



Water Ways

Volume XV — Spring 2018

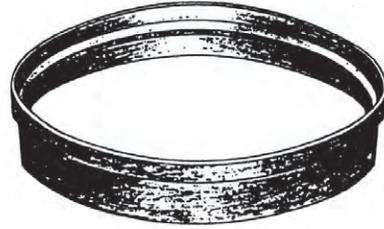


MANHOLE ADJUSTMENT RING

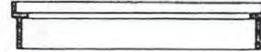
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MISSION STATEMENT

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

On the Cover:

The front cover picture was taken by Jeff McCready, IRWA Wastewater Technician, in Metamora, Illinois.

Water Ways is the official publication of the Illinois Rural Water Association, P.O. Box 49, Taylorville, Illinois 62568, and is published quarterly for distribution to members as well as other industry associations and friends. Our website is www.ilrwa.org. Articles and photographs are encouraged. Advertising and submissions should be mailed to the above address or e-mail us at ilrwadb@ilrwa.org.



Find us under Illinois Rural Water Association

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The spring legislative session is now underway in Springfield and there are a few bills that we are tracking very closely. I will include those bills in this edition.

First, we have **Senate Bill 3080** which is building on the lead service line issues brought up in last year's SB 550 which passed both houses and was signed into law in January of 2017. As filed, **SB 3080** amends the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois and provides that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall, by rule, establish a comprehensive low-income water assistance policy and program. It also amends the Public Utilities Act by adding requirements related to billing statements and reconnection of service for water and sewer utilities. Provides that upon request by a water utility, the Illinois Commerce Commission may allow, but may not require, a water utility to establish a customer assistance program and provides that an entity subject to certain federal laws that serves or provides water or sewer services to a specified number of people shall conduct a cost of service study every 5 years.

Finally, **SB 3080** amends the Environmental Protection Act by providing that within one year of the effective date of the amendatory Act, every community water system shall create a plan to remove all known lead service lines within 10 years from the completion of the plan. It will also require each community water system to implement an asset management plan

designed to inspect, maintain, repair, and renew its infrastructure within 18 months of the effective date of the amendatory Act. The Department of Public Health would be required to adopt rules for lead replacement that require an expedited timeline for high risk facilities and communities within 18 months of the effective date of the amendatory Act. It would also create a Statewide Advisory Council on Lead in Drinking Water and require specified community water supplies to create local water system advisory councils tasked with various duties related to lead in drinking water awareness. Obviously, IRWA is very concerned with a lot of issues contained in the bill and has already attended two Senate Committee hearings and a stakeholders meeting. IRWA, along with the Illinois Section AWWA, asked our members to file a witness slip in opposition to the bill and several hundred systems responded. We thank each one that filed and ask that you continue to respond when asked. You can check the status of the bill at the following link: <http://ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=3080&GAID=14&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=110656&SessionID=91&GA=100>

HB 4792 is a bill drafted by IRWA and amends the Property Tax Code by providing that a regional water treatment facility shall be certified by providing to the Department of Revenue proof of a valid facility number issued by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. This minor change will enable NFP water companies to more readily demonstrate to the Illinois Department of



Revenue that they qualify for a real estate tax exemption on their water treatment facility improvements. To check the status of that bill type in the following link: <http://ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=4792&GAID=14&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=110108&SessionID=91&GA=100>

HB 5105 would amend the Illinois Municipal Code and provides that a municipality that supplies water to 2 or more municipalities must submit a report no later than 60 days after the effective date of the amendatory Act and then annually on or before January 1 to each municipality to which it supplies water. The report must contain the water rates for each municipality that is supplied water and, if the water rates differ between the municipalities that receive water, a justification as to why water rates are different between municipalities. If the municipality supplying the water changes water rates causing water rates to be different between the municipalities, the municipality must submit a report to each municipality to which it supplies water no later than 5 business days after the change in water rates unless the change is reflected in the annual

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report. If passed, this bill would be yet another unneeded mandate from the State that would really serve no purpose. The following link will take you to the Illinois General Assembly website to check on the status of this bill: <http://ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=5105&GAID=14&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=110651&SessionID=91&GA=100>

If passed, **HB 5606** would also amend the Illinois Municipal Code by providing that a municipal waterworks system, water supply system, or combined waterworks

and sewerage system shall offer reduced rates to consumers living in a household at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines. That upon the submission of a signed affidavit and evidence verifying the consumer's household income, the municipal water system shall grant a 25% discount on all subsequent charges for water service. The municipality may require annual recertification of income levels for qualifying consumers and that it may not charge to qualifying consumers any fees related to the disconnection or

reconnection of water service. A status check on this bill can be found at: <http://ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=5606&GAID=14&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=111621&SessionID=91&GA=100>

We will continue to track these bills throughout this legislative session and will reach out to you, our valued, members if we need action on your part. Again, thanks to all of those that completed witness slips for the hearings on **SB3080**. 💧

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A Huge Positive for Rural Illinois... and America

*by Don Craig
IRWA Deputy Executive Director*

Last month, the 2018 Omnibus Spending Bill was passed by Congress and signed into law soon after. One part of that approved bill was the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018, which included very favorable funds for rural America...and as such, rural Illinois.

As one of the nation-wide state association affiliates of the National Rural Water Association, IRWA would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank our Illinois U.S. Representatives and two Senators for the significant water and wastewater infrastructure investments for rural America in their support for this Act. Specifically, the increases in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Water and Wastewater loan and grant program that will provide the Department with the necessary resources to address the current backlog of over \$3 billion dollars in eligible and desperate needed rural water infrastructure projects.

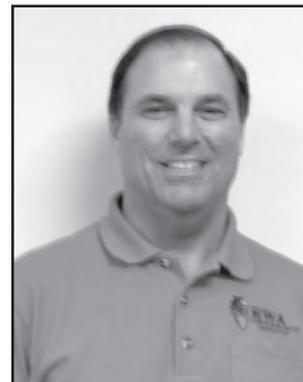
This increased investment will make water projects affordable for rural communities. Rural America is facing a large infrastructure demand burden for federal compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act and Clean Water Act, needed upgrades to aging infrastructure,

and even expansions of water lines to service new customers who are currently without adequate water or sanitation.

The much appreciated restoration of the Circuit Rider technical assistance initiative, the grassroots source water protection initiative and wastewater technical assistance will allow continued and uninterrupted needed technical assistance.

Rural and small communities owe a great debt of gratitude to all of these Congressmen for their recognition and support of those water investments that are specifically targeted to communities with populations less than 10,000 persons. No community can prosper or be sustainable without reliable and affordable water and wastewater service. With this investment, rural and small town Illinois, and America, will be much stronger.

On the national scale, our parent organization, the National Rural Water Association submitted a press release on March 23rd, with their comments in regard to the rural water and wastewater increased funding. The following is that statement.



The National Rural Water Association (NRWA) commends the House and Senate Appropriations Committees for providing increases in federal water infrastructure funding for Rural America.

“This is a very significant action from Congress with increased attention and investments to address the unmet water infrastructure needs in Rural America,” stated Sam Wade, CEO of NRWA.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2018 (HR 1625) included \$560,263,000 for USDA's Rural Utilities

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The National Rural Water Association and the Chrysler Group have created a partnership to offer a Volume Incentive Program (VIP) to State Rural Water Associations and their utility system members. This partnership combines the buying power of 31,000 individual utilities to provide reduced fleet pricing on utility vehicles. You will have access to special fleet benefits as a preferred Chrysler Group customer.

The Rural Water Fleet Program is a valuable member benefit for water and wastewater utilities. State Rural Water Associations determine eligibility for their members, and provide a fleet code that allows access to substantial vehicle discounts to fill the need for reliable work vehicles. Fleet vehicles must be registered in the name of a member water or wastewater system.

Member utilities should contact their State Rural Water Association to access the Rural Water Fleet Program. Vehicles may be purchased at your local dealer or through the national fleet auto group, details are online at: www.nrwafleet.com. Incentive discount pricing is available on Jeep SUVs and Ram trucks. Systems can save up to \$7,500 off factory invoice per vehicle. Happy shopping!



2018 Program Details:

- Limited to water/wastewater utilities that are current members of a State Rural Water Association
- There is no limit to the number of vehicles that can be purchased under the program
- Incentive pricing is deducted off the factory invoice
- Fleet vehicles must be in service for a minimum of 12 months or 12,000 miles
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Eligible Vehicles	Incentive
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Ram 4500 & 5500	\$3000
Ram Promaster 1500 Cargo Van	\$6000
Ram Promaster City Cargo Van	\$4500
Jeep Patriot	\$4500

**Example incentives only.*

Many other option or powertrain items can be utilized under the VIP program.

A Huge Positive for Rural Illinois... and America

continued from page 6

Service Water and Waste Disposal Program Account, and, to further enhance rural water infrastructure, the appropriators included an additional \$500,000,000 for direct rural water and waste disposal loans and grants to remain available until expended. This federal program is the only water infrastructure account specifically targeted to rural populations. Congress also provided USDA the flexibility to use this funding to increase the direct loan level to support billions in loan authority. These low-interest loans are coupled with a 40-year term to make water rates affordable for low-income residents and communities.

There are approximately 52,000 community water supplies in the United States, and 92% serve populations of 10,000 or less. The NRWA and its 49 state association affiliates provide

compliance training and technical assistance to approximately 100,000 rural and small system personnel annually to address the numerous federally-mandated drinking and clean water rules and regulations.

America enjoys the safest water supply in the world due to the small water and waste water system personnel that work every minute of every day to protect and maintain the integrity of the nation's most important resource.

"Communities that have been waiting for available affordable resources to address deferred upgrades or enhancements will now be able to move forward," stated Wade.

NRWA looks forward to working in close consultation with USDA and other industry partners to make wise use of these additional funds and address Rural

America's water infrastructure needs.

The National Rural Water Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to training, supporting, and promoting the water and wastewater professionals that serve small communities across the United States. The mission of NRWA is to strengthen State Associations.

NRWA provides training and technical assistance through 49 affiliated State Rural Water Associations that currently have over 31,000 utility system members. Last year, State Rural Water Association staff delivered over 75,000 on-site technical assistance visits and 150,000 hours of training to more than 37,000 utilities. Rural Water training and technical assistance covers every aspect of operating, managing, and financing water and wastewater utilities. 💧

HAVE YOU HEARD?



The National Rural Water Association in collaboration with Medova Healthcare and CBIZ, is pleased to introduce Lifestyle Health Plans as a unique health benefits program designed to address the underlying causes of the rise in healthcare costs for both employer and employee alike - employee health behaviors.

What makes Lifestyle Health different? ERISA Fully-funded major medical plan designs, Premium savings averaging 10-15% in most cases Integrated wellness incentives and cash-rewards, Up to a \$500 deductible credit available to all wellness participants, Underwritten by "A" rated carriers, Integrated concierge telemedicine, outpatient lab and diabetic supply benefits.

Only 4 (or more) employees are needed to take advantage of this plan. For a look at some sample plans, go to ww.ilrwa.org and click on Services at the top of the home page to find the link for Lifestyle Health Plans.

To learn more about how Lifestyle Health Plans can work for you and take advantage of our program-negotiated pricing, contact Brian Jablonski with CBIZ at 630-505-3616 or via email at bjablonski@cbiz.com.





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As you probably already know—IRWA can help you save money by hosting your CCR on our website.

All you need to do is download your 2017 report from the Drinking Water Watch website (you might want to choose the pdf option—so page one fits on one page!) Fill in the appropriate blanks, then e-mail your **completed** CCR to ilrwhm@ilrwa.org. **IF** your system utilizes the CCR for issuing Tier 3 public notices, we would also need a copy of the notice with all required information. This notice would be placed at the end of the CCR.

We will post it on our site and e-mail you the link that goes directly to your CCR.

Finally, you should post that link wherever your customers can see it (billing statements, postcards, newsletters, etc.)

The cost is \$75.00 for members and \$100 for non-members. If we have to do clean up on errors on your CCR, an additional \$25 will be charged.



More information about CCR's including how to do one, and information you need to send to IEPA after posting one can be found at www.ilrwa.org/CCR/CCR.html. If you have any questions about the hosting process, call Heather at 800-762-3547.

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2018 Annual Technical Conference Re-Cap

by Heather McLeod
IRWA Membership Services Assistant

Well, another successful conference in Effingham has come and gone already! Seems like the week goes by so fast for as long as I anticipate and prepare for it.

This year brought a couple changes, as we added 15 more exhibitor booths. Since those booths were in the rooms that we usually held lunches in - that meant that we had to find another place to eat. A tent was put up on the concrete pad where our new training room is supposed to be and a couple heaters were put in place. It worked out fine for Tuesday when it was 60 degrees. However, reports were not so great when the temperature fell on Wednesday. This issue will be better next year.

According to the feedback cards received, the best liked thing about our conference is the exhibitors. I can totally understand that. I have said it before, but I am going to say it again. IRWA exhibitors are really the BEST! This year 39 of them donated to the Sportsman's Raffle helping us to raise the \$8,000 that we needed to send to National Rural Water for our portion of the WATERPAC. They also donated \$1,750 to give away in cash prizes, and \$975 to the Associate Member Scholarship Fund. Not to mention that they really are a fun bunch of people too!

The winners of the scholarship this year were Leah Faith Hill, daughter of Wendy Hill who is the Administrative Secretary at Fountain Water District and Toby Scott Steidinger, son of Martin Steidinger who is the Superintendent at the City of Fairbury.

Congratulations also goes out to the City of Assumption for winning the Best Tasting Water contest, Water Well Solutions; Associate member of the Year, City of Hamilton; Water System of the Year, Andy Wennerstrom; Water System Operations Specialist of the Year, City of Vienna; Wastewater System of the Year, John Evans; Wastewater System Operations Specialist of the Year, Village of East Alton and Village of Washburn; Runner Up Water System of the Year, Ron Miller and Ken Pals; Runner Up Water System Operations Specialist of the Year, Village of Walnut and City of Girard; Runner Up Wastewater System of the Year, and Phil Milano and Tim Schoenig Runner Up Wastewater System Operations Specialist of the Year.

One of the questions on the feedback card asked if attendees would be interested in taking a certification overview on Thursday afternoon immediately following the conference and taking the exam on Friday. This



question generated enough response that after a lengthy discussion at our staff meeting this month, we have decided to offer this next year.

A special thank you to PDC Laboratories for sponsoring lunch on Tuesday and Sol Systems for sponsoring the lunch on Wednesday. SIWOA for donating a bean bag toss game and a drone to the auction.

Thank you to all for attending, exhibiting, donating & purchasing raffle tickets, speaking and sponsoring this event. We can plan for months – but if you don't show up, the conference wouldn't happen! Pictures from the week can be seen on our Facebook page. Just search Illinois Rural Water Association or click the Facebook logo on our website to go directly to our page. 💧



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in Illinois*



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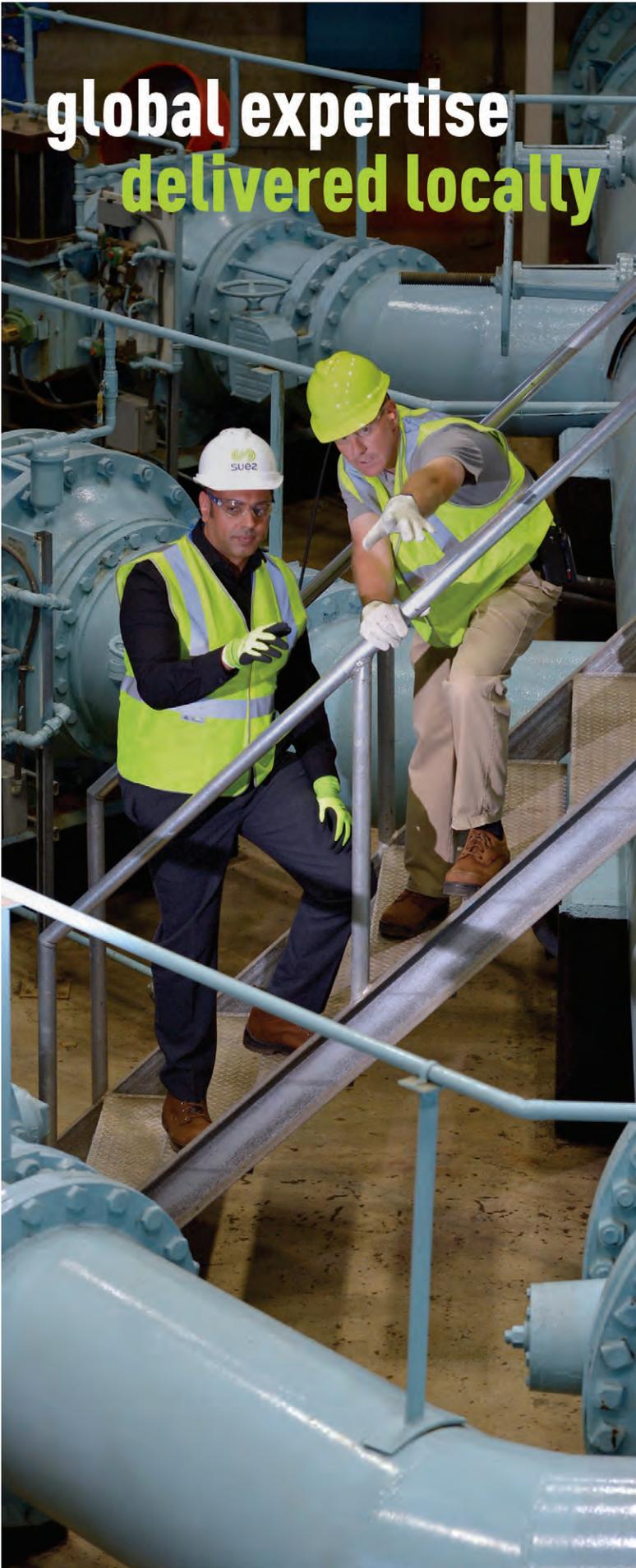
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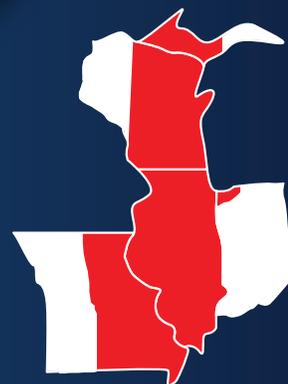
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6th Annual Spring

Administrative Conference

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Sessions and Topics



Featured Sessions

“Options for Accepting Credit and Debit Cards” & “Municipal Unpaid and Delinquent Accounts”

Tracy Rone from CourtMoney and Becky Jansen, Vice President of Credit Collection Partners will be doing a combination session discussing a service to help set up and accept credit/debit card payments, as well as issues involving unpaid/delinquent accounts.

“Understanding Apparent Losses”

Phil Donelson, with IRWA, will be discussing basics of water loss and water audits, with an emphasis on apparent losses in your system.

“Basics of Writing and Applying for Grants”

Emily Fortschneider with Heneghan and Associates, will be discussing the confusing process of writing and applying for grants.

“Rural Development Updates”

Abby Bacon with Illinois Rural Development will discuss the latest updates to the Rural Development programs.

“FOIA and the Open Meetings Act”

Chris Boggs, AAG, Assistant Public Access Counselor from the Illinois Attorney General’s Office will talk about and review the Freedom of Information Act and the Open Meetings Act.

“Dysfunctional Boards”

Frank Dunmire, Executive Director of IRWA, discussed ins and outs of working with your board last year. As a continuing discussion this year, he will discuss what happens when real life occurs and you end up working with a “Dysfunctional Board “

“Eliminate Paper and Fire Excel!”

Chris Sosnowski, CEO of Waterly will be discussing the inefficient way the water industry collects its data. Standard data collection methods result in lost time, lost revenue, and insufficient insight into how our water systems are operating. Take part in a discussion, give feedback, and see how they want to change the future of water for the better!

“Flirting in the age of Sexual Harassment”

Michael Antoline, from the Law Office of Michael Antoline, will be going over issues involving the volatile topic of sexual harassment. How to be human and still work together.

“General Legal Overview with Q & A”

Michael Antoline, will also be discussing and taking questions on current issues and concerns from the group about legal issues.

“Utility Software and Solutions”

Cambridge Technologies provides software solutions to water districts and municipalities. Utility Billing, Accounting, Checkbook Manager, and Payroll programs assist users with all aspects of administration and reporting among a number of other great services.

Conference Agenda



Thursday May 18th

8:00-8:30 a.m.	Registration and Welcome
8:30-9:15 a.m.	Credit Cards and Unpaid Accounts
9:15-9:25 a.m.	Break
9:25-10:10 a.m.	Apparent Losses
10:10-10:20 a.m.	Break
10:20-11:05 a.m.	Grant Basics
11:05-11:15 a.m.	Break
11:15-12:00 p.m.	Rural Development Updates
Noon -1:00 p.m.	Lunch Provided
1:00-2:00 p.m.	FOIA and OMA
2:00-2:10 p.m.	Break
2:10-2:55 p.m.	Dysfunctional Boards
2:55-3:05 p.m.	Break
3:05-4:00 p.m.	Waterly Software
4:00-6:30 p.m.	Hospitality Reception

Friday May 19th

8:30-9:15 a.m.	Sexual Harassment
9:15-9:25 a.m.	Break
9:25-10:25 a.m.	General Legal Overview with Q & A
10:25-10:35 a.m.	Break
10:35-11:30 a.m.	Utility Software Solutions
11:30	Drawings and Recap

Thanks For Your Participation!





Registration Information - May 17th & 18th, 2018

Host Hotel :

Four Points by Sheraton-Fairview Heights
319 Fountains Parkway, Fairview Heights, IL 62208,
Phone: (618) 622-9500 Fax (618) 622-4401
Use prompt for front desk and ask for "IRWA block".

Double Room	\$92
King Room	\$94
King Suite	\$109

All Hotel Block Rates are open until: 4/25/18

Registration Hours:

Thursday, May 17th 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Registration:

Registration and badges are required for all conference attendees.

Pre-Registration:

To pre-register just complete the registration form and mail with payment to:

IRWA
PO Box 49
Taylorville, IL 62568

Or on-line at www.ilrwa.org for credit card or PayPal payments only.

Pre-registration must be postmarked by May 11, 2018

On-Site Registration:

All conference attendees must obtain a name badge and conference material at the registration desk. If you do not pre-register, please make sure that you register as soon as possible after you arrive at the Convention Center. Please note that on-site registration is \$25.00 higher than pre-registration.

Cancellation & Refunds:

Refunds are issued only in the event of an emergency or hospitalization. We must have a **written notice of cancellation** to issue a refund.



Hospitality Reception:

Thursday, May 17th 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Please join us after the days sessions for munchies, beverages, and a good time sure to be had laughing with your peers! It should be a good time to get warmed up for a night out shopping and dining in the area. We hope you will join us.



2018 Annual Spring Administrative Conference

REGISTRATION FORM

Must be completed for all attendees

(Please photo copy for each additional attendee)

NAME FOR BADGE: _____

EMPLOYER: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST. _____ ZIP: _____

PH. NUMBER: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____



REGISTRATION:

Includes Sessions, Meals, and Activities for both days

Pre-Registration

Member: \$165.00 = \$ _____

Non-Member \$190.00 = \$ _____

2nd Member: \$82.50 = \$ _____

2nd Non-Member \$95.00 = \$ _____

On-Site Registration

Member: \$190.00 = \$ _____

Non-Member \$215.00 = \$ _____

2nd Member: \$95.00 = \$ _____

2nd Non-Member \$107.50 = \$ _____

ALL FEES MUST BE PAID WHEN REGISTERING

WE CANNOT DO PURCHASE ORDERS OR SPECIAL BILLINGS.

NO REFUNDS AFTER MAY 11th, 2018

Please make check payable to:
Illinois Rural Water Association
P.O. Box 49
Taylorville, IL 62568



You can also register on-line at www.ilrwa.org with a credit card or PayPal payments **ONLY**.

Call 1-800-762-3547 with questions



“Rules of the Road”

by John Bell,
IRWA Wastewater Technician

I received a nice letter from Jesse White, Illinois Secretary of State, a few days ago. It seems Jesse had reviewed my “permanent record”. Upon review, he found I was lacking in the necessary qualifications to drive upon the highways and byways of the State of Illinois. Since I had been a good-boy for many a year I was puzzled that Jesse would have such a low opinion of my driving. Must be a mistake!

I promptly took Jesse’s letter to the nearby State Driving Center to learn what, if anything, could have prompted such a letter. Jesse’s letter said that I had to take an eye exam, pay some money and take the written test.

I was OK with two out of three items but the last request was something I was hoping to avoid. The nice lady at the driving center reviewed the letter and informed me very politely that I would need to complete all three items or I would no longer be able to drive upon the highways and byways of the State of Illinois. Cool!

Does that mean I no longer have to pay taxes for something the State may ban me from using? I cleaned my glasses, wiped my eyes and got out my

check book, which should take care of items one and two. Maybe, I should review the Rules of the Road manual before I tackle the third item. I had a feeling that a few items may have changed since I had last taken the exam approximately fifty years ago.

Taking the driving exam, brought to mind taking the State Certification exams. Maybe I should do some studying before I embark on such a noble task. I should have a plan of attack in order to pass the exam. I thought back to some advice I received from a young girl about the way to make good grades and how to pass test stuff. She was very smart and good looking and I was eager for guidance (and to impress her). Maybe I should get back to the exam and how to pass the exam. Let me see, I think it was like this: go to class, listen while in class, take notes in class, study your notes, read the book and repeat these items as necessary prior to taking a test.

Boys and girls, I tried this formula and it works! So plan your work and work your plan, as an old sage would say.

So I pass this bit of wisdom on to you operators who are preparing to take a certification exam. Get a “rules of the



road” book. A book that is up to date and pertains to the subject matter on which you are going to be examined, Read the book, take some notes, go to training classes, listen to what is being discussed and put your plan together. Also, don’t forget that IRWA has a training booklet, IRWA circuit riders and waste water techs are here to assist in any way we can. All you need to do is put a plan together, stick to that plan and you will be successful in passing your upcoming test.

Yup, I passed and I’m still driving the highways and byways of the State of Illinois. I hope to be stopping by your place of business soon and saying Howdy! 💧



Please save the date!!

Illinois Rural Water Association - 15th Annual Golf Outing

Friday, August 17, 2018 - 10:00 a.m. shot gun start

Piper Glen Golf Club—Springfield, Illinois

Look for more information in June on our website at www.ilrwa.org and in the mail.

Single Phase Generators, 3-Phase Motors

by Jeff McCready,
IRWA Wastewater Technician

Last October, IRWA Executive Director Frank Dunmire, Deputy Director Don Craig, NRWA President and IRWA Board Member Steve Fletcher and myself attended the National Rural Water Association Emergency Response Training in Tallahassee, FL. The 1 ½ day training was held in Florida Rural Water's warehouse and was mostly hands on training (and a lot of sweating, metal building in Florida) consisting of 9 different stations to dealing with various emergencies situations. Power outages was a big topic do to the hurricanes that the south deals with on what seems to be a regular basis as of late.

Here in Illinois, we can also have a lot of situations where we as Water and Wastewater Operation Specialists have to deal with: power outages be it due to ice storms, tornadoes, or power company issues. Some of you are fortunate to have standby generators for your water plants and lift stations but not all are. The station that I really thought was interesting was the one where they were running a 3 phase motor up to 20 HP off of a portable single phase generator. The key, VFD's (Variable Frequency Drive).

Information below provided by Florida Rural Water Association.

The biggest advantage of VFD pump control is that the small single phase generators that can be purchased at any building supply company such as Lowe's, Menards, or Home Depot can be used to power small water and wastewater facilities in an emergency situation. There are a few considerations in selecting a

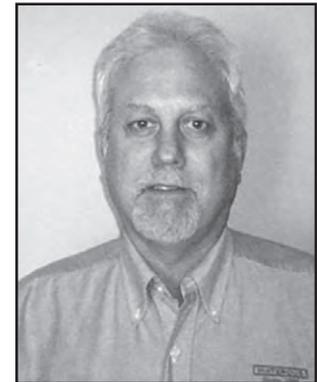
generator since the kilowatt rating is not directly applicable to three phase motor application.

Recommendations for Sizing Single Phase Generators

It is always best to provide a generator size larger than needed since the cost difference is nominal but the additional power and start up capability may be needed. Field conditions may also require full horsepower operation.

The suggested sizing requirements are to multiply the HP of the installation by 1,000 and then select a generator in a range that provides at least 50% safety factor. To follow, are some suggested guidelines. Note that some of the recommendations show that the generator must supply to a HP less than nominal to provide a 1.5 safety factor. In these cases the VFD would be set to a HP rating less than nominal nameplate rating on the motor. For example in the case of a 7.5 HP motor, a 6.5 HP setting using a 10,000 watt generator would provide a 1.5 safety factor. However, the power provided might not be enough to provide the needed HP in the field at the lower setting. It would be much better to use a 12,500 watt generator that would provide a 1.6 safety factor for the 7.5 HP and reduce the HP in the field as appropriate.

Although the smaller generator



may work for a specific application, **IT IS NOT RECOMMENDED THAT THE GENERATOR BE SIZED INTENTIONALLY BELOW THESE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

We as Water and Wastewater Operations Specialists have and will again deal with a power outage that last for an extended period of time. This could possibly be a less expensive solution to get a facility thru an emergency situation. It is recommended that an experienced electrician be consulted before purchases and they be the one to make all electrical connections.

Keep up the good work and stay safe. 💧



Emergency Response

by Steve Fletcher,
NRWA Board President

Irma, Harvey, Katrina, Mitch. These names represent disasters. Some on such a massive scale, that recovery seemed impossible. But, recovery happened. Lives were rebuilt and life moved on. Needless to say, recovery doesn't happen overnight. Even when the infrastructure of a community is completely destroyed, there is always a glimmer of hope...an innate courage and strength that drives people to "make it better".

Hurricanes aren't the only disasters that strike. Massive floods, tornadoes, ice storms, blizzards and even typhoons; the litany goes on and on; are experienced across America. State Rural Water Associations realized that, what started out as "hurricane response and relief", needed to be "disaster response and relief".

The events of 9-11, Katrina and other natural disasters brought together several states within the NRWA, who decided it was time to develop response plans to assist each other after catastrophic events that would affect each of them. These planning sessions eventually developed into training events that expanded from seven original states to now include dozens of others; including Hawaii!

Rural Water has always been about

"leadership". As Dennis Sternberg, Executive Director of Arkansas Rural Water Association said, "Several state rural water associations have agreed to take a leadership role in doing annual emergency response training to keep our staffs trained and prepared in the event of natural or manmade disaster occurring. It is not IF an event is going to occur, but when it will occur.

Pat Credeur, Louisiana Rural Water Association Executive Director said, "In order to best serve its membership, it is vital that State Rural Water Associations be able to respond and assist water and wastewater systems when such events occur."

Many states have also adopted mutual aid agreements and are working with local utilities in every state to establish intrastate mutual aid assistance agreements between both drinking water and wastewater utilities. They stand ready to move personnel, generators and other materials into affected areas as needed.

The best insurance we can do as State Rural Water Associations is to have properly trained and prepared staff prior to the next disaster.

It is no wonder State Rural Water



Associations staff are truly the first responders for water and wastewater utilities whenever disaster strikes. Rural Water has been the leaders in training and technical assistance for over 40 years. It is only natural when an emergency response is needed, towns and small communities immediately call their State Rural Water Association.

So, the next time your utility comes in contact with someone from your State Rural Water Association, say a quick "Thank you!" for all they do for rural America. It could be something small in your community or something very large hundreds of miles away for another community within the Rural Water Family.

Thanks for what you do each and every day! 💧



Be sure to check your sump pump this Spring!

Spring Checklist!

Examine Roof Shingles

Examine roof shingles to see if any were lost or damaged during winter. If your home has an older roof covering, you may want to start a budget for replacement. The summer sun can really damage roof shingles. Shingles that are cracked, buckled or loose or are missing granules need to be replaced. Flashing around plumbing vents, skylights and chimneys need to be checked and repaired by a qualified roofer.

Probe the Wood Trim

Use a screwdriver to probe the wood trim around windows, doors, railings and decks. Make repairs now before the spring rains do more damage to the exposed wood.

Check the Gutters

Check for loose or leaky gutters. Improper drainage can lead to water in the basement or crawl space. Make sure downspouts drain away from the foundation and are clear and free of debris.

Use Compacted Soil

Low areas in the yard or next to the foundation should be filled with compacted soil. Spring rains can cause yard flooding, which can lead to foundation flooding and damage. Also, when water pools in these low areas in summer, it creates a breeding ground for insects.

Examine the Chimney

Examine the exterior of the chimney for signs of damage. Have the flue cleaned and inspected by a certified chimney sweep.

Inspect the Concrete

Inspect concrete slabs for signs of cracks or movement. All exterior slabs except pool decks should drain away from the home's foundation. Fill cracks with a concrete crack filler or silicone caulk. When weather permits, power-wash and then seal the concrete.

Move Firewood

Remove firewood stored near the home. Firewood should be stored at least 18 inches off the ground at least 2 feet from the structure.

Check Outside Faucets

Check outside hose faucets for freeze damage. Turn the water on and place your thumb or finger over the opening. If you can stop the flow of water, it is likely the pipe inside the home is damaged and will need to be replaced. While you're at it, check the garden hose for dry rot.

Service the AC Unit

Have a qualified heating and cooling contractor clean and service the outside unit of the air conditioning system. Clean coils operate more efficiently, and an annual service call will keep the system working at peak performance levels. Change interior filters on a regular basis.

Check Power Equipment

Check your gas- and battery-powered lawn equipment to make sure it is ready for summer use. Clean equipment and sharp cutting blades will make yardwork easier.

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6th Annual Spring Administrative Conference

by Phil Donelson,
IRWA Training & Marketing

“Time is a sort of river of passing events, and strong is its current; no sooner is a thing brought to sight than it is swept by and another takes its place, and this too will be swept away.”

—Marcus Aurelius

Sorry, that quote seems a little deep, but how true it is. As I was preparing my article, I realized that this is our 6th Annual IRWA Spring Administrative conference already and it seems like just a few months ago I was visiting Missouri Rural Water to get some ideas, talking with a group of local city clerks, and going over a format with Frank and Heather so I could roll out our first conference here in Illinois...and now 6 years later, here we are. My parents always said how much time flies as you get older, but I had no idea how right they were...not to mention how many other things they were right about; many more than I care to admit.

Back to the matter at hand, the 2018 Spring Administrative Conference is just around the corner! I really hope you all will consider sending one or two members of your staff to the event if you have not already. If you have been lucky enough to take part in one of them, my guess is that you would like to attend again...and if that

is the case, please do so, we love to see our friends come back each year!! Also, when we do closing comments at the end of conference each year, we encourage you to bring a guest, another town's clerk, or a board member with you. The more attendance we have, the more we can do to enhance this event in the upcoming years.

Registrations are now open now for the 6th annual Spring Administrative Conference! It will be held on May 17 & 18, 2018 at the 4 Points by Sheridan in Fairview Heights again this year. Look for registration information in this edition of Water Ways, on our website, a mailer, or from one of the several email blasts that I will be sending out. If you do not see any of these correspondence, please feel free to contact me or the IRWA office if you have questions.

If you haven't heard much about these events, the quick summary is as follows: The Administrative Conference is an informative day and a half of training specifically for administrative staff, board members, city officials, and any other clerical staff who work for municipalities or water systems. The sessions always offer time for Q & A and the topics are directed at all types of subject matter your system administrative and elected officials may encounter. We always have some



good food, fun raffles, giveaways, and as much fun as possible each year...and over the course of the two days; you just may learn a thing or two! We are still doing the Buy One, Get One Half Off registration promotion. If a system pays for one regular priced registration, the second person from the same system is ½ off!! What a deal!

Also, I want to write a quick note about all the other training IRWA puts on as well. I have been doing several training sessions this program year, many of them are the free USEPA sponsored session, but I still offer some of the fee-based sessions as well. I add new ones on the website every couple of months, so look to our website for updates!

Thanks again! See you soon in the classroom! 💧





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FORD FLEET PROGRAM



The National Rural Water Association and the Ford Motor Company have created a partnership to offer special fleet discounts to State Rural Water Associations and their utility system members. This partnership combines the buying power of 31,000 individual utilities to provide reduced fleet pricing on utility vehicles. The Ford Fleet Team is #1 in commercial fleet customer satisfaction according to surveys. The Rural Water Ford Fleet Program is a valuable member benefit for water and wastewater utilities. State Rural Water Associations determine eligibility for their members, and provide a fleet code that allows access to substantial vehicle discounts to fill the need for reliable work vehicles. Fleet vehicles must be registered in the name of a member water or wastewater system.



Member utilities should contact their State Rural Water Association to access the Rural Water Ford Fleet Program. Vehicles may be purchased at your local dealer or through the national fleet auto group, get all the details you need online at: www.nrwafleet.com. Incentive discount pricing is available on fuel efficient cars, vans, SUVs and trucks. Systems can save up to \$5800 off factory invoice per vehicle. Happy shopping!

2018 Program Details:

- Limited to water/wastewater utilities that are current members of a State Rural Water Association
- There is no limit to the number of vehicles that can be purchased under the program
- Incentive pricing is deducted off the factory invoice
- Fleet vehicles must be in service for a minimum of 12 months or 20,000 miles
- Vehicles must be registered and operated in the United States
- Call your State Association today to get your Fleet Identification Number (FIN)

Eligible Vehicles	Incentive
Focus (Excludes BEV)	\$1400
Fusion (Excludes Hybrid & Energi)	\$2000
Taurus (Excludes Police Int)	\$3300
Econoline	\$4500
Edge	\$2500
Escape	\$1800
Expedition	\$4000
Explorer (Excludes Police Int)	\$2700
F-Series Super Duty F250-F550	\$5800
F150 (Excludes Raptor)	\$5500
F150 4X2 Reg Cab	\$4500
Transit	\$3700
Transit Connect	\$2100

GPS/GIS MAPPING SERVICES



Through the implementation of GPS & GIS technology, IRWA can effectively produce hard copy and digital maps. With this service available from IRWA, utilities can attain new and accurate maps to better manage their water, wastewater and storm sewer assets.

The printed maps can be large-scale wall maps up to 36"x48" showing utility features with the desired layers (aerial photos, streets, topography, etc.).

The digital map file on a CD, can be accessed with free software that IRWA will provide and install on a utility computer. The program allows you to view, print and click on system features (such as a valve, hydrant, meter pit, curb stop, manhole, lift station, treatment facility, etc.) and pull up attribute data about each. As well as several other capabilities such as printing, zooming, etc.

IRWA has a working relationship with DiamondMaps.com, to put your IRWA project maps on their server, for mobile viewing with a smartphone or cellular capable tablet - including editing capability. This is at no extra charge to the system for the first year's subscription. Continuance of the Diamond Maps service after the first year is at the utility's discretion.

Payment for services is a set charge per feature, with IRWA members receiving an automatic 30% discount, and even more of a reduction with bigger projects.

For more information, you may download a brochure from IRWA's website: www.ilrwa.org/Equipment/Asset_Mapping.html or contact Don Craig by phone: 217-561-1061 or e-mail: craig@ilrwa.org

VIDEO INSPECTION SERVICES

Video inspection technology can help you identify and prioritize maintenance issues, while improving service and reducing emergency maintenance costs.



IRWA is excited to introduce our new Video Inspection Service to our members. The normal fee for this service is \$350.00 for small projects, larger projects requiring more than 1 day will be based on cost per foot.

A contract must be signed in advance of the inspection. Upon completion, your system will be invoiced for the services and will also receive a detailed report including diagrams of the inspection features, and a DVD for your references.

For more information, or to schedule an inspection of your system, please call our office at 217-287-2115 or visit our website: www.ilrwa.org

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is This Located?*



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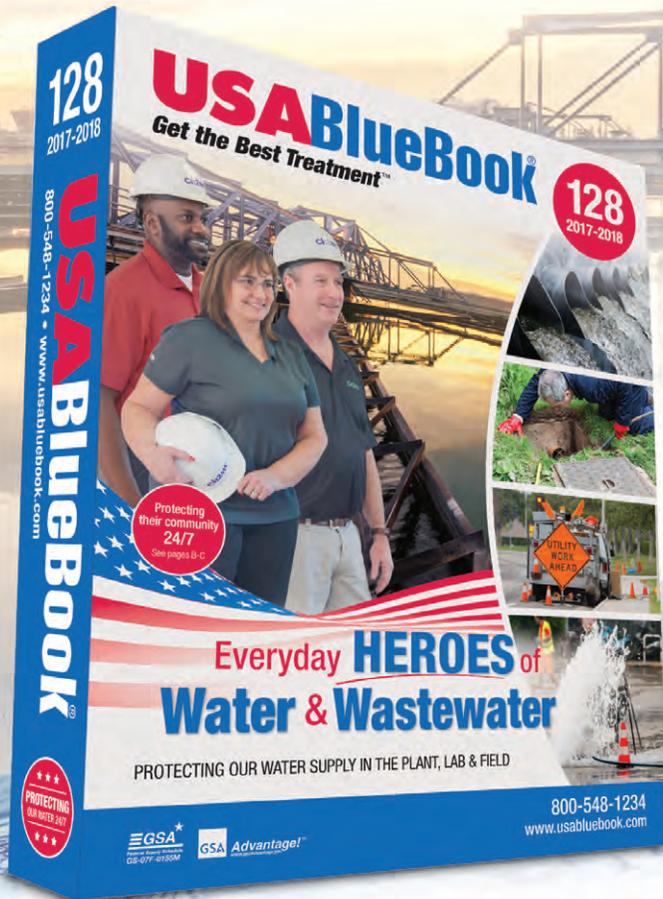
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