



# Water Ways

Volume XVI – Summer 2019



# MANHOLE ADJUSTMENT RING

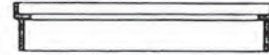
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## ARTICLES

101 <sup>st</sup> General Assembly.....	by Frank Dunmire	4
In Service Training.....	by Chuck Woodworth	7
Small System Assistance at Work.....	by Evan Jones	8
Historic Water Towers .....	by Erin Schmitt	10
16 <sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing.....		13
Registration Form .....		14
Sponsorship Form .....		15
Sasquatch? .....	by Jacque Plese	16
Tap Water vs. Bottled Water .....	by Roger Noe	23
Where in Illinois is this Located? .....		19
Member Services		
Chrysler Fleet Program.....		22
GPS/GIS Mapping Services .....		25
Video Inspection Services.....		25
Ford Fleet Program.....		26

## MISSION STATEMENT

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

### On the Cover:

**This water tower picture was taken by Roger Noe, IRWA Circuit Rider in Wayne City, 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](http://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](mailto:ilrwadb@ilrwa.org).



## LIST OF ADVERTISERS

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Layne, A Granite Company.....	27
LOCIS, Inc.....	27
Maguire Iron.....	27
McMahon.....	11
Pittsburg Tank & Tower Maint. ....	9
Ressler & Associates.....	16
Schulte Supply, Inc.....	2
Suez Advanced Water Solutions (Utility Service Co., Inc.)....	12
Taylor Coating Sales, Inc.....	17
Test, Inc.....	10
The Ford Meter Box Co., Inc.....	17
United Systems & Software.....	11
USA Bluebook.....	28
Waterly (Baxter & Woodman).....	27

# 101<sup>st</sup> General Assembly

by Frank Dunmire  
IRWA Executive Director

The Spring session of the 101st General Assembly went into a couple of days' worth of overtime, but a budget was finally agreed upon before they adjourned. While there were many major bills that were also passed, I wanted to take a little time and bring you up to date on the bills that we were watching and testifying before committees.

## HB0305 – MUNICIPAL CONVENTION EXPENSES

As introduced, this bill would have amended the Illinois Municipal Code and provided that public funds shall not be expended by a municipality for expenses connected with a convention or gathering of municipal personnel. Provides that a "convention or gathering of municipal personnel" means a gathering of employees or contractors from 2 or more separately domiciled or geographically separated municipalities in a gathering that is sponsored or co-sponsored by a league or association that includes 2 or more municipalities. If passed, this bill would bar any municipality from

paying the expenses for someone to attend conferences/conventions. Since conferences are the main source of continuing education units for water and wastewater operators, IRWA has been opposing this legislation. Currently, the legislation has not received much traction and has been re-referred to the Rules Committee.

## HB2124 – OPEN MEETINGS ACT-EXCEPTIONS

This bill will amend the Open Meetings Act so that a public body may hold a closed meeting to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific independent contractors, or specific volunteers (currently, only specific employees) of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, independent contractor, or volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. Currently, closed



meetings may be held to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees only. This legislation will add independent contractors, volunteers, and legal counsel to the list. IRWA supported this legislation and it is now sitting on the Governor's desk awaiting his signature.

## HB2283 – OPEN MEETINGS POSTING RECORDS

This bill would have amended the Open Meetings Act and required any unit of local government or school

continued on page 5



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district with an operating budget of \$1 million or more to maintain an Internet website and post to that website, for the current calendar or fiscal year, the following information: (1) information about elected and appointed officials; (2) notice of and materials prepared for meetings; (3) procedures for requesting information from the unit of local government or school district; (4) annual budget; (5) ordinances; (6) procedures to apply for building permits and zoning variances; (7) financial reports and audits; (8) information concerning employee compensation; (9) contracts with lobbying firms; (10) taxes and fees imposed by the unit of local government

or school district; (11) rules governing the award of contracts; (12) bids and contracts worth \$25,000 or more; (13) a debt disclosure report; and (14) public notices. This bill would place a burden on smaller systems that may not have the resources to comply with the legislation if passed. IRWA has opposed this bill and it has been re-referred to the Rules Committee.

**HB2484 – PROP TAX-WATER TREAT FACILITY**

This bill did not make it out of House committee in time for a floor vote but was replaced by SB1055 and amends the Property Tax Code by

providing a more streamlined process for Not for Profit water co-ops by removing the Department of Natural Resources from the certification process. IRWA supported this bill as it will streamline the process NFP water suppliers go through to receive real estate tax exemption on water towers, pump stations, etc. This bill did pass and is now on the Governor’s desk awaiting his signature.

**HB3035 – LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT**

HB3035 would create the Reduction of Lead Service Lines Act and requires

continued on page 6

community water supplies to identify and replace all lead service lines that connect to a water main. Provides that every community water supply in Illinois that has known lead service lines shall create a plan, to be submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency for approval, to replace all lead service lines and galvanized service lines if the service line is or was connected to lead piping. Provides that, within legal bounds, a community water supply shall have the authority to access private property and private residences for the sole purpose of identifying or replacing lead service lines or galvanized service lines. Provides that no person shall replace a portion of a lead service line without replacing the entirety of the line at the same time, except in cases of emergency repair. Amends the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois. Requires the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to establish a comprehensive low-income water assistance policy and program. Amends the Public Utilities Act. Removes references to unaccounted-for water and replaces them with references to nonrevenue water. Provides that the Illinois Commerce Commission may allow or direct a water utility to establish a customer assistance program. Provides that certain entities that serve or provide water or sewer services shall prepare a summary of the cost of service for a given calendar year. IRWA attended

many stakeholders' meetings and a lot of compromising took place on all sides but at the end of the day, IRWA still stood in opposition to the bill. The bill's sponsor, Senator Heather Steans (D) Chicago, did promise to not call the bill for a floor vote if no money was included in the Capital Bill. There was no money included in the Capital bill and she honored her promise and did not call the bill for a vote. It has been re-referred to Assignments in the Senate.

### **HB137 – CORROSION PREVENTION**

The Agency shall adopt rules governing certain corrosion prevention projects carried out on community water supplies. Those rules shall not apply to buried pipelines including, but not limited to, pipes, mains, and joints. The rules shall exclude routine maintenance activities of community water supplies including, but not limited to, the use of protective coatings applied by the owner's utility personnel during the course of performing routine maintenance activities. The activities shall include, but not be limited to, the painting of fire hydrants; routine over-coat painting of interior and exterior building surfaces such as floors, doors, windows, and ceilings; and routine touch-up and over-coat application of protective coatings typically found on water utility pumps, pipes, tanks, and other water treatment plant appurtenances and utility owned structures. Would require that community water supplies use protective

coatings personnel to carry out corrosion prevention and mitigation methods on exposed water treatment tanks, exposed non-concrete water treatment structures, exposed water treatment pipe galleys; exposed pumps; and generators; and inspectors to ensure that best practices and standards are adhered to on each corrosion prevention project. IRWA also testified in opposition to this bill but it passed out of both chambers and is sitting on the Governor's desk.

The 101st General Assembly is scheduled to convene for their veto session October 28-30 and November 12-14. IRWA will continue to watch these and other bills that may affect its members.💧





## *In Service Training*

*by Chuck Woodworth,  
IRWA Circuit Rider*

The Illinois Rural Water Staff just returned from our annual in-service training provided by National Rural Water Association. All of the federally funded program staff are required to attend this annual training. This year it was held in Fort Lauderdale Florida, I bet you are saying “oh, they had to attend training in Florida, that must have been rough.” In my opinion, Florida is not so nice during the end of June. The heat index was over 100 degrees and after a

rain shower it was really humid, but the scenery was nice. I think it would be nice to travel to some of our northern states during the month of June, someplace where the temperatures are in the 70’s during June. I would be in favor of going back to Florida for another in-service training if they would change the date to January.

A few of the training sessions offered this year were, Developing Sampling Plans, Preparing for a Sanitary



Survey, Effective Hydrant Flushing plan, Maintain Compliance, Phosphorus removal and Nitrogen Removal just to

name a few. The sessions that I attended were all very informative and well attended. One of the pictures is from the air conditioned training room and the other is the view from my hotel room.

The next conference provided by National Rural Water Association will be held September 9 – 11 in Nashville TN. The last time the water pro conference was held in Nashville, we did see a few operators from Illinois who were in attendance. It would be nice to see more familiar faces from Illinois. To find out more information about this conference search your computer with <https://waterproconference.org>. 💧



## Small System Assistance at Work

by Evan Jones,  
IRWA Circuit Rider

I was recently contacted by a very small system asking if there was anything, I could do to help them. They had been put under a court order to run a profile on their water plant's performance.

A little background on this system. They have an approximate population of 150 residents with about 75 to 80 service connections. They have a Class B water plant that has two cation exchange filters for the removal of nitrate. For those that don't know, because I didn't when I was first contacted, this is the definition of cation exchange... Positive charged ions that are attracted to the cathode in electrolysis. Any positively charged atom or group of atoms (opposed to anion). A chemical process in which cations of like charge are exchanged equally between a solid, such as zeolite, and a solution,



such as water.

The two wells that service the system have a pumping rate of 21 gallons a minute combined. That's right 21 gallons a minute. Their Well #1 pumps at a 7 gallon per minute rate, and Well # 2 pumps at 14 gallons per minute. Well #1 has virtually no nitrates whatsoever. Well # 2, on the other hand, has approximately 13 mg/l.

One of the major issues that the system is facing, is that they haven't been running the units for a very long time. They have been blending their water from the two wells and are able to get the finished water below a 10mg/l... which would be fine if it wasn't for two separate issues. One issue is the two wells do not pump at the same gallons per minute and the second one is, what if Well #1 has a problem, and it can't be pumped for any reason.

Once I was contacted, myself and Frank Dunmire (our Executive Director), the Mayor, contract operator, and the engineer, met onsite at the water treatment facility to go over the issue of having a profile of the plant done. We progressed after going over the court order, several phone calls and emails with the EPA to get a good understanding of what the profile was supposed to consist of. The profile would be sampling the raw and finish water at each filter while only Well #2 was running until regeneration occurred.

I was then tasked to sample the effluent from the plant that was running



to waste. These samples needed to be taken approximately every 5,000 gallons between the start of the run on each ION unit until they regenerated or had breakthrough of nitrate. This all added up to sampling the finished water and raw water about every five hours. This profile took approximately six days because their

continued on page 9





number two well, which has high nitrates over 10, only pumps 13 gallons a minute. The units are supposed to regenerate after 37,000 gallons. Of course, as I said, it would take approximately six days after I had pulled the first set of samples off the first unit and I had a fellow employee run those samples to the lab, which was two hours away. (Thank you, Jeff McCready!!!)

Jeff was able to drop off those samples only to have the receiver at the lab reject all but three of the ten I had sent, due to the temperature not being correct. Note to self... before sampling, make sure that you call the lab personally to get the requirements for said samples. This screw up, on my part, cost me about



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another seventy-two hours' worth of sampling.

In the end, after all the data was received from the lab, and what we were able to gather onsite, the data was turned over to the engineer in order to write up the actual profile report. This was done because the report requires an engineer stamp, to be valid.

These units, after reviewing all the data, were not working properly at ALL. This village has gotten prices to repack the units and also hook up to the closest rural water district. They have decided, due to the cost comparison, to go with the hook up...this being a much cheaper option in the long run.

We conservatively have figured up that we were able to save this system around \$15,000.00 in costs by IRWA doing the field work, instead of the engineer which is something this small system would not have been able to afford and then still do any upgrades to either the treatment or for the hookup to the water district. 💧

# Historic Water Towers

by Erin Schmitt,  
Pittsburg Tank & Tower Group

The National Register of Historic Places is a registry that includes buildings, infrastructure, sites, districts and objects that are worth preserving due to their historical significance. Founded in 1966, the register has more than 90,000 separate items listed. Of those thousands of historically significant items, at least approximately 100 are either water towers or tanks.

Regardless of their location, most of the earliest water towers and tanks were built to provide cities and towns fire protection. As towns and cities grew, infrastructure was built to meet

the growing populations' demands. Buildings were usually erected relatively close together, making it easier for a fire to engulf several buildings at once. Fire protection was limited and not always reliable in most cities and towns in the late 1800s and early 1900s. There simply wasn't enough water stored to douse a fire and salvage buildings. At best, firefighters, whether they were paid professionals or volunteers, contained the blaze as much as they could with their limited water supply.

Water towers were built, often becoming the tallest structure in small

cities and towns across America. Aside from cutting down on devastating fires, the looming structures became directional beacons and, often, symbols of their communities. So, it's little wonder that many that these communities have taken the steps necessary to have their water towers placed on the NRHP.

Here's a look at

some of the historic water towers located in the Midwestern region of the United States.

## Illinois

The most famous of all water towers, historical or otherwise, in Illinois, is probably the Chicago Water Tower in Chicago. Erected in 1869, the ornate standpipe is the second oldest water tower in the United States. It was the only public structure in its district to survive the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. It currently serves as the Chicago Office of Tourism art gallery.

Built in 1893, the Western Spring Water Tower once housed the police, department, jail, and municipal offices. It was turned into a village museum in 1970. Lightning struck the tower in 1991, destroying the water tank. The museum reopened after renovations.

Built in 1928, the West Water Tower and Ground Storage Tank in Orion, Illinois, is made of redwood and can hold 30,000 gallons.

Constructed of stone and brick, the Fort Sheridan Water Tower has been standing since 1891. The tower was lowered 58 feet in 1949 to help shore up its structural weaknesses.

Billed as the world's largest catsup bottle, the Brooks Catsup Bottle Water Tower in Collinsville, Illinois has been a roadside oddity since 1949. This

continued on page 19

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# ILLINOIS RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION 16th Annual Golf Outing

The Illinois Rural Water Association (IRWA) is hosting its 16th Annual Golf Outing. This event is sponsored as a way to have a fun IRWA member activity.

The location for this event is **Piper Glen Golf Course in Springfield, Illinois**. The date for this four person scramble is **Friday, August 23, 2019**. The fee is \$60.00 which includes lunch, a gift bag, green fees and golf cart. Various prizes will be given away as well. As always, IRWA is trying to make this a fun-filled and affordable golf scramble. Your participation will ensure that this year's event will be every bit as successful as past outings. This event gives the IRWA members an opportunity to have fun and enjoy a day of golf with fellow industry professionals.

Last year's event sold out so you are encouraged to submit your registration forms prior to the **Thursday, August 8, 2019** deadline. Please make checks payable to Illinois Rural Water Association. You can also go online and sign up and pay by credit card at [www.ilrwa.org](http://www.ilrwa.org).

This will be a four-person scramble with a **10:00 a.m. shotgun start**. Participants are encouraged to be at Piper Glen Golf Course and check in at the registration table no later than 9:45 a.m. Lunch will be served as you make your way by the club house while playing golf.

It is IRWA's hope that you will be able to attend this event. Please feel free to contact **Denise Burke** at 1-217-287-2115 with any questions you may have. We look forward to seeing you there!

**WHAT:** 16th Annual  
IRWA Golf Outing

**WHO:** Water &  
Wastewater Operators,  
Board Members, Coun-  
cilmen, Mayors,  
Vendors, Others

**WHEN:** Friday,  
August 23, 2019

**WHERE:** Piper Glen  
Golf Course—  
Springfield, IL

**FEE:** \$60.00 for  
operators (includes  
lunch, gift bag, green  
fees & golf cart)



Sincerely,

**ILLINOIS RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION**  
**16TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**

The 16th Annual Illinois Rural Water Association Golf Outing will be held on Friday, August 23, 2019 at Piper Glen Golf Course located in Springfield, Illinois. Directions to the course are located on the last page. The golf format will be a shotgun start at **10:00 a.m.** Please check in at the registration table no later than 9:45 a.m. Please fill out the registration form below and send it along with your check to the address listed below. **You may also pay by credit card online at [www.ilrwa.org](http://www.ilrwa.org).** Registration must be received and paid by Thursday, August 8, 2019 in order to reserve your spot. We are limited to 144 golfers for this event.

**Course Rules:**

- Dress must be in good taste keeping with golf tradition.
- Only non metal spikes are allowed.



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**Registration Form**

Friday, August 23, 2019—10:00 a.m. (Shotgun start—4 person scramble)

Single Golfers will be teamed with a foursome.

**NAME(S):** \_\_\_\_\_

**SYSTEM NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**# OF GOLFERS**

**Operators / City Officials / Guests** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$60.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

**Associate Members / Vendors** \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$75.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

(If Associate members are sponsoring the golf outing (please see next page), then the fee to participate will be \$60.00).

**Total** = \_\_\_\_\_  
(includes lunch, gift bag, green fees & golf cart)

Please make all checks payable to Illinois Rural Water Association. Return your completed registration and payment to: **Illinois Rural Water Association—P.O. Box 49—Taylorville, Illinois 62568**

If you have any questions, please contact **Denise** at Illinois Rural Water Association at 1-800-762-3547 or email her at: [ilrwadb@ilrwa.org](mailto:ilrwadb@ilrwa.org).



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<b>Hole Sponsorship</b>	-	<b>\$150.00</b>	<b>(limited to 18 sponsors)</b>
<b>Hole in One Sponsorship</b>	-		
<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>(\$5,000 cash)</b>	<b>\$275.00</b>	<b>(Seven day cruise)</b>
<b>\$250.00</b>	<b>(Golf Clubs)</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>	<b>(\$500.00 golf shop credit)</b>
<b>Gift Bag &amp; Prize Sponsorship</b>	-	<b>SEE BELOW</b>	

**LUNCH SPONSORSHIP:** Lunch sponsors will have their sponsorship sign posted where lunch will be served reaching all of the golfers and two free registrations to participate in the golf outing.

**BEVERAGE CART SPONSORSHIP:** Beverage cart sponsors will have their sponsorship sign on the courtesy carts that will be on the golf course driving around with bottled water, beer and soda compliments of your company. They will also receive two free registrations to participate in the golf outing.

**HOLE SPONSORSHIP:** Hole sponsors will have their sponsorship sign **off the tee**. This is a great opportunity for visibility.

**HOLE IN ONE SPONSORSHIP:** Hole in one sponsors will have their sponsorship sign displayed off the tee and will be recognized prior to the shotgun start of the outing.

**GIFT BAG SPONSORSHIP:** If your company wishes to provide an item for each gift bag (approximately 144), please contact Denise to discuss.

**PRIZE SPONSORSHIP:** If your company wishes to bring a door prize the day of the golf outing or send it in prior to outing, please contact Denise to let her know.

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Please complete and return the Sponsorship registration form and payment to:

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**If you plan on participating in the golf outing, please fill out the registration form on the previous page and return with this form with your payment. If you plan to attend but not golf in the outing, please let us know on this form.**

## Sasquatch?

by *Jacque Plese,*  
*District 2 Board Member*

Hello All

I would like to share an experience with you that is unrelated to the water/wastewater industry, but I think you might find very interesting and for all you campers out there, possibly a bit concerning.

Recently while camping in the forests of Northern Minnesota, myself and friends had the pleasure of bumping into a Conservation Officer. Now most times such an encounter can be a bit unnerving and tense, as we might wonder have we done everything we needed to do to enjoy our time in the wilderness legally, but after things checked out

and all laws were adhered to we had a fascinating conversation with the Officer.

She began by telling us of an experience several groups of campers had recently attested to and some of these campers had provided photographs and details of their experience that were not unlike the other groups, even though they did happen some distance apart and at random times throughout the spring and early summer.

The first group to view the “phenomena” went to a local news authority with their experience, where it would have been dismissed if it were not for the somewhat darkened nighttime



photos they showed. The news station began investigating by contacting the Department of Conservation and providing the evidence they had to the

continued on page 20

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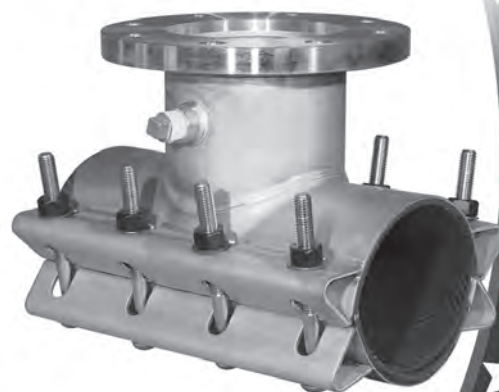


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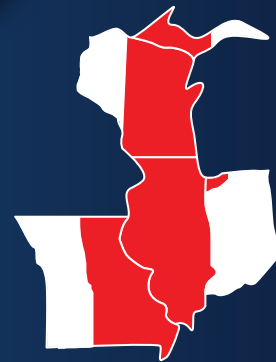
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example of novelty architecture was built to supply water to the Brooks catsup plant. The catsup bottle was in bad shape in the early '90s but volunteers raised money to restore the tower in 1995.

The Illinois Central Railroad Water Tower and Pump House are symbols of a bygone era. The wooden tower and the pump house were built in 1885.

Still in use today, the Havana Water Tower was Havana, Illinois' only water supply until 1962. That is an impressive feat for a tower built in 1889.

Limestone and red brick encase a 50,000-gallon stainless steel water tank inside the Lena Water Tower in Lena, Illinois. The original tank was wooden



when the tower was constructed in 1896, built to provide relief to a village that had been plagued by decades of bad fires.

continued on page 21



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authorities. After looking over the report and photos of what appeared to be a very large black bear walking only on its back legs and in an upright posture the story seemed to be a hoax.

Then ten days after the first sighting was dismissed as a hoax a large group of youth campers and their chaperones reported a similar experience to the authorities. They reported that what seemed to be a bear was walking about the forest as a man would. When they went to the place, they had seen the animal they were able to locate paw prints, but there were not the typical claw marks on the paws that one would find from bear prints. They photographed the foot tracks and provided the pictures to the authorities as well. This evidence reopened the first encounter for further review.

Three days later a rather frantic older couple contacted the same authorities with a similar experience, but this time a bit more frightening and personal. The couple stated that they portaged into the lake and set up camp days prior to their experience. While out fishing for dinner one afternoon the lady said to her Husband, "look across the lake at the camp, there is a man ransacking our things". They began to frantically paddle toward their campsite and as they came within a distance where they could see more clearly, they saw what appeared to be a bear that was walking upright like



a human and tearing apart their camp with its front legs and using them as if they were arms. The couple began yelling as they neared and the "bear" ran into the woods never moving on all fours, but only on its back legs.

The authorities are now investigating these experiences and many more reported since the elderly couple. In fact, that is what the Warden we ran into was doing, out so far from civilization. One theory is that this odd creature is an older bear that has become so accustomed to foraging on its hind legs that it has found this mode of movement quicker and more convenient for spotting food sources. This however does not explain the missing claws on the paw prints. Another thought is that this is some type of strange animal that has migrated there from the deep forest of Canada. Sasquatch?

The final and most likely conclusion is that this story is all fake news and I owe you an apology for wasting so much of your time to read this. But I can't help but wonder, if I had not included this final paragraph, would this story "fake news" have grown and spread.? Would it have gotten more interesting? Would it somehow become real? I am simply trying to make the point that in this day and age of fast information, let's all take the time to do a little research, spend a little time and investigate so that we can write our own "last paragraph" to things we see online, on TV, or in the tabloids so that we are sure of the validity of the information before we act on it or pass it on to be viewed by many more.

Like the Havana tower, the Lena tower has been in continuous service since it was erected.

### Indiana

Remington Water Tower in Remington, Indiana, is a wooden tank atop a brick tower that was built in 1897. Its original tank was replaced in 1924, helping it continue service for another 60 years until a new tower was built.

### Iowa

Erected in 1903, the Manning Water Tower in Manning, Iowa is topped off by a pagoda-shaped steel roof. The 60,000-gallon steel tank is a prime example of a riveted elevated water tower prevalent before WWII.

An example of Neoclassical architecture with nods to Ancient Rome, the Allen Hazen Water Tower in Des Moines, Iowa was completed in 1931 with the capability of holding 1.7 million gallons of water. The concrete and steel water tower once had had a large arrow painted on it to guide pilots to the Des Moines airport.

The first elevated steel water tank west of the Mississippi was built in 1897 on Iowa State University's campus in Ames, Iowa. There was a severe water shortage two years earlier that forced the university to cancel classes. The 162,000-gallon tower was constructed in response. The tower was disconnected in 1978.

### Kansas

Made from sawcut and milled

cypress staves, the Beaumont St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad Water Tank has been standing since 1875. The Beaumont, Kansas-based tank served the St. Louis, Wichita and Western Railway.

The Harper Standpipe in Harper, Kansas was completed in 1897 and is still in use. It has a fish wind direction indicator that still moves, according to the Kansas Historical Society.

Built in 1927, the Hillsboro Water Tower in Hillsboro, Kansas was still in operation as of 2011, according to the Hillsboro Star-Journal.

Fire destroyed the post office, opera house and grocery store in Florence, Kansas by the mid-1880s, according to the National Park Service. To provide needed protection, the Florence Water Tower was constructed of limestone in 1887. The tank has retained the same appearance since 1929 when an outer layer of cement was added.

The Paradise Water Tower was built in 1938 as a Works Progress Administration project. The art-deco limestone tower can hold 58,000 gallons of water.

The Collyer Downtown District in Collyer, Kansas includes two historic water towers.

### Missouri

Though its colloquially known as the Waldo Water Tower, the standpipe tower is actually named the Frank T. Riley Memorial Tower. Built in 1920, the white, castle-like tower in Kansas City, Missouri provided water to



locals for nearly 40 years before it was decommissioned. The tower is an early example of reinforced concrete. Called the Lighthouse, the Caruthersville Water Tower in Caruthersville, Missouri was constructed in 1903. The stucco brick water tower has a Gothic style design that conceals a steel plated 40,000-gallon tank. The tower was decommissioned in the late 1950s.

### Nebraska

The Omaha Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant was built in 1916. This historical property includes a water tower. The facility now serves as a residential and commercial building space.

### Ohio

The Old Elyria Water Tower in Elyria, Ohio was added to the NHRP in 1979, exactly a century after the water tower was built. Its original wooden tank was replaced by a steel one. 💧



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](http://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!



## 2019 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
- Vehicles must be registered and operated in the United States
- Call your State Association today to get your Fleet Account Number (FAN)

Eligible Vehicles	Incentive
Ram 1500 Quad/Crew	\$6500
Ram 1500 Regular Cab	\$4000
Ram 2500 Crew/Mega	\$7500
Ram 2500 Regular Cab	\$5500
Ram 3500 Reg Cab	\$5500
Ram 3500 Crew/Mega	\$6500
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.*



## *Tap Water vs. Bottled Water*

*by Roger Noe,  
IRWA Circuit Rider*

As I am writing this article, I am drinking a bottle of water. I ask myself, why am I drinking a bottle of water? Is it for convenience, is it safer, cheaper, or does it taste better? I could get a glass of water from the tap. My personnel opinion is I drink bottled water for the convenience. It is easy to grab a bottle and go. As a water operator we should be promoting our tap water to our customers instead of bottled water. Americans drink 97 billion bottles of water each year and that number is rapidly increasing. Is bottled water safer than tap water or does the general public lack confidence in our drinking water? Do slick marketing ads and labels give a perception that bottled water is safer to drink than tap water?

How is the water regulated? We all know that our tap water is regulated and overseen by the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is responsible for ensuring the safety and labeling of bottled water sold nationally. We should note that the federal government does not require bottled water to be safer than tap water. Tap water at most places must be disinfected, filtered to remove pathogens, and tested for cryptosporidium and giardia viruses. Bottled water does not have to be. Both kinds of water are tested for bacteria and most synthetic organic chemicals on a regular basis. Tap water is tested more frequently for bacteria than bottled water facilities. Our tap water is continuously monitored and treated according to federal standards. If local tap water is unsafe then the water companies are obligated under federal law to notify the public. The water company prepares an Annual Quality



Report, also known as the Consumer Confidence Report. The FDA does not require bottle water companies to disclose the source of the water, treatment process, or contaminant test. Inspections of bottled water plants only happen once every few years. Overall, tap water or bottled water are both safe to drink. It comes down to the confidence of the general public to trust the tap water.

continued on page 24



## Tap Water vs. Bottled Water

continued from page 23

Let's look at the taste factor. Does bottled taste better than tap water? There have been several studies conducted at Universities and overall tap water was chosen at higher percentage than bottled water for better taste. We do know that surface water has a potential with taste issues because of environmental changes, but these usually only last for a short time. I have surface water at my tap. Can I tell if there is a change? Of course I can. Usually the chemistry of the water has changed to have an effect. Is it the water from the water main or is it from my pipes in my house or the hot water heater? I cannot be sure, but I know it's safe to drink. Maybe the consumer just doesn't care for the taste of the tap water, which is a matter of personal preference.

The cost of bottled water is 1000 times higher than tap water. At most

<b>Tap Water:</b> First 1000 gallons =	\$ .03/gal	\$.0002/oz	\$.004/16.9 oz
Each 1000 gallons after minimum =	\$.007/gal	\$.00005/oz	\$.0009/16.9oz
<b>Bottled Water:</b> Individual =	\$10.08/gal	\$.08/oz	\$1.45/16.9oz
Case of 32/16.9oz =	\$0.95/gal	\$.007/oz	\$.125/16.9oz
Ballpark Bottle =	\$44.80/gal	\$.35/oz	\$6.00/16.9oz

municipalities or water districts the water costs less than \$.01 per gallon. The average cost of an individual bottle water is \$1.45. When you buy a case of bottled water it is around \$4.00 per case. Here is the comparison cost of my tap water compared to bottled water.

Let's say you would drink a 16.9oz glass of tap water per day using the \$.007/ gal. This would cost you around \$.34 for the year. Bottled water at \$1.45

per bottle would cost you around \$529.25 for the year. There is a big difference in cost comparing tap water and bottle water. The other cost of producing bottled water is it takes 2,000 times the energy required to produce bottled water over tap water. Another factor many people should consider: it takes a plastic bottle hundreds of years to decompose. In conclusion, everyone will make their own personal decision what kind of

water to drink based on taste, finances, and other factors. Our family limits bottled water to instances of convenience, mainly travel or at a ballgame. Otherwise, we fill up our big stainless steel drinkware with ice and turn on the tap to quench our thirst. 💧



## **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](http://www.ilrwa.org/Equipment/Asset_Mapping.html) or contact Don Craig by phone: 217-561-1061 or e-mail: [craig@ilrwa.org](mailto:craig@ilrwa.org)

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



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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](http://www.ilrwa.org)





# 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](http://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!

## 2019 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 50 United States
- Call your State Association today to get your Fleet Identification Number (FIN)

Eligible Vehicles	Incentive
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
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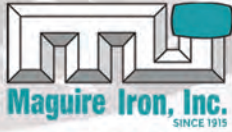
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