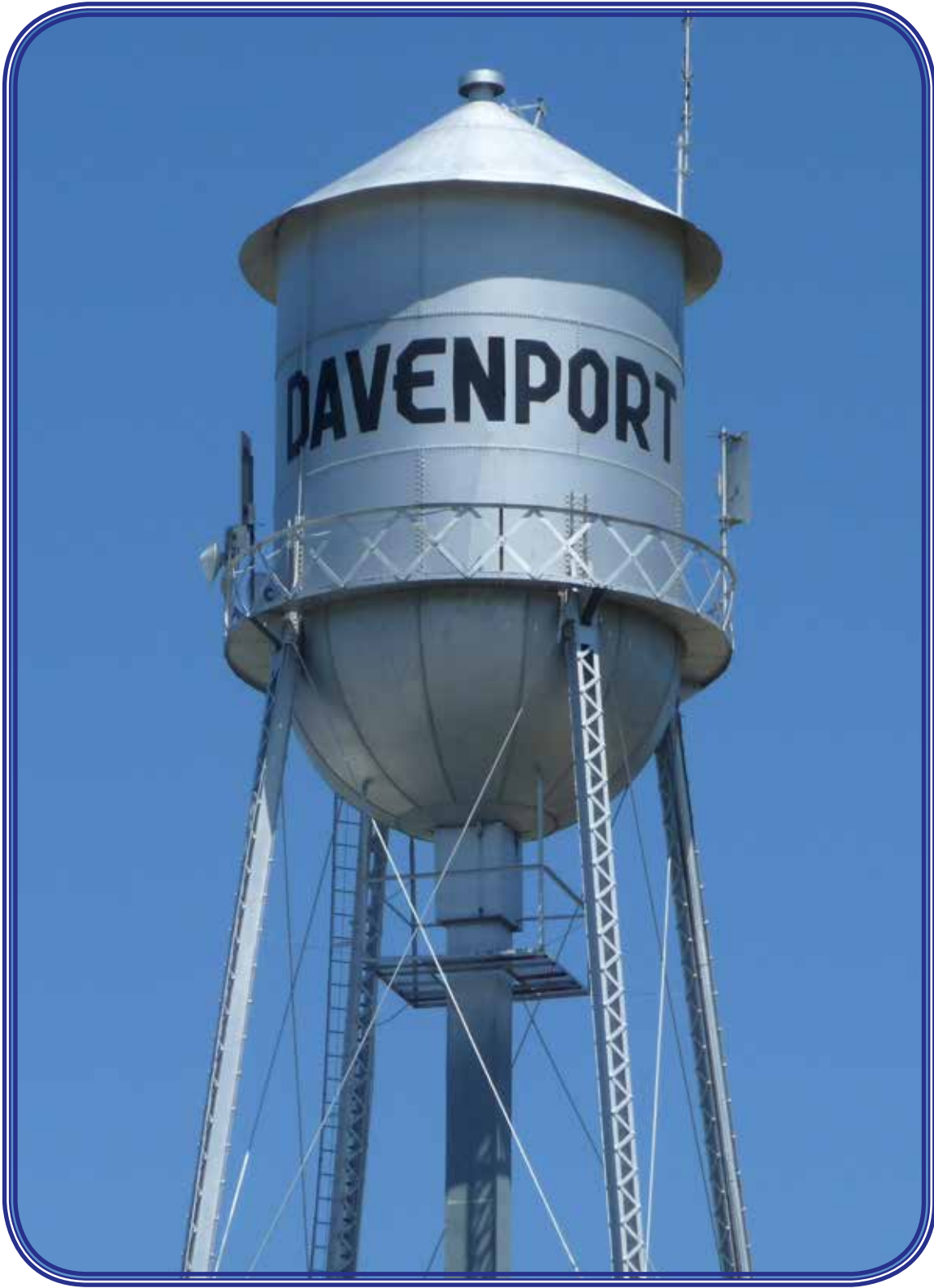
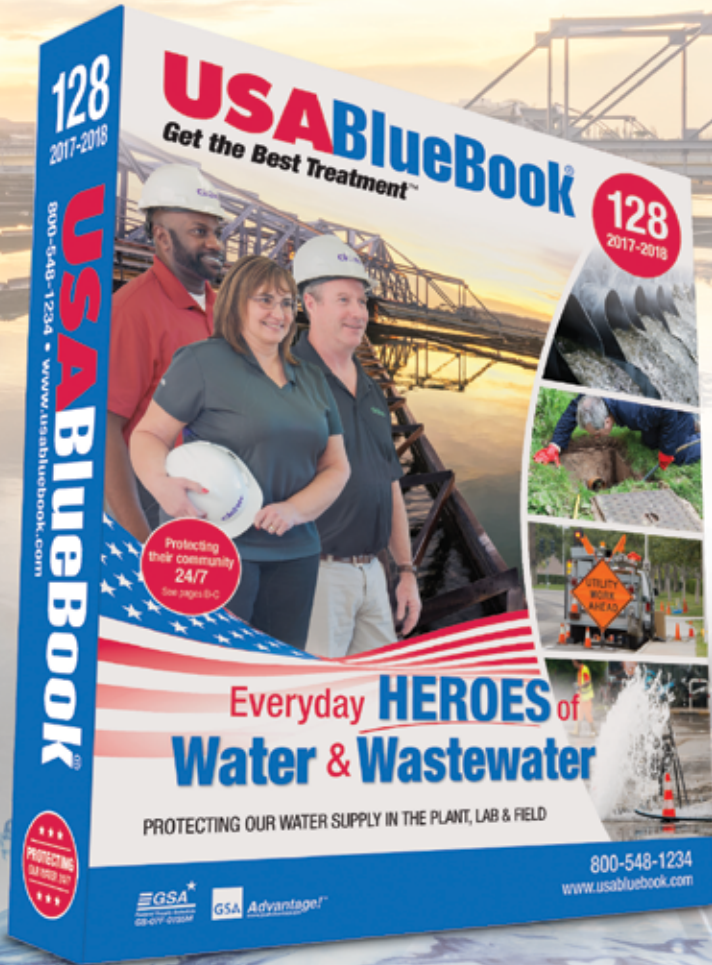


Issue 1/2019

Nebraska Rural Water Association



NEBRASKA GOOD WATER NEWS



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Nebraska Good Water News

Issue 1/2019

“Keeping Our Water Safe”

Board of Directors

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 Mike Stanzel, Circuit Rider
 Barney Whatley, Source Water Specialist
 Mike Lucas, Wastewater Technician
 Pat Petersen, Training Specialist
 Ken Halvorsen, Systems Specialist
 Scott Finke, Circuit Rider

Website: www.nerwa.org

On the cover:

The Davenport Water Tower.

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

“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.

How'd We Do and Letters From...

Village of Anselmo
PO Box 68
Anselmo, NE 68813

November 14, 2018

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa Drive
Wahoo, NE 68066

To Whom It May Concern:

The Village of Anselmo would like to thank your organization for the services it provides to Nebraska communities. The knowledge and expertise of your technicians is always appreciated.

A special thanks to Mike Stanzel for his assistance earlier this summer. He helped us determine the location of leakage in our water system.

Please accept the enclosed donation for your equipment fund. The work of the Association and resources you offer are invaluable to so many. Thank you again for your time and efforts.

Sincerely,



Robin Christen
Village Clerk/Treasurer

The City of Humboldt appreciates the expertise from NeRWA Circuit Rider, Randy Hellsbusch, for his time to do a rate study of Humboldt's water and sewer utilities. The City of Humboldt is sending a monetary donation to put towards the NeRWA equipment fund. Thank you, Randy!

CITY OF HUMBOLDT

You are always great to work with, Randy!
Carol & Amy

Village of Bertrand

November 13, 2018

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa Drive
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear Nebraska Rural Water Association,

The Village of Bertrand would like to take the time to thank you for your expertise in helping us locate a service line in Bertrand. Mike Stanzel, a Circuit Rider with the Nebraska Rural Water Association came to our aid when our witching sticks could not locate a line. He was able to hook a device to the faucet that vibrated the line and allowed us to follow its origins. This process saved the Village money, as well as the staff's time.

Please except this donation of for your equipment fund. And again, thank you for providing the services that you do! We realize that we could not perform so of our tasks to the best of our abilities without the support that you provide.

Sincerely,



Matt Gregg
Utilities Superintendent
Village of Bertrand.

507 Minor Avenue
PO Box 295
Bertrand, NE 68927
308-472-3455
bertra@atcjet.net



Naomi Grupe
Mayor

Julie A. Buescher
City Clerk

THE CITY OF DESHLER

305 E. BRYSON / DESHLER, NE. 68340 / 402-365-4260

November 15, 2018

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa Dr
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear Vendor:

We are updating our records and need to obtain a current W-9. This will help us validate your Taxpayer Mailing Address, Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN), and Tax Filing Status. This is required to ensure accurate records and accurate 2018 IRS reporting, if needed.

Please fill out all the required fields, verify accuracy, sign, and date the attached IRS Form W-9. Please return it to us by November 30, 2018 at the above address, Fax (402-365-4415), or email (citydesh@gpcom.net).

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Julie A. Buescher
Julie A. Buescher
City Clerk/Treasurer



CITY OF PONCA

PO Box 465
Ponca, Nebraska 68770 Fax 402-755-2618
402-755-4165
www.ci.ponca.ne.us

November 26, 2018

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa Street
Wahoo, NE 68066

NRWA Staff

The City of Ponca would like to thank Mike Stanzel for their help in performing a hydrant flow test in an area we hope to see business growth. By providing the City with your service current and accurate information can be provided to their architect.

Please accept the enclosed contribution in appreciation for all the assistance you provide.

Sincerely,

Denise L. Peterson, MMC
Denise L. Peterson, MMC
City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer

*Thank you for
all your help
in our little
community!
We appreciate
all you do
for us!
Great bunch to
work with
The Village of
Trumbull*

Mercy Christman

RURAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 1

LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA
310 FIR STREET PO BOX 98 - BENNET, NEBRASKA 68317
402.782.3495 www.lrw1.com

January 7, 2019

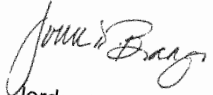
Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa Drive
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear NeRWA,

On behalf of the Lancaster Rural Water District #1 and myself, we would like to thank you for your assistance by accepting this donation toward your Equipment Fund. When an Emergency Chlorination was required by the DHHS in late October, we needed to act promptly and efficiently. Without hesitation, Mike Stanzel, Randy Hellbusch and Pat Petersen reached out to us offering their assistance and expertise in this matter. We spent all day reviewing maps, setting up chlorinators and charting how long and how fast it would take to cover our system.

It makes me proud, not only to be part of the great organization like NeRWA but to realize how important these guys are. The professionalism, the attention to detail and the knowledge they all carry is among the best. Lancaster Rural Water looks forward to the continued relationship it has built with all of you for many years to come.

Again, "Thank you guys" we could not have done this without you.



Jordon D. Bang
District Manager
Lancaster Rural Water District No.1

CITY OF BENKELMAN

126 7TH AVE EAST
P.O. BOX 347
BENKELMAN, NE 69021
PHONE (308)423-2540 FAX (308)423-2539 E-MAIL: cityben@bwtelcom.net

Diane L. Rosenfelt
City Clerk/Treasurer

Robert Rhoades
Mayor

December 19, 2018

Nebraska Rural Water Association
3390 Ponderosa
Wahoo, NE 68066

Dear Nebraska Rural Water Association:

The City of Benkelman would like to thank Randy Hellbusch, Pat Petersen and Mike Stanzel for all the help they have given the City.

Randy has been on scene numerous times to help us out with Water Rates, it is greatly appreciated! Last week Pat Petersen and Mike Stanzel were in town and located a water leak that we could not find; so very helpful!

Please accept this donation of _____ for all the work you do for us, it is much appreciated.

Thanks,



Diane L. Rosenfelt
City Clerk/Treasurer
City of Benkelman

2019 TRAINING

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

January 14-18	Wahoo
April 8-12	Wahoo
October 7-11	Wahoo

Wastewater Certification Course

February 26-Mar. 1	Wahoo
April 2-3 (<i>Lagoon</i>)	North Platte
August 13-16	Wahoo
October 15-16 (<i>Lagoon</i>)	Wahoo
November 5-8	Wahoo

Wastewater Training

January 8	Neligh
February 13	Wahoo
March 27	Crete (SUMW)
April 10	Ogallala
May 2	Omaha
June 19	Chadron
July 17	Lindsay (SUMW)
August 27	Duncan
September 5	Aurora
October 2	Omaha
November 12	Mitchell
December 5	Wahoo

Water Operator Training

April 9	Bridgeport
May 7	Emerson
June 12	Sutton
July 9	Chadron
August 6	Atkinson
October 17	McCook
November 13	Minden
December 3	Pawnee City
December 12	Wahoo

Don't Forget:

This is the year for **Grades 1-4** and **Grade 6** water license renewals. You need 10 CEUs by the end of the year. Plan to attend early in the year. Classes at the end of the year fill up early, especially the ones in Wahoo.

Backflow Continuing Education Training

January 23	Gordon
January 24	Bridgeport
February 5	Nebraska City
February 7	Stanton
April 16	Cairo
April 18	Wymore
April 24	Wahoo
May 8	Valentine
September 4	McCool Junction
September 5	Ord
October 22	South Sioux City
October 24	O'Neill
November 13	Wahoo
December 10	Mitchell
December 11	Ogallala
December 12	Cambridge
December 18	Wahoo

August 21 Trenching & Shoring Wahoo

August 22 Confined Space Entry Wahoo

Annual Conference

March 11-13

Younes Conference Center
Kearney, Nebraska

Fall Western Conference

Sept. 24-26

Gering Civic Center
Gering, Nebraska



Source Water Protection Planning

By Barney Whatley, Source Water Specialist

There are six steps that need to be taken when developing a source water protection plan, and they are all essential and several of them should be completed simultaneously. The six steps are: Delineating the source water protection area; inventorying potential sources of contamination; managing the potential sources of contamination; planning for emergencies and contingencies; planning for new sources of water; and public education and involvement.

As a result of the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) was tasked with developing source water assessments for all public water supply owners. These assessments were completed and furnished to all public water supply owners by May of 2003. These assessments delineated the source water protection area for the systems based on computer models incorporating pumping data and ground formations near the wells. NDEQ will update the delineations and the protection areas as needed when wells are added or removed from the system.

These assessments also included any contaminant sources that are in the NDEQ database, which include licensed facilities and reported spills. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) also has a database of all registered wells within the protection area which need to be considered. An onsite contaminant source inventory is also required to locate and list other sources, including abandoned wells, onsite fuel, chemical and grain storage, unregistered domestic and irrigation wells and feed lots, etc.

Once the contaminant inventory is completed, the task of managing the sources that have been located can begin. The local NRD has cost share programs that can be utilized for abandoning wells, soil and water conservation and other best management practices. UNL extension offices have publications to assist homeowners in landscaping practices that conserve water and limit fertilization. If the water supply owner is a village or city, zoning regulations can be utilized to limit or prevent land use practices that are harmful to the future water supply.

Emergency and contingency planning should incorporate all foreseeable natural and man-made events that could contaminate the water supply. Part of this process needs to be looking at new sources of water in case the current source becomes unusable for any reason. Testing existing wells near the system for contaminants can assist in determining possible sites for new well fields, should that become necessary.

Throughout all of this process, the public needs to be kept informed and invited to offer input and suggestions on how to protect the drinking water source. This includes those who drink the system water as well as those who own land within the source water protection area. Many farmers and ranchers move into town when they retire, so they too have a personal interest in keeping the water supply safe. Encouraging best management practices on the farm and in town is much better than passing laws and regulations to prohibit people from using their property as they see fit. This is America, the land of the free, after all.

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Chris Johnson
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Omaha, NE 68137

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- SURVEYING
- PLANNING

Nebraska Rural Water Association Annual Conference Pre-Registration

March 11-13, 2019
Younes Conference Center
Kearney, Nebraska

Name (1 person per form) _____
 Water System/Company Name _____
 Billing Address _____
 Certificate Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Attendee's Email _____

Pre-Registration
Deadline is March 6
**THERE IS A \$25 LATE FEE
AFTER February 27**

(Certificates will be emailed if an email address is provided)

I am the Voting Delegate _____

License numbers MUST be on this form: WO: _____ BF _____ WW _____ WD _____

REGISTRATION INCLUDES TRAINING MATERIALS, MEALS AND BREAKS. No registrations after March 6. Registration fees after this date and on-site will increase by \$50. Monday is free for all utility/rural water board members. Board Members can attend Tuesday and Wednesday for the price of meal tickets. Board members who are also licensed operators and want CEUs need to register as an attendee.

**IF YOU SUBSTITUTE FOR AN ALREADY REGISTERED PERSON AFTER MARCH 7,
THERE WILL BE AN EXTRA \$25 CHARGE**

I am a Board Member attending Monday (no charge) _____
 (Cost of meals only for additional days) Check if attending: Tues _____ Wed _____

DAYS ATTENDING	Member	Member after February 27	Non-Member	Non-Member after February 27
FULL CONFERENCE (all meals)	_____ \$375.00	_____ 400.00	_____ \$400.00	_____ \$425.00
MONDAY (evening meal)	_____ \$100.00	_____ 125.00	_____ \$125.00	_____ \$150.00
TUESDAY (lunch & evening meal)	_____ \$175.00	_____ \$200.00	_____ \$200.00	_____ \$225.00
WEDNESDAY (breakfast & lunch)	_____ \$125.00	_____ \$150.00	_____ \$150.00	_____ \$175.00

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 if you are registered—it's for a more accurate count. Guests need to purchase a ticket for every meal. The breakfast on Wednesday is complimentary for all registered for the conference.

Extra meal tickets available	Guest Tickets	Cost	Total	Your Meals
Mon evening		\$25	\$	
Tues lunch		\$15	\$	
Tues Banquet		\$30	\$	
Wed lunch		\$15	\$	

Name of guest _____

Registration \$ _____
 Tickets \$ _____ Total \$ _____
 NeRWA member: Bill _____ Payment enclosed _____
Non-members—Payment must accompany registration or pay when checking in.

CERTIFICATES WILL NOT BE ISSUED AND HOURS WILL NOT BE SUBMITTED TO STATE AGENCY UNTIL PAYMENT IS RECEIVED.

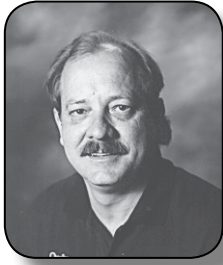
To Register:
 Online: www.nerwa.org
 (If you register online, DO NOT mail one)
 Fax: 402-443-5274
 Mail: Nebraska Rural Water Association
 3390 Ponderosa Street
 Wahoo, NE 68066
NO PHONE REGISTRATIONS

When making room reservations, mention you are with NeRWA

DATE REGISTRATION RECEIVED: _____

CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellations after March 5 and NO SHOWS will be charged a \$25 fee to cover cost of materials.

For NeRWA office use only: Payment received _____ Check # _____
 Hours: WO _____ BF _____ WW _____ WD _____ Certificate mailed _____



Fire Protection Cost

By Randy Hellbusch, Circuit Rider

This is an article that I wrote back in 2005. I have recently had a few inquiries about this subject. As stated below, I am not necessarily a big advocate for charging a hydrant fee in small water systems but it is good ammunition when consumers complain about the cost of water. It is one aspect that many residents just take for granted.

If you ask any water operator or system manager what their main goal is, they will tell you it is to deliver safe water. Most of us in the drinking water industry consider it our job to do just that, deliver safe drinking water.

While it is true that delivering safe potable water is the no. #1 goal, fire protection is a close second for many small towns. This is one more aspect of many water operator jobs that the public just takes for granted. If a house catches fire everyone expects the fire hydrant to work so that hopefully a major disaster can be avoided. What most people don't think about is that this all comes with a cost. In conducting water rate studies, I am being asked more often by systems about charging a fee for fire protection. This is a practice some larger systems utilize. I don't know of any smaller systems that currently use this practice and must admit that I haven't given much thought to it in the past. It is an idea that does make sense.


If it wasn't for the need for fire protection, many small community water systems could have been constructed at far less costs. Piping could be downsized. Well capacity could be reduced and water storage needs could be greatly reduced, if not eliminated. I am in no way advocating that we don't provide our citizens with fire protection, but when water rates increase, I feel it is one aspect that the public doesn't give much thought to.


There are many ways to figure fire protection costs. Much depends on the variables of each individual water system. Without going into the boring details, using the calculations derived from AWWA M1, and using data I have from small water system budgets throughout the state, as near as I can figure, a good average cost is about \$200.00 per year per hydrant. This figures in the added cost of the larger piping depreciated over time, capacity demands on the system, hydrant maintenance, etc. Hypothetically, let's say a town of 1,000 people with 450

customers has 100 hydrants. If you take the 100 hydrants X \$200 and divide by the 450 customers and then divide by 12 months you get \$3.70 per month per user for fire protection. This may or may not be something your water system would want to consider. It is good information though for the next time a customer complains about their water bill.

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---	---

**Nebraska Rural Water Association
41st Annual Conference
March 11-13, 2019**

EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION

Younes Conference Center
416 Talmadge St
Kearney, Nebraska

Registration includes 2 reps (meal tickets included).
THERE WILL BE A \$25 FEE FOR REP SUBSTITUTIONS ON THE DAYS OF CONFERENCE

Company Name: _____
 Representatives: (1) _____ (2) _____
 Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone: _____ Email address: _____

**Member: One Booth-\$450, Two Booths-\$750, Three Booths-\$1000
 Non-Member: One Booth-\$750, Two Booths-\$1050, Three Booths-\$1300**

EACH ADDITIONAL BOOTH GETS 1 MORE FREE PERSON

Number of Booths requested _____ Amount due \$ _____
 Additional reps x \$100 (meals included) _____ Amount due \$ _____
 Names: _____

All Reps must have a NeRWA Name Badge to be allowed in the Exhibit Hall

Please provide a brief description of your company for the conference program: _____

SET UP IS 8:00 A.M. TO 12 NOON ON MONDAY, MARCH 11

Exhibit space is 10x10 and includes an 8'table, 2 chairs, skirting, electricity and wireless internet.

Sponsorship/Donation: NeRWA appreciates contributions to offset costs. Sponsors will be published in the conference program and banners will be displayed in the exhibit hall. See attached sheet for explanations of each sponsorship.

- Platinum Sponsor: \$2500
- Gold Sponsor: \$1000
- Silver Sponsor: \$500
- Bronze Sponsor: Less than \$300

Meal tickets for 2 reps are included with each registration. Indicate additional tickets:

Mon Dinner-\$25 _____ Tues Banquet-\$30 _____ Donation \$ _____
 Tues Lunch-\$15 _____ Wed Lunch-\$15 _____ Total Registration cost \$ _____
 Extra ticket cost \$ _____

Payment must accompany registration form. **\$100 LATE FEE AFTER MARCH 5**

Total Enclosed \$ _____

To be included in the conference program, registrations must be received by February 15.

No refunds if cancelled after March 6, 2019, or No Shows at the conference.

If payment is not included with the registration, you will not be given a space unless prior arrangements have been made with the NeRWA office. Credit cards are accepted. If using a credit card the registration may be emailed to salli@nerwa.org.

Mail completed form WITH PAYMENT to:

Nebraska Rural Water Association / 3390 Ponderosa / Wahoo, Nebraska 68066
402-443-5216 & 800-842-8039

For NeRWA office use only: Date Received _____ Check # _____

NeRWA Annual Conference

41ST FUN NIGHT

20
19



BOWLING



BILLIARDS



MINI-GOLF



RAFFLE

7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
MONDAY, MARCH 11TH
at the Big Apple Fun Center

The trolley will provide round trip transportation between the Big Apple Fun Center and Younes Conference Center from 6:45 - 10:15 PM.

Social event is hosted by the Nebraska Rural Water Association and is sponsored by:



CONFERENCE DETAILS

The 41st annual conference will begin Monday at 1:00 at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, Nebraska. Registration and check-in will begin at 10:00. If you have pre-registered, you need to check in to receive your name tag and information. Once you have picked up your information, you do not need to check in again. You will need to register if you have not done so previously. The registration desk is open until 5:45 to assist you in any way we can. There is no lunch but there are two breaks. You can mingle, grab a snack and stroll through the exhibit area. Make sure to check out the raffle items and purchase tickets. You must be a registered conference attendee or exhibitor to be eligible for tickets. There is an evening meal at 6:00 on Monday, following with Fun Night activities right after. All meals are included for those registered for the conference. There are additional meal tickets available for purchase for any guests. A shuttle will be available from 6:45-10:15 to transport people back and forth to the game center.

Tuesday will begin at 7:30 with check in for those pre-registered and who need to register for the first time. The registration desk will be open till 5:00. Lunch is provided for those registered at 11:30. The annual water tasting contest will take place after lunch. There are also four breaks during the day. A social is being held

in the exhibitor area from 5:45-6:30 followed by the dinner. Awards will be handed out right after the meal for operator of the year, the water contest winner, and the Russ Topp award. Entertainment and refreshments are provided after the meal.

Wednesday begins with a breakfast for all registered attendees at 7:00 and is open till 8:30. There are two breaks in the morning with lunch at 12:00. The raffle prize winners will be announced after lunch. The conference winds up with two sessions after lunch and concluding at 2:00.

There are a total of 14 water, 12.5 wastewater, 5 backflow and 9.5 well driller. The hours per day are:

Monday:	4 water, 2.5 wastewater, 1.5 well driller
Tuesday:	6 water, 6 wastewater, 5 backflow, 5 well driller
Wednesday:	4 water, 4 wastewater, 3 well driller

If you have any questions, need directions to classes, or anything else, just come to the registration desk or find one of the NeRWA staff who are available any time during the conference.



ADVANCED CONSULTING ENGINEERING SERVICES

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Monday 11		Diamond Ballroom 4&5
1:00	2:30	Regulation Update New Drinking Water Administrator Sue Demsey Field Services Manager Andy Kahle DHHS 1.5W 1.5WD
Break		
2:30	3:00	Break
Break		
3:00	4:30	NEWARN Update Dennis Watts, City of Norfolk How Well do you Know Your System Rich Koenig, DHHS 1.5W 1.5WW
Break		
4:30	5:00	Break
5:00	6:00	USDA/RD Update Marty Norton, Denise Meeks USDA/RD 1W 1WW

**CONFERENCE AGENDA
(Tentative)**

Hours Applied For:

**14 Water (W)
12.5 Wastewater (WW)
5 Backflow (B)
9.5 Well Driller (WD)**

**Monday: 4W, 2.5WW, 1.5WD
Tuesday: 6W, 6WW, 5BF, 5WD
Wednesday: 4W, 4WW, 3WD**

Tuesday 12		Diamond Ballroom 4	Diamond Ballroom 5	Diamond Ballroom 9	Diamond Ballroom 10
9:00	10:00	Rural Water System Round Table NeRWA Staff & Board 1W	Small System Round Table Rural Water Board & Staff 1W 1WW	Cured in Place Pipe and Manhole Rehab Bret Melson, Johnson Service 1WW	Backflow Roundtable Rich Koenig, DHHS 1W 1WW 1 BF
30 minute break					
10:30	11:30	Cybersecurity is Necessary Chris Lindell, City of Beatrice IT Specialist 1W 1WW 1WD	Dealing With Contaminants Michael Goodin, Layne Christensen 1W 1WD	Back-Up Generation Rob McShane, Interstate Power Systems 1W 1WW 1WD	Hydraulics of Backflow Brett Petersen, Mack McClain 1W 1WW 1BF
1 hour lunch					
12:30	1:30	Water/Wastewater Operator Health Benefits Shane Baack, Principal Services 1W 1WW	Water Tank Maintenance Jake Dugger, Maguire Iron 1W	Rule and Regulation Changes to the Nebraska 811 Process Jill Geyer, Nebraska 811 1W 1WW 1WD	PRV/Automatic Control Valves and Affects on Backflow Applications Brett Petersen Mack McClain 1W 1WW 1BF
30 minute break					
2:00	3:00	Social Media Crash Course for the Water/Wastewater Sector Brian Gongol, DJ Gongol & Assoc 1W 1WW	Flexible Drop Pipe: Maximize the Life of Your Well Jim Lowery, Hose Solutions 1W 1WW 1WD	Flow Measurement Options Steve McAlpine, FCX Performance 1W 1WW	Backflow Incident and Emergency Planning Rich Koenig, DHHS 1W 1WW 1BF
30 minute break					
3:30	4:30	Heavy Metal Guide to Pump and Flow Control Materials Brian Gongol, DJ Gongol and Assoc 1W 1WW 1WD	Ice Piggging Paul Treloar, Suez/Utility Service 1W 1WW 1	Gravity and Pressure Pipe Rehab Options Brian McCrary, AEGION/Insituform 1 WW	Backflow Knowledge Rich Koenig, DHHS 1W 1WW 1BF
15 minute break					
4:45 pm	5:45 pm	Water/Wastewater Operator Environment Safety Guy Loop, Willco 1W 1WW 1WD	Leak Detection and Locating Brent Briley, Subsurface Solutions 1W 1WW 1WD	Electronic DMR's Alan Aanerud, NDEQ 1WW	Sump and Grinder Pumps Chris Smith, Mack McClain 1WW

CONFERENCE AGENDA

(Continued)

Wednesday 13		Diamond Ballroom 4	Diamond Ballroom 5	Diamond Ballroom 9
7:30	8:30	NeRWA Board Meeting and Operator Breakfast		
8:30	9:30	Rules and Regulation Changes to the Nebraska 811 Process Jill Geyer, Nebraska 811 1W 1WW 1WD	Metering Technology Charles Bausch, Core&Main 1W 1WW 1WD	Essentials to Collection System Maintenance George Edwards, Edwards Environmental 1WW
15 minute break				
9:45	10:45	NCORPE Project Chris Miller and Jasper Fanning, Miller Associates 1W 1WD	You Put What on Your Water Tower? Jake Dugger, Maguire Iron 1W	Lift Station Maintenance and Troubleshooting Mike Bishop, Iowa Pump Works 1WW
15 minute break				
11:00	12:00	Level 1 Assessments Doug Woodbeck, DHHS 1W	Investing in Infrastructure Resiliency Nushot Dyson USEPA 1W 1WW 1WD	Paper to Digital: How Mapping Supports Utilities Jay Hoffman, Global Water Practice 1W 1WW
1 hour lunch				
1:00	2:00	Operator Quiz and Review Ralph Naber/Bob Byrkit, DHHS 1W	Board Trainings Ken Halvorsen, NeRWA 1W 1WW	Wastewater Operator Certification Procedures Mike McBride, NDEQ 1WW

This year's conference will be our 41st anniversary. We hope you have registered but, if not, we would like you to join us. There will be new training sessions, lots of great prizes and giveaways, and, of course, some fun.

Below are the hotels – ask for NeRWA room blocks.

Fairfield Inn & Suites (connected to center) – 308-236-4200

Comfort Inn (connected to center) – 308-236-3400

Hampton Inn (next door) – 308-234-3400

LaQuinta (next door) – 308-237-8100



Recertification Time

By Pat Petersen, Training and Technical Assistance

It's time to start thinking spring: Mowing, painting, cleaning up the yard and a little thing we like to call the Nebraska Rural Water Association's Annual Conference! This year's conference is set for Monday, March 11 through Wednesday, March 13, 2019, once again at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, Nebraska. This year is a recertification year for all water operator license holders so plan on attending to get any needed hours.

On past evaluations I have heard that operators would like to see some new things. This year we hope to provide some new ideas and concepts in the water and wastewater field. With that being said, we will still have some of the traditional presentations such as DHHS Regulatory and agency update to kick the conference off. Other traditional presentations will be agency updates from the USDA/Rural Development and also NeWARN. These presentations always provide vital information and resource opportunities for communities and operators.

Round table discussions seem to be a good way to kick off the full day of classes on Tuesday. These open discussions can help with certain issues or questions you may have or lead you to the right vendor in the exhibit hall to help with any headaches you may incur in your water or wastewater system. Water tanks, meters, back-up generation and regulation changes with the Nebraska 811 are some of the same flavors you will see on Tuesday, but let me tell you about some of the new things!

Cybersecurity has become an issue when it comes to water systems. We will have a cybersecurity attack that actually happened here in Nebraska on Tuesday morning. It really can and does happen anywhere! Health benefits, a social media crash course, ice pigging, and how to stay safe in certain environments are a few more topics operators can learn about.

One change we hope to have this year is an earlier start to the breakfast on Wednesday morning so more operators can attend the annual board meeting that follows. Classes will still be scheduled to start at 8:30 but should give operators a little more time to enjoy their breakfast. After the early start classes will conclude at 2PM. Lift station maintenance, infrastructure resiliency, flexible drop pipe for your well, and antennas on your water tower are just


a few of the things you might want to listen in on. There will also be a quick session on board training to wrap up the conference.

So be sure to mark your calendars for March 11-13, 2019! If you need 2 credit hours or all 10 plan on attending the NeRWA Annual Conference. Remember, it is a recertification year.

Finally, it is always great to see the operators that we don't normally see on a regular basis! You are the people that make our jobs great! Did I forget to mention that it will also be a very fun time!! See you in Kearney!

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**NEBRASKA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2019**

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 _____ EMAIL _____

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)

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, 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.

(For those already in college, a first semester transcript or grade report and second semester enrollment must accompany application)

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 _____

NeRWA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Nebraska Rural Water Association is pleased to announce it will be presenting two \$1000 scholarships for higher education purposes for the school year 2019-2020 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 in this mailing. Applications are due March 1, 2019. Please type or print – **printing must be legible** and papers must be clean. Winners of the Scholarships will be announced at the Kearney Conference in March. Send all information to the NeRWA address.

Official Rules

This grant of \$1000 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, \$500 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 1, 2019. 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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Shared Operators

By Mike Lucas, Wastewater Technician

Across the state it's becoming more and more difficult for small systems to hire and retain certified operators. A solution that I frequently see is shared operators between systems. These agreements range from those between the certified operator and each individual system to formal agreements between systems whereby one larger system may contract to share manpower and resources with a neighboring system or systems. I know of cases where one operator individually has agreements with two systems and others where the operator serves from 4 to 5 systems. There are larger systems that have successfully provided skilled personnel and resources to 3 or 4 neighboring communities. These arrangements may cover the full range of utility services or be specific to limited areas. Generally it can be a winning arrangement for everyone. If this seems like something that may be of benefit to you or your system contact me at 402-443-6157 or lucas@nerwa.org and I'll provide you with some contacts.

One never knows where your life's path will lead you. One of the benefits to this job with NeRWA is the

opportunity to meet many operators as I travel across the state providing assistance in whatever way that I can. I am forever impressed with the dedication, commitment and skills that I witness in operators who truly care about their communities. I've seen operators who have spent endless hours keeping their systems operating after storms and system failures. I witnessed an operator take time to help a lost 2 or 3 year old boy in a diaper and t-shirt clutching his ziploc bag of animal crackers to find his way home in the rain.


Once again a tip of the NeRWA cap to all of you operators out there.



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Assessments-Assessments: State Revolving Fund

By Ken Halvorsen, System Specialist

In the last magazine from the Nebraska Rural Water Association I attempted to explain the new role I play. At that time, I had still not met with any water systems to do either assessments or board training. Since then, I have had the opportunity to do some of both.

The initial assessment is to be completed after the system applies for a 2% loan from the State Revolving Fund to determine if the system project is worthy of the loan. The assessment contains about 122 questions covering all aspects of the water system from budgets, cross-connection protection, record keeping, purchasing procedures, safety programs, duties of the Board of Directors, and so on.

The follow-up assessment is to be done after the system has done the project. The follow up assessment is somewhat longer, around 135 questions. A time period

of one to two years is allowed to pass before doing the follow-up assessment, which looks at the project to see if it has accomplished the goals the system intended.

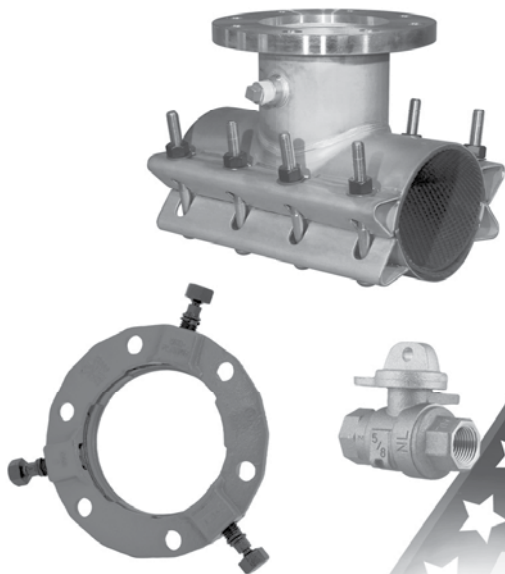
The systems that I have met with, so far, have all met their goals from installing meters in a previously unmetred town, repainting the inside and outside of a water tower, to installing a water main in another community which provides reliable water service. The loans met the needs of everyone.

If your system has a 2% loan from the State Revolving Fund I will be visiting you soon. We will go through a simple process that takes a little time to complete.

My other duty is Board Training. We will discuss that another day.

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JOB OPENING

The Village of Utica, Nebraska is seeking a full time person to fill the appointed position of Village Clerk/Treasurer. This position is responsible for preparing and maintaining official municipal records, preparing for Board meetings, utility billings, animal licensing, payroll, budgets, audit preparation, correspondence, scheduling, grant writing, economic development, assisting the Planning and Zoning Commission and coordinating with other departments. EOE.

The applicant must be able to work well with the public. Experience with QuickBooks and Microsoft Office software is preferred. Competitive pay based on experience and certification. Job description and applications are available at the Village Office. The email address is uticanebaska1@gmail.com, and the phone number is 402.534-4237.



Preventing Chlorination Mishaps

By Mike Stanzel, Circuit Rider

Looking back through my collection of articles from the past 10 years, there were several that were focused on chlorination. Here comes another one for the simple fact that when chlorination is required, there is no room for error. It needs to be done RIGHT.

I have assisted two systems the past couple months with two completely different scenarios. There was a serious potential problem at each one that luckily was avoided with assistance from NeRWA.

System #1 is a small town with a brand new maintenance man recently appointed by the Mayor who was waiting to take the grade 4 certification class. He was taking samples under the direction of the water operator from a nearby town who was serving as their temporary operator until Mr. John Doe got licensed.

Well, the first round of coliform samples came back positive for coliform, as well as, the repeats. It was suggested by the Mayor that they immediately start chlorinating, which they did. Well, being new to the water business, John Doe went and bought bleach, filled the jug, plugged in the chlorinator and then decided to call me a few hours later. Luckily I was only an hour away so I headed there to check things out.

The 5 main issues I found were:

1. The chlorine pump was plugged into a main outlet and running continuously.
2. The dosage set on the pump was incorrect.
3. There was no means of measuring the amount of chlorine used.
4. The pump tubing was bad (luckily) so no chlorine was being pumped.
5. There was no way of determining a chlorine residual.

These problems were all addressed and corrected with a simple 2 hour visit. In no way do I fault Mr. John Doe with this for the simple fact that he has no experience and thought he was doing the right thing. I do give him kudos for calling me to check it out.

Chlorination can be tricky even for the experienced operators mainly because they don't do it very often at all.

I have worked with operators who have been operating 20 plus years and have never set up a chlorinator.

The next system is a completely different scenario. This is a large Rural Water District that had some coliform issues and received an Administrative Order from DHHS for 30 days of mandatory chlorination. Here the operators have multiple years of experience and are very knowledgeable, but their system is compiled of wells, numerous towers, a large booster station and miles upon miles of transmission main.

We were able to assist them with the installation of 4 chlorine pumps and ensure a chlorine residual was achieved. The potential problem that this system faced was that they received some inaccurate information that inevitably could have led to an extended period of chlorination.

When an AO is given, you MUST maintain at least a .20mg/l residual at the furthest point in your system. You also MUST keep track of the amount of chlorine being injected and fill out the proper forms required by the DHHS at the end of the chlorination period. And, lastly, you MUST take and record a chlorine residual a minimum of 7 DAYS PER WEEK during your entire chlorination period. Failure to do any of these may result in disciplinary action from the department.

So, please do not be afraid to call NeRWA if you are not 100% sure on setting up a chlorinator.

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Board of Directors' Election

The following NeRWA board members will be running for re-election to the association Board of Directors at the annual conference in Kearney held on March 11-13, 2019.

Tom Goulette, City of West Point

Jordon Bang, Lancaster County
RWD 1

One position must be filled by a delegate from a utility system and the other by a rural water system.

Dennis Hoback is retiring from the board as of March 13, 2019. We are looking for someone to fill this position for one year before being eligible for re-election. This position must be filled by a delegate from a rural water district.

Requirements for the above positions:

- Must be the voting delegate or alternate delegate from system
- Must attend monthly board meetings, held in Wahoo
- 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 any of the above positions, please submit a letter and a resume so indicating. The deadline is March 7, 2019. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.


Email to: salli@nerwa.org

Fax: 402-443-5274

Mail: 3390 Ponderosa St,
Wahoo NE 68066

Welcome

We would like to welcome Scott Finke to the Nebraska Rural Water Association staff. He will be joining us as the new Circuit Rider. He will be assisting our other Circuit Riders, Randy Hellbusch and Mike Stanzel, with the long list of technical assistance they provide to our members. Scott came to us from the City of Deshler where he was the water and wastewater operator since 1995. Please give him a warm welcome when you see him.



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LICENSE RENEWAL YEAR

This is renewal year for all water (grades 1-4) and backflow (grade 6) licenses. You need to have a total of 10 recertification hours for each license. Now is a good time to check your hours to see how many you need before December 31.

You can get all of your water hours and half your backflow hours by just attending the annual conference in March. You can also get 12 hours for wastewater as well.

If you only need 5 hours you can attend one of the 1-day classes that are held across the state. Water classes always have 5 credit hours; backflow classes have 5 water, 5 wastewater and 5 backflow. There is a fee for backflow classes. Don't wait until the last 2 months of the year because unforeseen circumstances—such as weather, health issues, appointment changes— can change your plans. The November and December Wahoo classes usually fill up before the actual month the class is held so don't wait until the last minute to register for those. The last backflow class is December 18 so plan ahead.

There is a training calender with all the classes for the year in this magazine.

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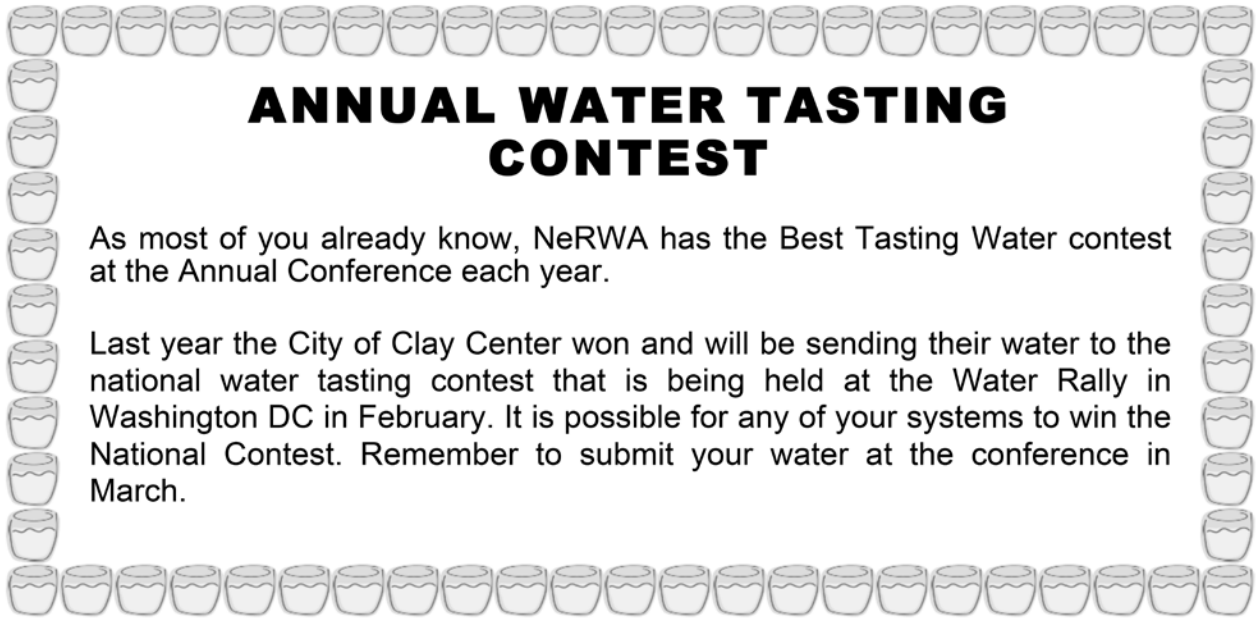
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ANNUAL WATER TASTING CONTEST

As most of you already know, NeRWA has the Best Tasting Water contest at the Annual Conference each year.

Last year the City of Clay Center won and will be sending their water to the national water tasting contest that is being held at the Water Rally in Washington DC in February. It is possible for any of your systems to win the National Contest. Remember to submit your water at the conference in March.

The water contest is to be held at the Conference in Kearney. A panel of distinguished taste testers will judge all samples. The winner will be announced at the banquet on Tuesday, March 12. 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. Must be a member of Nebraska Rural Water Association
2. Sample must be from a Nebraska public water supply system
3. One entry per water system
4. Water must come before any point-of-use treatment
5. Water must come from the distribution system
5. Water should be in clean, unmarked gallon container
6. Entry form must accompany sample

Water must be received by 3:00 pm on Monday, March 11, at the conference registration table.

Water System: _____

Submitted by: _____

If at all possible, please call our office in advance at 800-842-8039 or 402-443-5216 or email to salli@nerwa.org to let us know you are entering. Thank you.

Utility Worker

The City of Holdrege is currently accepting applications for a Water Department Utility Worker. Applicants must be legally authorized to work in the United States and hold a current CDL or be able to obtain one within six months of hire. Qualifications include but are not limited to: Knowledge of water service construction and familiarity with the operations of a municipal water distribution system and waste water treatment plant. Candidates for this position will be willing to work in a variety of weather conditions and have a propensity for getting along well with co-workers. The successful applicant will, with provided training, obtain a Grade 4 Water License and a Grade 1 Waste Water License in the first year of employment.

This position includes a 40 hour work week with the possibility of overtime on nights or weekends and a beginning salary of \$14.52 to \$19.81 per hour depending on experience. Benefits include paid vacation, sick leave and holidays as well as health insurance, life insurance and a retirement plan.

Applications are available at the City Offices, 502 East Avenue in Holdrege and will be taken until the position is filled. You may request an application by phone @ 308-995-8681 or email djensen@cityofholdrege.org.

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League of Municipalities
Nebraska Section, AWWA
AWWA Library Reference Listings
NeRWA Associate Members

NeRWA Contact Information:

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 3390 Ponderosa Street
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Office phone numbers:

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 402-443-5216
 Fax: 402-443-5274
 Website: www.nerwa.org
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Mike Stanzel	402-672-9084
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