



Now in more places than ever

WRT's contaminant removal processes have been installed in more and more water treatment facilities across the country to help meet regulatory compliance. That's because we provide the most effective, economical and environmentally responsible solution for removing *radium, uranium* and other contaminants. Our total solution includes process equipment, proprietary treatment media, safe exchange of media, and proper handling and disposal of used media.

Village of

RAIRIE

BROOKFIE

ILLINOIS

See how communities like yours are making water safer by calling 303.424.5355 or visiting wrtnet.com today.

NRT

Your total contaminant removal provider. Visit us at writet.com

IRWA Staff Members

Frank Dunmire Executive Director dunmire@ilrwa.org • 217-820-4626

Heather McLeod Membership Services Assistant ilrwahm@ilrwa.org

Denise Burke Administrative / Program Assistant ilrwadb@ilrwa.org

Wayne Nelson Training Specialist / Field Staff Coordinator ilrwawn@ilrwa.org • 217-820-1561

> Gale Moore Circuit Rider moore@ilrwa.org • 217-820-4754

Pat Gammill Circuit Rider gam@ilrwa.org • 217-820-1564

John Bell Circuit Rider ilrwajb@ilrwa.org • 217-820-1568

Dick Rohr Wastewater Technician ilrwadr@ilrwa.org • 217-820-1567

Gary Chase Wastewater Technician chase@ilrwa.org • 217-820-1560

Bill Dowell Wastewater Technician dowell@ilrwa.org • 217-820-1562

Chuck Woodworth Ground Water Specialist ilrwacw@ilrwa.org • 217-820-1569

Mark Mitchell USDA Source Water Specialist mitchell@ilrwa.org • 217-820-1565

IRWA Board Members

President Greg Bates Jersey County Water Company

Vice President Ron Cowles City of Grayville

Secretary Jeff Tumiati Village of Stonington

Treasurer Dale Hanner *City of Oakland* Board of Directors Steve Fletcher Washington County Water Company

Tom Shrewsbury *Village of Hebron*

Jay Bell City of Chenoa

Scott Wallis City of Princeton

Wayne Dixon City of Mason City

Waterways is the official publication of the Illinois Rural Water Association, P.O. Box 6049, Taylorville, Illinois 62568, and is published quarterly for distribution to members as well as other industry associations and friends. Articles and photographs are encouraged. Advertising and submissions should be mailed to the above address or e-mail us at <u>ilrwadb@ilrwa.org</u>. TABLE OF CONTENTS

Hard Times Ahead by Frank Dunmire
Mark Your Calendars!!!
Use of Computers to Make Your Job Easier by Greg Bates
Crossword Puzzle Solution
Utilizing Both Mesophilic and Thermophilic
Anaerobic Sludge Digestion by Gary Chase
About Those Samples and Reports We Have to Do! by Wayne Nelson
NRWA Annual Leadership Conference & Exhibition Center12
2007 Annual Conference — Effingham, Illinois
New Test Methods for Wastewater and Biosolids17
Welcome New Members
Certified Training by John Bell
The Vacation Experience of a Lifetime: Hershey Park, PA by Robert W. Benjamin
Just For Fun — Crossword Puzzle
The Water Board Bible Series
Thanks USDA by Rob Johnson
WANTED
Feedback

IRWA's Mission Statement

"Protecting and preserving the water and wastewater resources of Rural Illinois through education, representation and on-site technical assistance".

ON THE COVER...

2007 Water Taste Test Winner was Lake Egypt Water District. Pictured on the front cover are IRWA Ground Water Technician Chuck Woodworth and Lake Egypt Water District employees Corey Edgington and Gary Rhodes.

ADVERTISERS INDEX

Thanks to our advertisers who make our magazine possible. Please patronize them when you can!!

Cady Aquastore				
Caldwell Tanks				
Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc.				
Curry & Associates Engineers				
Earth Science Laboratories, Inc.				
East Jordan Iron Works, Inc.				
First St. Louis Securities, Inc.				
Godwin Pumps				
Heneghan & Associates, P.C.				
Lemna Technologies				
Maguire Iron				
Maurer-Stutz, Inc.				
McLaughlin Group				
Metropolitan Industries				

27	Natgun Corporation	16
13	Newell Sand/Rock Filter Cleaning	9
8	Norman Noe Co. Inc.	20
Ĩ	Northern Water Works Supply	22
25	PDC Laboratories, Inc.	18
16	Ressler & Associates	5
11	Rhutasel & Associates, Inc.	9
19	Stewart Spreading, Inc.	10
21	Test, Inc.	22
21	The Ford Meter Box Company	7
	United Systems &Software, Inc.	11
20	USA Bluebook	28
7	Utility Service Company, Inc.	22
19	Water Leak Locators	9
13	Water Remediation Technology	2
6	Water Well Solutions	17

Hard Times Ahead

During the first week of March, NRWA and its state affiliates found out that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) chose to utilize ALL of the money that was provided them for fiscal year 2007 (FY 07) for internal uses. It was decided by USEPA that the money Congress had historically provided Rural Water associations across the country for programs such as Groundwater Protection, Source Water Protection and Training/Technical Assistance were not valuable enough to fund – if they weren't specifically directed to.

In past years, Congress had directed USEPA to fund programs such as these by attaching an "earmark" to a bill directing them to provide funding for these and other programs. Originally, the 109th Congress had provided these funds in the overall spending package for the Federal Government and the Senate provided funds on their side as well. As the two bills came together in joint committee to reconcile any differences between the bills, an election was taking place that produced a change in powers. The Democrats had won control of both the House and the Senate. Along with this change, came a stalemate that resulted in no budget for the Federal Government to operate under. This was not the first time (nor will it be the last) that the Government was being threatened with a shut down.

As in the past, to avoid on all-out shut down, a Continuing Resolution (CR) was passed which allowed the Government to operate at last year's (FY 06) funding levels – of which we were "in". Unfortunately, when the original CR was extended to cover the remainder of FY 07, all earmarks were removed and Rural Water's funds were swallowed up by USEPA. Not only were the remaining FY 06 funds consumed by the agency, but all funds retroactive to October 1, 2006 (beginning of the fiscal year) were gobbled up as well.

Illinois Rural Water Association contacted all of their Congressional Representatives in an effort to restore funds for these valuable programs and was met with great support from our delegation. To no avail, letters were written to the Administrator of the USEPA urging him to fund the Rural Water initiatives so that no state would have to suspend their programs. With the declination of their request it is now time to face some very tough decisions.

NRWA has agreed to fund Illinois' Groundwater Protection Program as well as the Training/Technical Assistance Program through May 15, 2007. After that date it is still an uncertainty what will happen. As of this writing, efforts are still ongoing trying to get funding restored through a supplementary spend-



ing bill that is working its way through the Senate. We are being told that, at best, this is a long shot, but we will continue our uphill battle until there are absolutely no alternatives left to pursue.

Just what all of this means to Illinois and its programs has not yet been determined. The Board of directors and staff of Illinois Rural Water Association will spend a great deal of time in the upcoming weeks weighing all of the options before "pulling the plug" on any of the programs. It is our hope that continuing work in DC will result in a positive outcome. We will keep you posted as events unfold.



By Frank Dunmire, Executive Director

Use of Computers to Make Your Job Easier

By Greg Bates, Company Manager

In the current era of changing regulations and increased demands on the water operator's time, it is important to manage your day in the most efficient way possible. The water operator today may be dealing with the new Stage II Disinfection Byproducts Sample Plan, preparing the yearly Consumer Confidence Report, managing new construction jobs as well as all the other daily tasks required. With companies trying to keep labor expenses to a minimum, it makes it difficult for an operator to get everything done in the time allotted, especially with added demands each year with the changing laws. Computers can be a big help with the paperwork requirements, as well as monitoring the entire distribution system.

Several years ago we began putting our monthly Environmental Protection Agency reports into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet, as well as our Water Loss Usage Statement. Using the spreadsheets creates efficient recordkeeping as well as the convenience of having your records all in one place. This allows efficient data tracking and reporting for the Environmental Protection Agency or anyone else who requires it for company infrastructure. It is essential for auditing loss vs. sale records. Material/job estimates can be done quickly, as well as better inventory procedures. The set-up process takes some time, but once that is accomplished it makes the operator's job much easier.

A computerized S.C.A.D.A system allows the operator to view the distribution system from one location. It also allows you to view history at a particular site to compare data or make engineering evaluations over the years. The newer technology allows you to see actual meter readings, flow rates, tank levels, pressures, temperatures, chemical scale weights, electronic valve status, variable speed drive status and so much more useful data. The system also notifies the operator of alarms that the operator determines are critical to the distribution system or mechan-

ical problems at the sites. The S.C.A.D.A. system allows less manhours and constant surveillance of the water system. The system can also be used for security with cameras, entry alarms and motion detectors.

Illinois Rural Water is beginning



to provide computer training workshops for office staff and operators in the near future. We hope these workshops will make your job easier in this increasingly demanding time.

Sincerely,

Greg

Your Link to Superior Water

Filters & Media... Chlorination Equipment Aeration & Stripping Towers Mixers/Flocculators Water Quality Monitors.. Membrane Treatment Technology Lime Stakers... Chemical Metering Pumps Spare Parts & Replacements



9.0. Box 4018. Bu

sociates com

TRY ONE STOP SHOPPING for your entire pump and control needs and gain peace of mind with our 24/7 Emergency Service.



Wastewater Treatment Solutions



Radium and Iron Removal Systems



Pad Mounted Control Packages



S.C.A.D.A. Integration



Municipal Booster Control Packages

Other Services

Sanitary & Storm Water Lift Stations
Valve Vault/Meter Stations

For almost 50 years, Metropolitan Industries, Inc. has been the pumping world's single source for superior quality pumps, control systems, prefabricated systems and ancillary equipment for both the water and wastewater industry. We have the knowledge, experience and capability Water Booster Stations
5-Million-Dollar-Plus Parts Inventory

to tackle any pumping application related to the pumping industry. We will back up our work with 24/7 service to give you that peace of mind you deserve. Choose Metropolitan for your next water or wastewater project and see how convenient one stop shopping can be.

The Pumping World's One Stop Shop



37 Forestwood Drive, Romeoville, IL 60446 815-886-9200 • Fax 815-886-6932 www.metropolitanind.com



Water Ways Volume III • Spring 2007

Utilizing Both Mesophilic and ThermophilicAnaerobic Sludge DigestionBy Gary

Where do you see both types of anaerobic sludge digestion employed? Well, I have only seen one facility with both digestion temperature ranges. The facility is the Marengo Wastewater Treatment Plant. Marengo has a population of 7,600 residents and is located in Southwestern Mc Henry County.

The abandoned Conventional Activated Sludge Plant, which was constructed in 1963 and taken out of service in 1985, is the lone remnant of the old treatment plant. The new Three-Ring Oxidation Plant was put online in 1985. Along with the new Activated Sludge Plant, two new covered final clarifiers follow the Activated Sludge Process. Preliminary treatment employs an automatic bar screen and grit removal. The Influent is measured with a Foxboro Magmeter housed inside an 8" flow tube. The Thermophilic and Mesophilic Digesters, sludge thickening, centrifuge and sludge storage building were put into operation in 2001.

Normal mode of operation is the Extended Aeration. The mode of operation changes to Conventional during maximum flow periods. The average daily flow is 0.70 MGD. The maximum daily flow is 1.3 MGD.

The Influent enters the outer ring with the activated sludge flowing in a clockwise direction in all three units. The activated sludge exits the inner ring via a



CRAWFORD, MURPHY & TILLY, INC. CONSULTING ENGINEERS

www.contengr.com

its way to the final clarifiers. The return activated sludge is brought back into the outer ring 180 degrees from the point where the Influent enters.

splitter box on

The waste activated sludge is sent to a thickener tank where a polymer is added. From the thickener tank the sludge is pumped to the centrifuge for dewatering and thickening. After the

By Gary Chase, Wastewater Technician



sludge has been centrifuged it is transferred to the Thermophilic Digester. The average detention time here is approximately 10 days at 130 degrees. As sludge is pumped into the Thermophilic it will automatically overflow into the Mesophilic Digester. In the Mesophilic digester the approximate detention time is 30 days at 98 degrees.

The Mesophilic digested sludge is pumped to the centrifuge for dewatering. The average per cent of dry solids from the centrifuge is 23 to 24%. After dewatering the sludge, the cake is hauled to a sludge storage building for approximately 150 days detention time. The sludge is then removed by a contractor and applied to farm ground. With this type of operation it's "sludge in-sludge out". Before more sludge can be pumped into the Thermophilic Digester the sludge must be removed from the Mesophilic Digester for ultimate disposal

The quality of sludge is very close to meeting the requirements for a Class "A" Sludge. The sludge has met the Pathogen Reduction requirement for the past three years, which is the Fecal Coliform count of less than 1,000 count per 100 milliliters.

Inflow and Infiltration are no strangers to Marengo. The City is constantly trying to eliminate sources of I & I. One of the

Continued on page 11

About Those Samples and ReportsWe Have to Do!By Wayne Nelson, Training Specialist/Field Staff Coordinator

I've been involved in the water treatment field for 35 years and I am proud to be a member of a group of people that produces safe water for their customers, their friends, and their families. I'm happy to say that water operators do it right. Sorry, I meant to say that most operators do it right. Some cut corners here and there on different items that don't amount to a hill of beans but in this article I only want to speak to those that cut corners on their monthly reports and sampling procedures. To the rest of you I thank you for a job well done.

In the last year I've had several IEPA people speak to me about the importance of training operators to do true and accurate reports. The topic of proper sampling was also brought up. Unfortunately, I'm not talking about test reagent age or clean glassware or entering calculated dosages. I'm talking about a few operators that are submitting monthly reports that would be listed on a best-seller list as a work of fiction. I'm talking about all bacteriological and other required samples being collected straight from the water plant lab sink. I'm talking about the bottle of water under the sink that has a perfect 1.0 mg/L fluoride result. And, I'm being told by IEPA people that this is going on! They want me to instruct operators on

how to do it legal! In fact, at a recent operator's meeting an IEPA spokesman told the class that an on-going State Police investigation will soon result in charges against an Illinois water operator.

As a professional I shouldn't need to implore you to enter monthly report data correctly. If your fluoride reading is a little high or low put the result downeven the best operators aren't perfect. When the IEPA looks over a report and every daily test result is the same as the day before it sends up a red flag. When the people that live at your routine bacteriological collection sites never see you that sends up a red flag.

Bacteriological samples are proof that your drinking water is safe. If an operator collects all of his samples at the plant it only proves that the water at the plant is safe. If an operator collects all of his bacteriological samples at the plant I can

only assume one of two things: one, that he feels that the water in his distribution system isn't safe to drink or two, maybe the operator is a little bit on the lazy side. If the reason is because that operator has too



much other stuff to do it's time to reevaluate priorities.

In closing, I always get upset when I get a call from a system's customer or elected official and told that people are sick because of the drinking water. Our country has a record of having the safest drinking water in the world. A major reason for this record is the diligent of water operators doing it right and I know that all operators can do it right!





RHUTASEL and ASSOCIATES, INC. Consulting Engineers • Land Surveyors Serving Southern Illinois Since 1969

TRANSPORTATION LAND DEVELOPMENT WATER/WASTEWATER

STRUCTURAL LAND SURVEYS STUDIES



OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE OUR CLIENTS WITH THE BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE IN THE RESIDUALS MANAGEMENT BUSINESS.

STEWART SPREADING IS A FULL SERVICE RESIDUALS MANAGEMENT COMPANY. We understand the importance of providing timely and quality service. Our company is managed by a group with over 75 years of combined experience in the environmental services industry.

One of the keys to our success is innovation. Not satisfied with being just another beneficial recycling company, we are constantly analyzing production numbers and designing equipment to progressively and consistently meet the demands of our clients and farming customers.

With roots deeply embedded in the farming community. Stewart Spreading has a unique understanding of farming operations and has consistently brought farmers and municipalities together, forming beneficial relationships that last.

Stewart Spreading is a full service Residuals Management and Environmental Services Company. We emphasize customer service and do all of our land application programs with our own people. When you contract with Stewart Spreading, you can rest assured that the work will be done by Stewart Spreading.

With a proven track record of providing innovative, fimely and economical solutions. Slewart Spreading wants to be your management team of choice. Let us prove if to you.

Call Stewart Spreading for all of your Residuals Management Service Needs.

MOBILE DEWATERING * LAND APPLICATION •

DRINKING WATER RESIDUALS
 DIGESTER CLEANING

• LAGOON CLEANING • EPA REPORTING •

CLASS A & B TECHNOLOGY

NO PROJECT IS TOO LARGE OR TOO SMALL

CONTACT US:

3870 N. IL Route 71 Sheridan, IL 60551

te 71 Phone: 815-695-5667 9551 Fax: 815-695-5770 stewartspreading@aol.com

Water Ways Volume III • Spring 2007

... Mesophilic and Thermophilic...

continued from page 8



main sources of I & I is the old collection system, which has leaky joints, due to the deterioration of the oakum and mortar joints. Lining the existing sanitary sewers is a route the City is considering for solving the I & I problems.

The Engineering Firm who designed the Sludge Handling Process is McMahon & Associates from Machesny



Park, Illinois. The engineer who strongly suggested using the two types of anaerobic digestion is Tim Bronn. Tim had the foresight in using a system that had the potential of meeting the criteria of a Class "A" digested sludge.

The City has a qualified and dedicated staff. Steve Fiepke is a Class 1 Operator and is the Wastewater Treatment Plant



Superintendent. Jim Craney is the Public Works Director.

Tim Mack and Bob Lockinger are the Plant's labor force. Ed Nadeau is the Water Plant Superintendent and Collection System Superintendent.

I appreciate the assistance from Steve and his staff for the "Grand Tour".





Don't Miss the PHILADELPHIA EXPERIENCE!



SESSIONS INCLUDE: Leadership Board Training Regulations/Legislation Technical Computer Technology Marketing Public Relations Accounting AND MORE!

National Rural Water Association Annual Leadership Conference Exhibition Center

CONTRACTOR OF

September 23-26

THE INDUSTRY EVENT!

Philadelphia Marriott Downtown - Room block opens June 1st

Register at www.nrwa.org or call 800-332-8715



TACKLE YOUR SMALLER JETTING PROJECTS COST EFFECTIVELY





2007 ANNUAL CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 20-22, 2007 **EFFINGHAM, ILLINOIS**



National Rural Water Association Board President, Rodney Tart, spoke at the annual meeting.











A variety of classes were offered by many different speakers!!

































2007 Illinois Rural Water Association Water Taste Test Winner went to Lake Egypt Water District located in Marion, Illinois (Middle picture)







Tim Schilson—Water Operator of the Year

Mel Pleines-Person of the Year

Village of Elkville— Wastewater Plant of the Year



Perry Musgrave— Wastewater Operator of the Year



PDC Laboratories—Associate Member of the Year



Village of Stonington—Water Plant of the Year



CASINO NIGHT



Algicide/Bactericide

EARTHTEC

EarthTec® is an innovative algicide/bactericide containing high concentrations of non-chelated biologically active ions (Cu++). EarthTec® is a fully dissolved solution that self-disperses rapidly and evenly throughout the water column. EarthTec® remains in suspension indefinitely until it meets demand without copper settlement on the bottom.



WASTEWATER

- Reduces BODs and TSSs
- Stabilizes pH
- Controls Hydrogen Sulfide Gases
- Reduces Fecal Coliform and E-coli



POTABLE WATER

Eliminates Bio Film.

Reduces TOCs and DOCs.

Produces No Disinfection By Products

Less algae. Less work. Less copper. (800) 257-9283 • www.earthsciencelabs.com

BEAUTY IS IN THE EYE OF THE **BEHOLDER WHO DOESN'T** HAVE TO PAY TO MAINTAIN IT

The great thing about a Natgun water storage tank is once you put it in service it stays in service. For decades. Without interruption. You don't maintain it. You don't repaint it. You don't worry about it. Heck, you don't even cut the grass if you don't want to,



JERRY MYERS, MIDWEST REGIONAL MANAGER 847-782-0357, WWW.NATGUN.COM

SHOWN: 1.0 MG WATER STORAGE TANK FOR THE VILLAGE OF GLEN CARBON, IL ENGINEERING BY JUNEAU ASSOCIATES, INC., P.C.



New Test Methods for Wastewater and Biosolids

Effective April 25, 2007, there will be several new test methods for wastewater and biosolids that will likely impact NPDES permit holders. Permit holders will be required to use these new test methods for permit application and reporting. The new test methods include five new E. coli methods for wastewater, two enterococci methods for wastewater, two fecal coliform methods for biosolids and one Salmonella method for biosolids. In addition when using the new fecal coliform methods for sludge, the sample holding time has been extended from 6 hours to 24 hours for Class A composted sludge, Class B aerobically digested sludge and Class B anaerobically digested sludge. NPDES permit holders should consult with their contract lab to insure the new methods will be used or

update their internal laboratory procedures for in-house analysis. Further information including references to the test methods can be found in the attached pdf file.

Analytical Methodology Changes

Effective April 11, 2007, EPA has made numerous changes to analytical methods, holding times, preservatives and sample collection containers effecting both drinking water and wastewater. In some cases there are new methods, in some modifications of existing methods and elimination of current methods. The following sections of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) have been impacted: 40 CFR 122 - the NPDES program, 40 CFR 136 - Test Procedures, 40 CFR 141 - Primary Drinking Water Regulations, 40 CFR 143 - Secondary Drinking Water Regulations, and 40 CFR 430/455/465 certain industrial point sources. All utilities should refer to the following before sample collection to ensure compliance with the latest updates.

http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-WATER/2007/March/Day-

12/w1073.htm. In addition the utility needs to update in-house laboratory procedures and/or insure contract laboratories are aware of these changes.

For compliance with the biosolids regulations under 40 CFR 501-503, the new rule specifically requires the use of analytical methods under 40 CFR 136 unless a different analytical methodology is specified in 501-503.

VELCOME NEW MEMBERS: VOTING Village of Ethon Village of Snamboro

ASSOCIATE

Apes Panapang Equipment Hoerr Constinuation Kaskaskan Engineering Group-Shuw Environmental, Inc.

Wher Products Company SOUP

> Edwin Hom Kerin Sullivan

UPCOMING TRAINING SESSIONS

Water

May 16, 2007-Regulatory Update-Alado May 24, 2007-Regulatory Update-Lake Bloominaton Wastewater

May 16, 2007 - Teacting & Shoring - Cartervine May 21, 2007 - Activated Sludge--Monticello

Water Well Solutions

DESIGN, SERVICE, & INSTAllation 888-769-9009 Oconomowoc, WI • Beecher, IL www.waterwellsolutions.com





McHenry Analytical's exclusive alliance with PDC Laboratories means our clients receive the best testing in the analytical industry, period. With a staff of over 80 professionals, PDC is the largest independent drinking water laboratory in the State of Illinois. Combined with McHenry Analytical's excellence in service and stringent standards, together, we provide the best professional staff and service, extremely quick turnaround and the highest quality testing. Accept nothing less than the best.



McHenry Analytical Water Laboratory Scientific Water Testing & Chemical Analysis



PDC Laboratories, Inc Environmental Service Excellence for 75 Years Strong

www.PDClab.com | 800-752-6651

Certified Training

It's my understanding that in the "good old days" they handed out certifications in water and wastewater to anyone who happened to want one. I missed standing in that line when that happened. So, like most of you, to get certified in water or wastewater I had to pass the state exam. "Are you sure I have to pass a test?" Well I'm not real sure, but the people at the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency seem real set in their ways about this matter and it appears they are not going to change their minds soon. Well, if that's the way EPA is going to be, I guess a guy or gal had better study a little and take the darn test.

"First of all, how many questions are on the water treatment test?" "Which test are you going to take?" You mean there is more than one test?

Yes, there are four separate tests on water treatment, the Class A, B, C and D. The D has 100 questions, the C has 150 and the B and A each have 200. Essay questions probably. Nope, all multiple choice. You get to pick one of four answers. I suppose you have to score 90 percent or better to pass the test? Nope, just have to get 70 percent or higher. I bet I could do that with my eyes closed? I don't think you want to think that way, they don't hand the certificates out just for showing up at the exam.

Some study may be more in order. By the way, have you sent in your applica-

tion to see if you are eligible to take an exam. What! You mean I have to do some paper work before I can even take an exam? Yes, EPA reviews your application and then based upon the certification rules and regulations; they will inform you which test you are eligible to take. But, I hate filling out paper work.

Brother, hang on to your hat because paper work and record keeping is going to be part of your life if you get in the water and wastewater profession. But as an aside, I might mention your going to love being in the water and wastewater field.

There are a lot of nice people in the profession. Some of the operators feel the same as you do about the paperwork and the rules and regulations. After a while you will get accustomed to the paperwork.

Now your getting me off track about taking the exam with all this paperwork talk, were can I go to have someone help me study and pass this exam? Well, I'm glad you asked. The best place I know to get help is the ILLINOIS RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION. Good outfit to work with? You bet, the best!!!

IRWA gives all kinds of training to the operators and in locations all around the state that an operator can get to easily. But the topper, is they will come right to your front door and give you one-on-one training for the certification exam. You

By John Bell, Circuit Rider



must be kidding, you mean that all I have to do is contact IRWA and they will send somebody to my town and help me study for the state exam? "Darn tootin", I mean yes they will. Friendly folks, the people at IRWA!

The people IRWA sends out to help you have gone through this stuff many times and will steer you in the right direction to help you get certified.

In addition, the folks at IRWA they are real interested in seeing you succeed in both getting certified and at operating your treatment system. They take a lot of pride in helping folks in the profession.

Why don't you give them a call at 217-287-2115. The gals at the IRWA office, Denise and Heather, will help you get started in the right direction. And if your one of those computer people, then you can just log on to the IRWA web site at <u>www.Ilrwa.org</u> and click on training. And good luck on taking the exam.

Here's hoping you pass it!

Underwriter of Tax Exempt Bonds and Lease Financing **FIRST ST. LOUIS SECURITIES, INC.** Thomas McNeely, Senior Vice President 8860 Ladue Rd. Suite 100, St. Louis, MO 63124 888-726-2880 tmcneely@firststlouis.com



The Vacation Experience of a Lifetime: Hershey Park in Pennsylvania

Have the vacation of a lifetime at Hershey Park in Pennsylvania, the best Attractions to see - Best times to visit -Places to stay, and more.

If you are heading up towards Amish country in Pennsylvania you need to make sure you make time for Hershey Park. This city that is great for year round vacations offers all kinds of activities for families that are just a lot of fun. When you are in Hershey, Pennsylvania, you will be able to enjoy it all no matter what your age.

Hersheypark is the best family amusement park, or so voters say. The rides, attractions, and games are a lot of fun and designed specifically for families. This theme park has more than 60 rides from roller coasters to family rides and kid rides to water rides. Hersheypark opens for a few days in May and September and is open full time in June, July and August. The price for Hersheypark also includes ZooAmerica entrance, so keep that in mind. Fun times to visit the park include October for Halloween thrills and December for the Christmas Candylane.

Other fun activities in Chocolate Town USA include the Hotel Hershey where anyone will enjoy the spa and kids have their own club. Zoo America is close by and is a decent sized zoo that can be easi-

NORMAN HOE CO., INC. Water Tank Evaluation and Consulting Off: 317-934-227 NORMAN NOE, President NACE Certified Coating Inspector #1891 AWWA Life Member Norman# NormanNoeWater TankInspection.com www.NormanNoeWater TankInspection.com

ly walked through and enjoyed. The Hershey's Chocolate World is also a cool place to visit and kids can even pack their very own Hershey's kisses. Seeing how the chocolate is made and packaged is really a lot of fun and educational.

The best time of year to visit depends on what you want to do. If you want to visit Hersheypark then visiting May-September is the best plan, unless you want to be there for the Halloween or Christmas festivities. Remember that the summer months have more tourists and the park is more crowded, but the weather is generally nice. May and September frequently are better times to visit if you want to avoid the heat and the crowds. Your budget might affect when you travel

as well and if you are trying to save money then the earlier and later months are generally cheaper as far as lodging is concerned.

It is a good idea to book your vacation in advance to ensure you stay at the hotel of your choice and to lock



By Robert W. Benjamin

you might not get the exact vacation you were looking for. Also, booking online will frequently save you money. These tips can really help you plan your Hershey, PA, vacation.

There is a website that has great information on USA Vacations and Unique Travel Spots listed state-by-state and season, the website is called: Seasonal Vacation Spots, and can be found at www.seasonalvacationspots.com

Robert W. Benjamin has been in the software business on the internet for over 6 years, and has been producing low-cost software for the past 25+ years. He first released products on the AMIGA and C64 computer systems in the late 1970's-80's.



Phone: 612-253-2002 www.lemnatechnologids.com



Double-duty contingency plan...

For when things go wrong, and to keep them going right.

Pumping and power in one dependable package

Timit of the peace of mind you'll have with a contingency plan in place for when trings go wrong, with the **Godwin Dri-Prime' Backup System** you'll get independently powered pumping in one dependable package for emergencies including primary power, switch gear, and sewage pump failures of replines, and for primary pumping during routine meintenance.





FULL SERVICE MAINTENANCE PROGRAMS GASO 34 Lompi ani Interim and Exterior Painting, Repairs, Safety Accessories Inspections, Washouts, Disinfections

WINELESS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES Antenna Tite Nanogement - Antenna Instantations Design Nev evs/Typjet/ Management

TAX EXEMPT FINANCING Assel Acquisition and Intristructure Growin Extremely Competitive Holes Re "Ted Tope"

> NEW TANK SALES Expedites Delivery Any Style, Design, Capacity

Utility Service Co

CORPORATE OFFICE: P/0 Box 1150 Perry, SA 34069 Plane: 800 221-3495 Tat: 478 567 2991 mem, d114 sterves.com EONTACT: Dill Marfree Phone: 015 Tot 1010 Innorthee Satisty enviced on

> Kirt Ervin Phone: 104-614-9120 amsimilabilitysmyce.com

Neptune's R900 and E-Coder Two Proven Technologies Integrated Into One Device

- Single, Wireless AMR Solution
- High 8-Digit Resolution
- Leak Detection
- Tamper Detection
- Reverse Flow Detection
- Reduced Material & Labor Costs

Contact Northern Water Works Supply for complete details on the Neptune E-Coder) R900i ... and take the next step in meter reading technology. Total Em/iconmental Service Technologies, Inc.



+ Field Services +
 • Contract Services - Water/Wastewater +
 • Regulatory Compliance Services +
 • Certified Laboratory •
 • IEPA Regional Lab •
 • Consultant Services •

Over 100 Plants & Operations throughout Illinois

Peru, Illinois Established 1987 815-224-1650 www.testinc.com

Bushnell - Carthage - Coal City - Hinckley Para + Avon - Prairie City - Dallas City - Creve Coeur -

E-Coder | R900

FERGUSON WATERWORKS

Bismarck, ND 701-258-9700 800-932-8759

E D

Blaine, MN 763-560-5200 800-844-8334 DeKalb, IL Fargo, ND 815-756-2800 701-293-5511 866-759-2800 800-437-4362

Madison, WI 1 608-271-1770 2 800-833-0880

Sartell, MN 320-229-0125 800-729-2850

www.nwws.biz

Just For Fun



ACROSS

- 2 Wooden stick
- 4 Sticky substance used for better grip (2 wds.)
- 5 An infield hit where the hitter doesn't swing the bat
- 10 A fly ball that is caught, but scores a run (2 wds.)
- 12 Area over the plate between the knee and torso (2 wds.)
- 13 Run batted in
- 14 Ball hit out of play
- 16 1st base hit
- 17 This league was founded in the 1870s (2 wds.)
- 20 Three white bags on field
- 22 One player bunts, the other steals home
- 23 3rd base hit
- 24 Round tripper (2 wds.)

n

DOWN

- Player who teams up with the pitcher on every play
- 3 Younger of the two leagues (2 wds.)
- 5 Not a strike; the other half of base_____
- 6 The Great Bambino (2 wds.)
- 7 Getting two outs in succession (2 wds.)
- 8 The best teams from each league playing for the championship (2 wds.)
- 9 Cy Young
- 11 The tool used by players in the field
- 15 2nd base hit
- 18 The man behind the catcher
- 19 Ricky Henderson was known for this baseball play
- 21 Not a ball (pitch)

Productive Reading

THE WATER BOARD BIBLE SERIES

The Water Board Bible For a quick overview of the do's and don'ts city administrators and clerks look to this handbook. If operators, managers and superintencients wish to develop a better working relationship with their boards/councils. they use the Water Board Bible You can use it to see how your system is doing today and

Getting Results from your Experts Construction projects are the theme of this handbook. That's because construction projects bring logether mast of the experts You work with - consulting engineers attorneys, bond council, financial advisors, contractors, etc. They are in charge of building your project to spec, on time and within budget. It is your job to make sure

The Operator's Handbook: Facts, Figures & More

This handbook presents a fast look-up information, graphs, tables, charts, equations and formulas. The goal? To save time for those very busy people. Their unsung work supports our entire nation's lifestyles, livelihoods and livability.

From

Personnel Management This Handbook has three purposes (1) To This Manubook mas three purposes, () to help supervisors, boards/cly council and employees review the basilos, 2) To provide produced free and expensive conception practical tips and examples concerning produced ups and examples concerning personnel problems and losues, 3) To look beyond the rush of daily affairs to the future and your relationship with your customers It is by partnering with customers that small systems will be able to make decisions today about serving your children and grandchildren tomorrow.

Financial Accounting Guide for The Financial Accounting Guide for Small The Financial Accounting Guide for Small Marger Unities Strives to take the injusted but of Recounting. If moves from basics burns was base scanded are the desired and desired are the desired of the string of the string basics of the string of the string basic of the string basic of the string basic of the string basic of t Dul of accounting. If moves from basics through key concepts such as the sensial tackees anomalies for an case of the sensial Indugri Key concepts Such as the general leader monthly findincial results the general stress in the general stress in the second stres balance sheat an induced results ind swaate and are avantative at over the sources Landrice shreet and instructions for the street and Prinais and examples, as well as can here's tonios telling those we do it here's

JUST \$20,00 EACHI Include shipping 4

BOOK Water Board Bible	QTY	Mail Order to:
Personnel Management Getting Results The Operator's Handbook Financial Accounting Guide	Ξ	PO Box 6049 Taylorville, IL 62568 or order on-line
TOTAL DUE	5	www.ilrwa.org to pay with Visa or MasterCard

Thanks USDA

Last week. I sat in on the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee hearing where Undersecretary Tom Dorr was questioned about rural development activities. In her opening comments Chairwoman DeLauro noted that the amount of funds requested for the RUS water and waste program was inadequate. She and others spoke of the significant backlog of requests for loans and grants. Congressman Farr praised the success of the Circuit Rider program and comments that perhaps every program with USDA should have a Circuit Rider type program.

During one of the recesses for floor votes, I had a chance to speak with Mr. Dorr, Mr. Andrews and several staff members from the subcommittee members. The collegial atmosphere among those participating struck me.

Rural Development is an area in USDA where there is a very cooperative spirit. We all agree that more funds are needed but the common sense of purpose and focus is extraordinary. And their efforts have changed the lives of us that live in Rural America.

I live in a very rural area and all my utilities come from cooperatives financed by RUS. I am proud to be served by a rural electric cooperative, a rural telephone cooperative and a rural water district. Without them, life would not be the same for my family, children and grandchildren.

RUS or Farmers Home Administration in another era has always attracted people who care about Rural America. Dwight Calhoun, Glenn Bennett, Jim Schwartz and now Gary Morgan have directed the Water and Waste Program in RUS. These people have made dealing with them a pleasure because they all really cared about what they did. Last year, this program was recognized as the highest rated lending program in all of the U. S. gov-

known that for a long time.

ernment. We've

People at the state and district levels of RUS are equally as dedicated and committed to their mis-

By Rob Johnson, NRWA CEO

sions. These wonderful people have brought good people together with good water and changed the way we live.

Thank you for your service to Rural America!



With a state of the state

Feedback



ETT-







Glass is permanently fused to steel before building an Aquastore tank. That's why it's the ultimate hygienic solution for all of your liquid storage needs.

The glass-fused-to-steel material makes it the "kitchen sink" of tanks - a durable, never painted substance people trust and use every day.

Given a choice, you'd want to drink from a hygienically clean glass. Why store your water in anything less?

Contact us when you're thirsty for a tall glass of water.

Glass Built to Last!



920 W. Prairie Drive Ste. G, Sycamore, IL 60178 Ph: 815-899-5678 • Fx: 815-899-5681 www.cadyaquastore.com

Represented in Southern Illinois Municipal Equipment CO., Inc., St. Louis, MO 314-645-2400 Represented in Northern Illinois Peterson and Matz Inc., Elgin, IL 847-844-4405

USABUGBOOK Get the Best Treatment"

... with unsurpassed customer service & expert technical support

Our Customer Service Representatives are ready to answer questions, place an order, quote pricing, or track a shipment. For technical questions, our expert Tech Support team offer unbiased advice from years of experience in the field.

... with our fully stocked warehouse—thousands of products, ready to ship today

Don't wait for that critical product. USABlueBook has over 22,000 items available, and 95% of orders ship the same day!

... with the widest selection of products for the water & wastewater industry

Our Master Catalog features thousands of products—everything you need to keep your water or wastewater facility running. Our 100% money-back guarantee lets you order with confidence.

Request your FREE 1450-page catalog today!



3305 Kennedy Rd. P.O. Box 6049 Taylorville, Illinois 62568