

SOUTH DAKOTA  
RURAL WATER'S

Quality On Tap!

April 2015 | Volume 10, Issue 4

SOUTH DAKOTA  
AG ECONOMIC  
CONTRIBUTIONS

System Spotlight:  
SDARWS  
Pesticide Safety



# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

**Dan Carlson, President**  
South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems



South Dakota Rural Water is pleased to announce the scheduling of the 2015 Water Conservation EXPO. The EXPO will be held in Rapid City at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center (605-343-8550) on April 29-30, 2015.

The EXPO is open to all water and wastewater utility staff, board/council members, engineers, State and Federal employees. The training will consist of twenty presentations, 30 minutes each, thus allocating ten (10) contact hours for those individuals who are licensed operations specialists. Some of the training sessions being offered include:

- **Automatic Leak Detection & Pressure Testing**  
*Jim Urban, Milbank WinWater*
- **Asset Maintenance Plan for your Wells**  
*Ron Rappard, Utility Service Group*
- **Get Started Mapping**  
*Nate Bruss, Compass Tool*
- **Cleaning Mechanism for Improved Water Quality**  
*Jo Schmidt, Hawkins Water Treatment Group*
- **Storage Tanks**  
*Richard Buss, USA Tank*
- **Regulator Update & Capacity Development**  
*Erin Dreis, DENR*
- **Radiation**  
*Dean Aurand, Midcontinent Labs*
- **What is New in the Water Industry?**  
*Tim Monson, HD Supply*
- **Ground Water Sustainability**  
*Mitch Kannenberg, LBG*
- **The Use of Equipment Procurement in Project Design**  
*Brian Hoellein, Bartlett & West*

Along with the training sessions, the EXPO will showcase many of our industry's manufacturer and supplier leaders. These professional companies will be set up in the main EXPO training center for attendee easy access and to provide answers to those pressing questions. Many will be displaying the recent advances in technology our industry has witnessed over the past three years.

The EXPO will kick off at 8:00 am Wednesday April 29th and conclude at noon on Thursday, April 30. Registration is \$40, and SDARWS is able to bill for this fee after the conference. Please register on our website at [www.sdarws.com](http://www.sdarws.com). The complete agenda can be seen on page 3. Hope to see you there!

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Big Sioux Community Water System**  
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**Tri-County/Mni Wasté Water Association**  
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**Tripp County Water User District**  
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**West River/Lyman-Jones Rural Water System**  
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**Class B East River**  
Fred Snoderly

**Class B West River**  
Brad Lawrence

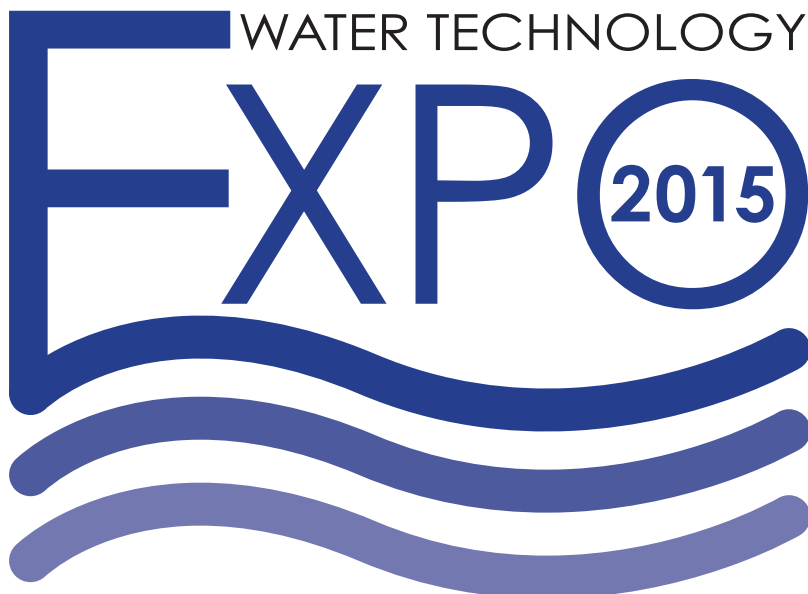
**Class C**  
Francis Toscana

# MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND

Contact Hours  
Door Prizes • Lunch  
\$40 Registration Fee

## TO REGISTER

visit our website at  
[www.sdarws.com](http://www.sdarws.com)  
email [expo@sdarws.com](mailto:expo@sdarws.com)  
or call 605-556-7219



**April 29-30, 2015**  
BEST WESTERN RAMKOTA HOTEL - RAPID CITY

## Wednesday, April 29, 2014

- 7:30am **Registration – Refreshments – Visit Displays**
- 8:15am **Welcome, Agenda Review**
- 8:30am **Automatic Leak Detection and Pressure Testing**  
– Jim Urban, Milbank Winwater
- 9:00am **Asset Maintenance Plan for your Wells**  
– Ron Rappard, Utility Service Group
- 9:30am **Get Started Mapping** – Nate Bruss, CompassTool
- 10:00am **Refreshment Break – Visit Displays**
- 10:30am **Cleaning Mechanism for Improved Water Quality** – Joe Schmidt, Hawkins Water Treatment Group
- 11:00am **Storage Tanks** – Richard Buss, USA Tank
- 11:30am **Re-Energizing Capacity Development**  
– Erin Dreis, DENR
- 12:00pm **Deli Bar Buffet Lunch**
- 1:00pm **Radiation** – Dean Aurand, Midcontinent Labs
- 1:30pm **Treatment Solutions for your system**  
– Greg Backstrum, Treatment Resources
- 2:00pm **Control Valves** – Andy Caselli, Cla-Val
- 2:45pm **Refreshment Break – Visit Displays**
- 3:15pm **What is new in the water industry?**  
– Tim Monson, HD Supply

- 3:45pm **The importance of pre inspection and cleaning prior to sewer projects** – Michelle Barrett, Hydro-Klean
- 4:15pm **Bio - Augmentation, Wastewater Treatment, Aquatic weed control** – Doug Jorgenson, Team Laboratories
- 5:00pm **Door Prizes – Adjourn**

## Thursday, April 30, 2014

- 7:30am **Coffee, Juice, & Rolls**
- 8:00am **Tank Inspections**  
– Robert Greenspan, Midco Diving
- 8:30am **Ground Water Sustainability**  
– Mitch Kannenberg, LBG
- 9:00am **Macro and Alpha Products and Applications**  
– John Nelson, Romac
- 9:45am **Refreshment Break – Visit Displays**
- 10:00am **The use of equipment procurement in project design** – Brian Hoellein, Bartlett & West
- 10:30am **Tracer Wire Products and Applications**  
– Mike Moore, Copperhead Industries
- 11:00am **New Spearfish Tank and Control Valves**  
– Ted Schultz, AE2S
- 11:45am **Door Prize – Adjourn**

This is a tentative agenda. Topics and times are subject to change.

# OUT AND ABOUT

## MARCH

### 21 – SD TAXIDERMY COMPETITION

Watertown, SD  
605-460-2133  
[www.southdakotataxidermistassoc.com](http://www.southdakotataxidermistassoc.com)

## APRIL

### 23-25 – BLACK HILLS FIBER ARTS FAIR

Rapid City, SD  
[blackhillsfiberartsfair.org](http://blackhillsfiberartsfair.org)

## MAY

### 1-2 – HISTORY & GARDEN FESTIVAL

Brookings, SD  
605-690-4856  
[www.downtownbrookings.com](http://www.downtownbrookings.com)

### 1-3 – SOUTH DAKOTA BIRDING FESTIVAL

Ft. Randall, SD  
605-384-3741  
[www.sdmissouririver.com/follow-the-river/the-great-outdoors/birding](http://www.sdmissouririver.com/follow-the-river/the-great-outdoors/birding)

### 6-10 – BLACK HILLS FILM FESTIVAL

Hill City, SD  
605-574-9454  
[blackhillsfilmfestival.org](http://blackhillsfilmfestival.org)

### 15-17 – OPEN HOUSE AND FREE FISHING WEEKEND

South Dakota State Parks  
605-773-3391  
[www.gfp.sd.gov](http://www.gfp.sd.gov)

### 23-24 – SDRA FOOTHILLS RODEO

Wessington Springs, SD  
605-539-1929  
[www.wessingtonsprings.com](http://www.wessingtonsprings.com)

### 23-24 – BLACK HILLS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Spearfish, SD  
605-645-1880  
[www.bhmusicfest.com](http://www.bhmusicfest.com)

## JUNE

### 5-6 – SD BBQ CHAMPIONSHIPS

Huron, SD (SD State Fairgrounds)  
800-529-0900  
[www.sdbbqchampionships.com](http://www.sdbbqchampionships.com)

### 5-7 – FORT SISSETON HISTORICAL FESTIVAL

Fort Sisseton State Park  
[gfp.sd.gov/state-parks/directory/fort-sisseton/festival-events/historical-festival.aspx](http://gfp.sd.gov/state-parks/directory/fort-sisseton/festival-events/historical-festival.aspx)

### 6 – NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Statewide South Dakota State Parks  
605-773-3391  
[gfp.sd.gov/state-parks](http://gfp.sd.gov/state-parks)

### 12-14 – OLD TIMERS CELEBRATION

Volga, SD  
605-627-9113  
[www.volgacity.com](http://www.volgacity.com)

### 13 – LUCE CABIN PIONEER DAY

Lake Herman State Park – Madison, SD  
605-256-5003  
[www.gfp.sd.gov](http://www.gfp.sd.gov)

### 13 – OLD SETTLER'S DAY

DeSmet, SD  
605-854-3773  
[www.desmetsd.com](http://www.desmetsd.com)

### 18-21 – CZECH DAYS

Tabor, SD  
[www.taborczechdays.com](http://www.taborczechdays.com)

### 18-20 – TEAPOT DAYS

Tea, SD  
[www.teasd.com](http://www.teasd.com)

### 19-20 – WILD BILL DAYS

Deadwood, SD  
1-800-999-1876  
[www.deadwood.org/events/wildbilldays](http://www.deadwood.org/events/wildbilldays)

### 20-21 – BROOKINGS KITE & BIKE FESTIVAL

Brookings, SD  
605-688-5423  
[www.facebook.com/brookingskiteandbikefestival](http://www.facebook.com/brookingskiteandbikefestival)

### 27 – AUTOMANIA

Brandon, SD  
605-951-5045  
[www.automaniabrandon.com](http://www.automaniabrandon.com)

*If you would like your event featured in the next issue of Quality on Tap!, please call 605-556-7219 or email [info@sdarws.com](mailto:info@sdarws.com).*



# Storing and Disposing of Pesticides – Guidelines for the Homeowner

Many times pesticides are used for lawns, gardens, homes and spot treatments. Even small amounts of pesticides can be dangerous if they are not properly stored and disposed of or if adverse conditions affect pesticides or their containers. Correct handling of pesticides can decrease the potential danger of accidental poisonings and contamination.

## Pesticide Storage

- If possible, buy only the amount needed for the current season to reduce storage problems.
- Lock up all pesticides! Lock the room, cabinet or shed where the pesticides are stored.
- Pesticides should be kept only in their original containers with the label attached.
- Write the date of purchase on the container so old material can be used first.
- Store pesticides out of reach of children and pets.
- Do not store pesticides where they may contaminate food, cleaning supplies, feed, seed or water.
- Keep pesticides in a dry, well ventilated place, out of sunlight and at temperatures above freezing.
- Many pesticide formulations are flammable, therefore take precautions against potential fire hazards.
- Monitor the storage area. If spills or leaks occur, clean them up immediately.

## Disposal of Pesticides and their Containers

- Mix only the amount needed for the current job to avoid leftover diluted pesticide.
- The best way to dispose of small amounts of excess pesticide is to apply it according to the label directions.
- Take advantage of the Department's programs for the disposal of unusable pesticides and pesticide containers.
- Follow label directions for container disposal if a program is not available.
- Do not pour pesticides down a sink or into a toilet.
- Use caution when cleaning up after flooding. Water may contain broken glass and pesticide residue. Wear chemical resistant gloves and rubber boots to protect yourself. If water pumped from a flooded area may contain pesticide residue, do not allow children or animals to enter it.

- Follow label directions, but generally packages of less than five pounds of dry pesticide formulations or containers containing less than one gallon of liquid pesticide can be wrapped in several layers of newspaper, tied securely and placed in a covered trash can for pick up, or taken to a permitted landfill. For safety reasons, wet material should be dried prior to disposal.
- Damaged pesticide containers can be registered with the Department for disposal through the Waste Pesticide Program. If the contents of a pesticide container label is unknown because the label is un-readable or detached from exposure to water, the product may also be registered with the Department for disposal. Contact your local County Extension Agent or the chemical manufacturer if you have questions relating to the usability of materials after flooding.
- Pesticides or pesticide containers that have been damaged or deteriorated by water, or other means, should be carefully re-packaged in a heavy plastic bag or other appropriate, larger leakproof container to decrease the possibility of leakage or spillage.
- Properly dispose of the material according to label directions or store in a secure location for disposal through the Department's Waste Pesticide Program. Wear proper clothing when handling pesticides including chemical resistant gloves.
- Ensure pesticide contaminated areas are free of contamination. In general, decontamination can be achieved by cleaning the area with ammonia or hot water and liquid, heavy-duty detergent.
- Empty containers from liquid pesticides should be triple rinsed. Fill the container about 1/4 full, secure the cover and shake. Pour the rinse water into the sprayer tank. Repeat this two more times. Apply the rinse water according to label directions. Paper or cardboard containers should be shaken and inspected to remove all pesticides.
- Never reuse a pesticide container. Even after rinsing, it will still contain residues of the pesticide. To discourage re-use, puncture plastic or metal containers after rinsing.
- Empty, rinsed pesticide containers should be wrapped in several layers of newspaper and placed in a covered trash can for pick up or taken to a permitted landfill. Plastic pesticide containers can be offered for recycling in the Department's Pesticide Container Recycling Program.
- If there is any doubt about how to handle pesticides or pesticide containers, contact your county extension agent or chemical dealer.

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# RURAL WATER SYSTEMS AID GROWING DAIRY INDUSTRY

*By Greg Merrigan, Manager, Clay Rural Water System*

The South Dakota dairy industry is seeing a resurgence as of late, and South Dakota rural water systems are aiding the cause.

The numbers of dairy cows in the state, as well as the price producers receive for their milk, are all on the rise. Two of the main reasons for this dual growth include nine dairy processing plants in the state that process one or more dairy products and a stable feed supply.

Aside from producing milk, dairy processors also produce products such as cheese, yogurt and a variety of other products that have wide appeal and can be shipped to different parts of the country. Nine processors have helped to create a competitive environment for milk demand. The newest of the nine dairy processing plants is the Bel Brands USA plant in Brookings. The \$140 million operation will employ 250 employees and will produce 22 million pounds of specialized cheese products annually.

South Dakota farmers produce an abundance of corn, soybean meal and dried distillers' grain, which supplies dairies with a year-round feed supply. Much of that production occurs in east river South Dakota, and especially along the I-29 corridor. That proximity to many of the state's leading dairy counties minimizes transportation costs.

There are approximately 265 licensed dairy herds in the state with a total number of 97,000 dairy cows. The number of cows reached a peak in the 1960's at 250,000 head and then bottomed out at 80,000 head. Ten years ago when Midwest milk production reached a 40 year low, the State of South Dakota began to actively recruit new dairies to the state to reverse that trend. Those efforts helped to increase the number of dairy cows to 92,000 in 2012, and 97,000 in 2014.

Twelve South Dakota rural water systems serve 59 dairies and approximately 57,000 dairy cows. Rural water systems play a key

role in the success of a dairy by providing quality water. Water with high levels of iron, manganese and hydrogen sulfide can be detrimental to milking cows, which can consume up to 20 gallons of water per day. Grant-Roberts Rural Water System, headquartered at Milbank, serves the most dairy cows at 11,000. Manager Wendy Storm reports that 37% of Grant-Roberts annual water sales are to dairies. Brookings-Duel Rural Water System, Toronto, serves 9,500 head that consume 19% of their total water sales. Big Sioux Community Water System, Egan, serves 8,000 head that account for 5% of their total water sales. The Sioux Rural Water System, Watertown, serves nine dairies with over 6,000 cows, and reports that 14% of their annual water sales go to the nine dairies.

Statewide, growth continues. Facilities for another 20,000 head have been permitted or are under construction. Jay Jorgensen, Manager of TM Rural Water based out of Parker, reports three applications for water service for 10,500 head. Wendy Storm has received an application for one new dairy planning on milking 7,000 head.

One of the largest developments has been the Dakota Plains Dairy in Lincoln County. Currently under construction, this \$35 million facility will have a herd size of 4,250 head when completed. Providing water service to the new facility was a result of the creative efforts of three entities – the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System, the City of Beresford and

the South Lincoln Rural Water System. Beresford, which is a member of Lewis and Clark, will supply water to the dairy under an arrangement with South Lincoln. The dairy is expected to use up to 225,000 gallons per day.

The State of South Dakota, aside from its development efforts, is also making location of new dairies and other development projects an easier process. In 2013, the SD Dept. of Agriculture began an initiative designed to help counties plan for the future by providing resource-based information. The County Site Analysis will include information on local zoning ordinances, permitting requirements and the availability of infrastructure.

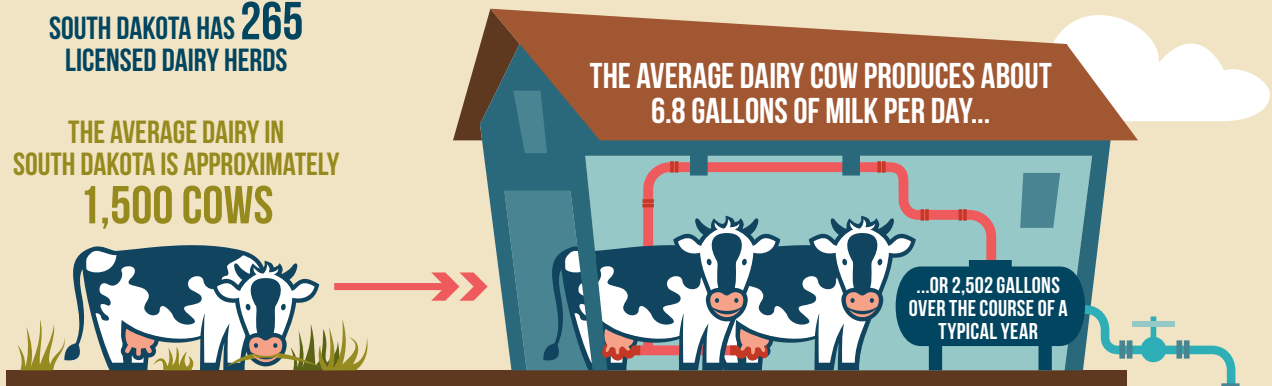
**TWELVE SOUTH DAKOTA  
RURAL WATER SYSTEMS  
SERVE 59 DAIRIES AND  
APPROXIMATELY 57,000  
DAIRY COWS**



# SOUTH DAKOTA DAIRY FACTS

SOUTH DAKOTA HAS **265**  
LICENSED DAIRY HERDS

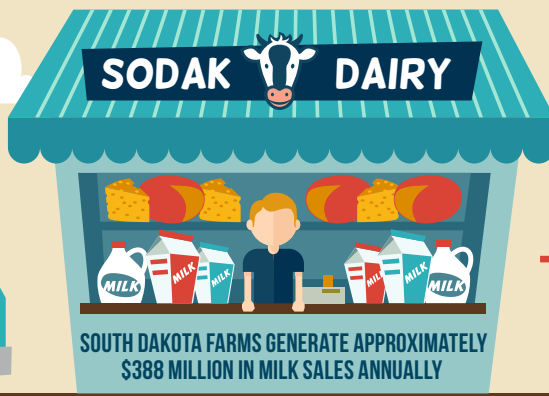
THE AVERAGE DAIRY IN  
SOUTH DAKOTA IS APPROXIMATELY  
**1,500 COWS**



SOUTH DAKOTA HAS **9** PLANTS THAT  
PROCESS ONE OR MORE DAIRY PRODUCTS



SOUTH DAKOTA IS THE  
**21<sup>ST</sup>** LARGEST  
MILK-PRODUCING STATE  
IN THE UNITED STATES



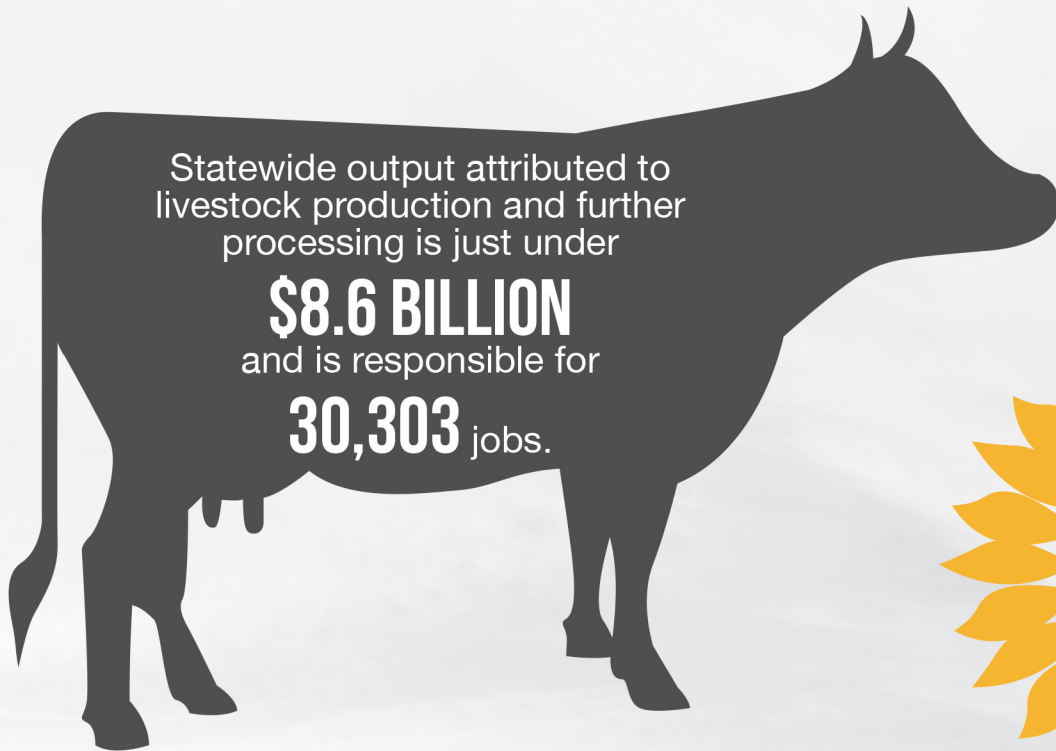
THE  
AVERAGE  
PERSON  
CONSUMES  
**6 POUNDS**  
OF CHEESE  
PER YEAR



SOUTH DAKOTA PRODUCES ENOUGH OF  
THIS DAIRY FOOD FOR **44 MILLION PEOPLE**

DAIRY PRODUCTS PRODUCED FROM ONE COW ADD AN AVERAGE OF **\$14,000** TO THE ECONOMY

# SOUTH DAKOTA AG ECON



## South Dakota is currently ranked in the top 5 states for

- Lamb Crop Inventory
- Proso millet production
- Flaxseed production
- Honey production
- Production of sorghum for grain
- Calf crop inventory
- Production of alfalfa hay
- Spring wheat production
- Beef cow inventory
- Land in farms
- Production of sorghum for silage

South Dakota is currently ranked as the #1 state in the nation for bison inventory, oat production, and sunflower production



26 of South Dakota's counties derive at least one fourth of their total jobs from the crop and crop processing industries



Farming provides the base for a variety of agri-food industries, including food processing and the manufacture of farm machinery, chemicals and fertilizer. Taking those jobs into account means that in 2012, production agriculture and ag-related industries accounted for **115,651**, or **1 IN EVERY 5 JOBS** in South Dakota.

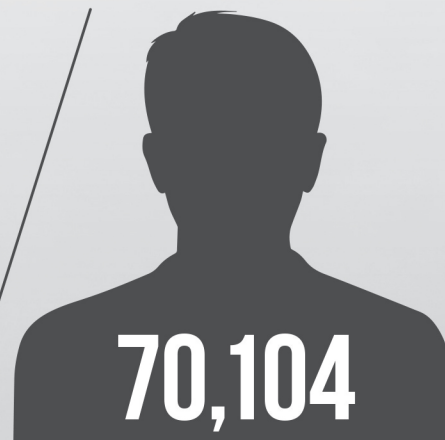


# ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS



According to the 2012 Census of Agriculture, there were 31,989 farms in South Dakota in 2012. The average size of a farm was 1,352 acres. These farms make up a total of 43,257,079 acres in South Dakota.

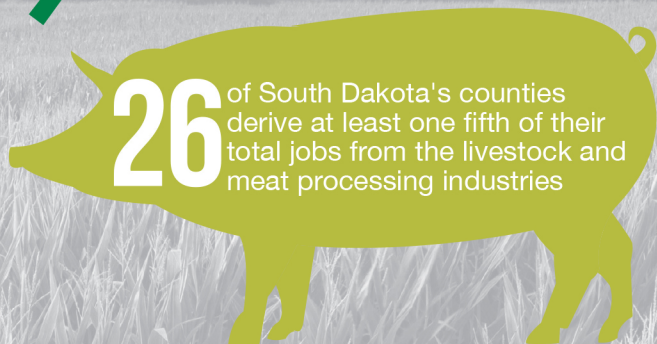
\$13.3 B



Crop farming is a significant part of agriculture's economic contribution. Statewide output attributed to crop production and further processing is more than \$13.3 billion and is responsible for 70,104 jobs.



27,544 farms in South Dakota are classified as family-owned.



26 of South Dakota's counties derive at least one fifth of their total jobs from the livestock and meat processing industries

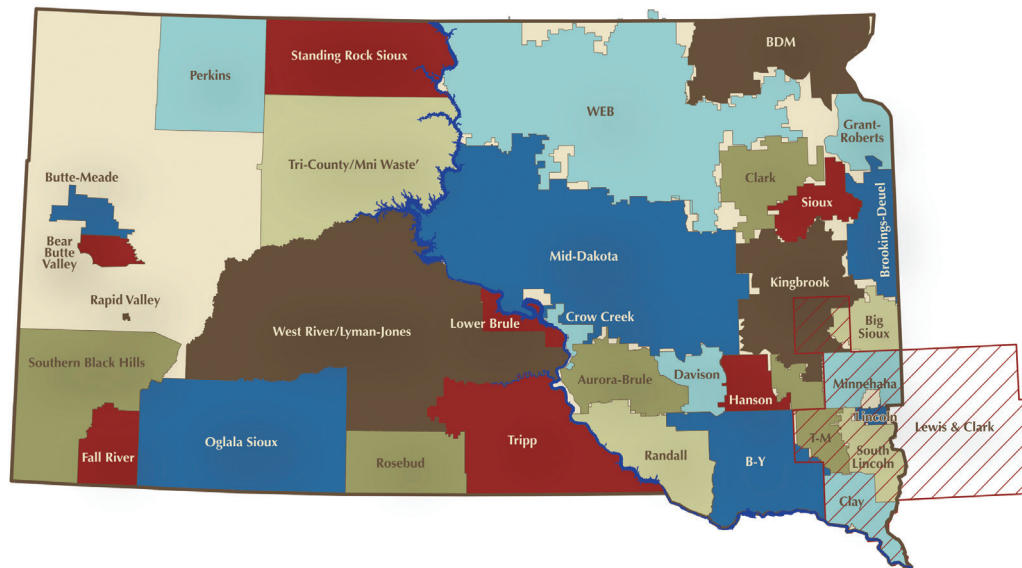


\$25.6 BILLION

In 2012, total production agriculture and ag-related industries accounted for \$25.6 billion, or more than 30% of South Dakota's total output.

Information for this infographic was drawn from the 2014 South Dakota Ag Economic Contribution Study prepared for the South Dakota Department of Agriculture prepared by Decision Innovation Solutions™ with assistance from South Dakota State University and the United States Department of Agriculture National Agriculture Statistics Service.  
<https://sdda.sd.gov/legacydocs/Secretary/PDF/2014.south.dakota.ag.economic.contribution.study.pdf>

## South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems



Discussions about rural water began in South Dakota in the late 1960s. By 1972 Butte-Meade Sanitary Water District and Rapid Valley Water Service Company were established and a number of systems were organizing. Lincoln County Rural Water, south of Sioux Falls, was under construction at the time.

Rural Water enthusiasts met in Madison, South Dakota, on October 11, 1972. A decision was made to hold a statewide meeting in Pierre on November 30. A letter of invitation went out to 17 systems. The following systems were represented at the November 30, 1972, meeting in Pierre: Aurora-Brule, Big Sioux, Brookings-Deuel, Minnehaha, Rapid Valley, Sioux, TC & G, and Tripp County. It was unanimously decided to form a steering committee and name it the “South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems.” The purpose of the organization was to monitor legislation, avoid duplication of efforts by sharing problems and solutions, and communicate with state and federal agencies concerning funding and regulations. Loren Paulson, Ward, was elected Chairman; David Paine, Vienna, Vice Chairman; and Bill Dempsey, White, Secretary-Treasurer.

The Association operated as a steering committee until January 1976, at which time the State of South Dakota granted a non-profit corporation charter. SDARWS, Inc., immediately became

involved in forming a national organization. In April 1976, South Dakota joined six other states in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to establish the National Rural Water Association.

Ray Kuhl was hired as the first Executive Director of SDARWS and an office was opened in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. South Dakota hosted the second National Rural Water Annual Meeting in Sioux Falls on September 12-13, 1977.



In January 1979, Dennis N. Davis was hired to replace Ray Kuhl as Executive Director. Under Davis’ leadership and with the guidance of a progressive Board of Directors, continuous growth and expansion occurred in the 1980s. In April 1982, the Association expanded into water system technical assistance and hired Donald Pospishil as Circuit Rider. Water treatment and distribution system on-site expertise could now be offered to the many smaller systems.

The Association took another step in January 1984 to increase technical assistance and to provide training for water systems with the hiring of George Vansco as Program Specialist. This new position allowed the Executive Director additional time to focus on state and federal issues and membership services.

In the 1990s the Association once again expanded to include membership and technical assistance services to Sanitary Districts.



Jerry Hemeyer was hired in July 1991 as the first Wastewater Technician for the Association. The Association, with the inclusion of Sanitary Districts, moved forward in its work toward prevention of water pollution.

As the Association continued to grow and increase membership, the Board of Directors expanded the Association for the purpose of assisting systems in western South Dakota by establishing the West River Regional Office in January 1991. The West River Office extended benefits and services to members statewide. A permanent office/storage building was purchased in 2013 and is located in Spearfish.

South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems is proud of its progressive past and looks to the future and to the 21st Century. The Association faces many new challenges in the coming years. A coordinated effort on the part of the staff and the Board of Directors provides the opportunity to move forward. The framework for the Association has been significantly defined through Board action and Long Range Planning.

The Association is showing growth and movement toward set goals. SDARWS has grown from two to 11 employees and has greatly expanded its membership. With continued support from members, the challenges and opportunities of the future can and will be met with enthusiasm and cooperation. In February 2010, the Association returned to Madison, where it all started at that meeting in 1972. SDARWS is now headquartered out of the Madison Office.

Currently, the Association focuses its efforts on training and technical assistance for water and wastewater systems, source water protection, and public outreach. They host a 3-day Annual Technical Conference every January in Pierre, as well as hold seminars for water/wastewater operations specialists, rural water managers, board members, and office personnel. South Dakota Rural Water is the only water and wastewater association monitoring legislation in both Pierre and Washington, DC. SDARWS registers three lobbyists each year during the state Legislative Session and monitors all bills affecting municipalities, rural water and wastewater systems. SDARWS's lobbyists can be found in Pierre during the entire session and is prepared to activate their legislative network on issues that affect the water/wastewater industry.

SDARWS is proud to produce the *Quality on Tap!* magazine in cooperation with 16 Rural Water Systems (Aurora-Brule, BDM, Big Sioux, Brookings-Deuel, Clark, Clay, Davison, Grant-Roberts, Kingbrook, Randall, Mid-Dakota, Sioux, TM, Tripp County, WEB, and West River/Lyman-Jones). The magazine, now in its 10th year of publication, is produced out of the Madison office by Communications & Marketing Coordinator Jennifer Bame.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Aurora-Brule RWS** – Ron Gillen
- BDM RWS** – David Wade
- Big Sioux CWS** – Dan Carlson
- Brookings-Deuel RWS** – Gary Johnson
- Butte-Meade SWD** – Charles Yuill
- Clark RWS** – Larry Wasland
- Class B East River** – Fred Snoderly
- Class B West River** – Brad Lawrence
- Class C** – Francis Toscana
- Clay RWS** – Glen Gilbertson
- Davison RWS** – Bob Weisz
- Fall River WUD** Dave Jennings
- Grant-Roberts RWS** Tom Frogner
- Hanson RWS** – Bob Beatch
- Kingbrook RWS** – Dale Thompson
- Lewis & Clark RWS** – Dennis Weeldreyer
- Lincoln County RWS** – Otto Hagedorn
- Mid-Dakota RWS** – James McGillvrey
- Minnehaha CWC** – Lloyd Rave
- Oglala Sioux RWSS** – Willard Clifford
- Perkins County RWS** – Lynn Frey
- Randall CWD**– Tom Travis
- Rapid Valley SD/WS** – Jack Tomac
- Sioux RWS** – Jim Thyen
- Southern Black Hills WS** – Bob Peplinski
- TM RWD** – Jay Jorgensen
- Tri-County/Mni Wasté WA** – J.R. Holloway
- Tripp County WUD** – Louis Kehn
- WEB WDA** – Mike Neuharth
- West River/Lyman-Jones RWS** – Rick Doud

## EMPLOYEES:

- Dennis N. Davis**, Executive Director
- Robyn Brothers**, Office Manager
- Jim Zeck**, Training Specialist
- Sid Munson**, Training Specialist
- Steve Attema**, Training Specialist
- Morris Elcock**, Circuit Rider
- Nick Jackson**, Circuit Rider
- Mike Moeller**, Circuit Rider
- Jerry Hemeyer**, Wastewater Technician
- Jeremiah Corbin**, Source Water Protection Specialist
- Jennifer Bame**, Communications & Marketing Coordinator

# RURAL WATER & Crossword & Word Scramble Contest

## SPRING

\$100 Grand Prize

### DOWN

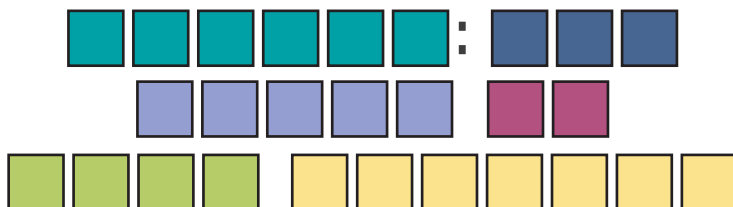
1. Polliwog
3. Start to blossom
4. In which a long run leads to home
5. Monarch, eg
9. Little hopper
10. Appears after a rain
11. Place of growing concern
13. Suitable for kite flying
16. Gardener's purchase

### ACROSS

2. Dutch Bloom
6. Fragrant shrub
7. Drops from the sky
8. Clear skies forecast
9. Busy buzzer
12. Vivid yellow flower
14. Early bird
15. "She loves me, she loves me not" flower
17. Showy blooms often used in wedding bouquets
18. Toy that comes with strings attached



### CROSSWORD SCRAMBLE



RULES

Use the colored squares in the puzzle to solve the word scramble above. Call your Rural Water System (See Page 2 for contact information) or e-mail [info@sdarws.com](mailto:info@sdarws.com) with the correct phrase by April 8th, 2015 to be entered into the \$100 drawing.

Email Entries: **Put your answer in the subject line**

You **MUST** include the following in the body of your email: your name, address, phone number, and the name of your Rural Water System (Your Water System name is located on the front cover of this magazine). Incomplete entries will be disqualified without notice.

Only one entry allowed per email address/household. You must be a member of a participating rural water system to be eligible for the prize. Your information will only be used to notify the winner, and will not be shared or sold.

Congratulations to Kathy Dagel who had the correct phrase of "Whatever you are, be a good one" for January 2015.



# Rural Water Across South Dakota

## Lewis & Clark RWS Receives More Funding

The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) notified Lewis & Clark (L&C) that the project will be receiving a total of \$9 million in funding for FY15. This is an increase of just under \$6.6 million from the just over \$2.4 million proposed by the Administration in its FY15 Budget. The increased funding was the result of efforts by the tri-state congressional delegation to increase funding for BOR's Rural Water Program by an additional \$31 million. BOR officials then made the final decision on how to allocate the \$31 million among six rural water projects. "This is really good news and we cannot thank our congressional leaders enough for their hard work and leadership to secure the additional funding. They really went to bat for us. Our thanks and appreciation as well to the Bureau of Reclamation for its support. While the \$9 million alone will not result in water being delivered to another member, it will be used to make important progress toward connecting the remaining members," said Executive Director Troy Larson.

The Administration proposed \$16.3 million for rural water construction in its FY15 Budget, with \$2.4 million of that for L&C. With the additional \$31 million the total FY15

construction funding for the Rural Water Program is \$47.3 million. This is close to the \$49 million in the FY14 Budget and the \$51 million in the FY13 Budget.

The combined remaining federal cost share for the six rural water projects is currently \$1.4 billion. According to a 2014 BOR report, if \$50 million is appropriated for the rural water construction each year, and assuming four percent annual inflation, the remaining federal cost share for the rural water projects would increase to \$1.8 billion by 2065.

On February 2 the Administration released its FY16 Budget, which proposes \$18.5 million for rural water construction, with \$2.774 million being designated for L&C.

Incorporated in January 1990, L&C is celebrating its 25th Anniversary. The System is currently 65 percent complete and is delivering water to 11 of its 20 members. When completed L&C will benefit an estimated 300,000 people in southeast South Dakota, northwest Iowa and southwest Minnesota in a service area the size of Connecticut.

## City of Madison to receive water through Lewis & Clark "Wheeling Option"

*By Chuck Clement, Madison Daily Leader*

Madison city officials have been looking at other ways to deliver treated water to their community instead of waiting on the federal government to adequately fund pipeline construction. Recently, the Madison City Commission approved a proposal which will connect the city to two rural water systems – Minnehaha Community Water and Big Sioux Community Water. This will allow Madison to have access to water through construction of a back-door entryway to the Lewis & Clark water pipeline.

Under current levels of federal funding of pipeline construction for the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System, it could take decades before Madison is connected to the water pipeline, which is supposed to deliver 1 million gallons of treated water to the city each day.

City officials have referred to the Madison-Big Sioux-Minnehaha Water pipeline route as a "wheeling option," somewhat similar

to how electric utilities share transmission lines to move power from one area or region to another.

Lewis & Clark RWS construction crews have already connected Sioux Falls and Minnehaha to the water pipeline, but Minnehaha is still in need of another connection so that they are able to push water north. Luckily, the second Lewis & Clark connection to Minnehaha is far shorter than a direct pipeline route to Madison.

"This wheeling option could be something that Madison uses for the next 20 or 30 years due to the federal funding (situation)," said Chad Comes, city engineer.

The benefits of the wheeling option would include improved water quality and an extra connection to another water source – just in case the city would experience some type of natural or manmade disaster. Madison would also be in a position to assist Big Sioux's water system if BSCWS and its customers experienced future problems.

*Reprinted with permission from the Madison Daily Leader.*

# Events Calendar

## MARCH 2015

- 19 Stabilization Pond Workshop**  
Highland Conference Center  
2000 Highland Way  
Mitchell, SD – 605-990-1575
- 24-25 Mapping & GIS with TerraSync**  
SDARWS Madison Office  
203 W. Center Street  
Madison, SD 57042 – 605-556-7219  
\$550 Registration Fee
- 24-26 Wastewater Collection/Water Distribution**  
Crossroads Hotel  
100 4th Street SW  
Huron, SD – 605-352-3204

## APRIL 2015

- 7-9 Intermediate Water Treatment**  
Holiday Inn - Spearfish  
305 N. 27th Street  
Spearfish, SD – 605-642-0203
- 14 Water Distribution Workshop**  
Rapid Valley Sanitary District  
4611 Teak Drive  
Rapid City, SD – 605-393-1050
- 15 Water Distribution Workshop**  
Winner Fire Hall  
100 E. Tripp Avenue  
Winner, SD – 605-842-0359
- 16 Water Distribution Workshop**  
Colman Community Center  
120 N Main Avenue  
Colman, SD – 605-534-3611
- 29-30 Water Technology EXPO**  
Rapid City Ramkota  
2111 N. Lacrosse Street  
Rapid City, SD – 605-343-8550  
\$40 Registration Fee

## MAY 2015

- 5 Intermediate Water Distribution**  
Rapid City Ramkota  
2111 N. Lacrosse Street  
Rapid City, SD – 605-343-8550
- 12-14 Advanced Water Treatment**  
Sioux Falls Water Purification  
2100 N. Minnesota Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD – 605-367-7025

## JULY 2015

- 21 SD Rural Water Open Golf Tourney**  
Elmwood Golf Course  
2604 Russell Street  
Sioux Falls, SD – 605-367-7092  
\$60/player

## SEPTEMBER 2015

- 28-30 NRWA WaterPro Conference**  
Oklahoma City, OK  
*WaterPro Conference is the industry event for networking, technology and educational sessions. For more information, visit [www.nrwa.org](http://www.nrwa.org).*

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# 2015 RURAL WATER RALLY RECAP

Dennis N. Davis, Executive Director  
South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems

This year 15 people representing six rural water systems and the State Association traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in the NRWA sessions and private meetings with Senators John Thune and Mike Rounds, Congresswoman Kristi Noem, and USDA Rural Development staff.

The goal was to focus our efforts on informing our elected leaders of the needs and concerns of water and wastewater utilities in South Dakota, and hopefully our leaders were receptive to help keep funding for rural water utilities in South Dakota alive.

The theme of this year's Rally was "Let your voice be heard!" During the 2015 opening session, priorities were established to maintain funding levels for specific programs that provide assistance to small systems across the country. South Dakota Circuit Rider Nick Jackson posted the flag at the opening session. NRWA President Charles A. Hilton addressed the crowd by reminding them of the power of an association – and even gave a shout-out to South Dakota during his introductory speech. Congressman Robert Aderholt from Alabama spoke to the crowd about how rural water drives rural economies. Lisa Mensah, Under Secretary for Rural Development touched on the programs and appropriations that have assisted rural communities and the future of such programs. NRWA legislative updates were provided by NRWA Lobbyists Bill Simpson, Fitz Elder and Mike Keegan. Rural Water FY15 appropriations priorities were established as follows:

USDA Circuit Rider	\$16.397 million for FY16
USDA Source Water	\$6.5 million for FY16
EPA Technical Assistance	\$15 million for FY16

The Circuit Rider request has raised slightly to \$16.397 million and would maintain the current number of circuit riders in the field (117 nationwide). The USDA Source Water program stayed at a request of \$6.5 million – which would help bring a source water protection specialist to each state in order to better meet current demand. The EPA Technical Assistance request of \$15 million would continue a competitive grant program to provide rural communities with the training and technical assistance necessary to improve water quality and provide safe drinking water.

Besides the NRWA funding requests, appropriations for USDA Grant/Loans (\$464.9 million), EPA Drinking Water SRF (\$906.9 million), and EPA Clean Water SRF (\$1,448.9 billion) were being supported by Rally attendees.

Your support makes a difference in our fight to preserve rural water loan and grant assistance. Thanks to everybody who attended the Rally and to all the systems who have sent in support letters. We couldn't do it without you! To see more pictures of the 2015 Rural Water Rally, please visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/SDRuralWater](http://www.facebook.com/SDRuralWater).







**South Dakota Rural Water**

203 W. Center Street

P.O. Box 287

Madison, SD 57042



# Water Matters

## The Riparian Zone



Riparian zones are the areas bordering rivers and other bodies of surface water. They include the floodplain as well as the riparian buffers adjacent to the floodplain. Riparian zones provide many environmental and recreational benefits to streams, groundwater and downstream land areas. Riparian zones are visually defined by a greenbelt with a characteristic suite of plants that are adapted to these conditions.

The extra moisture in riparian zones and associated wetlands, combined with the abundance of vegetation, creates a mat of decomposing material on top of the soil. It is often damp because the water table is at or near the soil surface. This organic-rich layer aids in conserving moisture. The vegetation and spongelike quality of soils in wetlands, floodplains and riparian zones protect surface water in several ways.

Riparian vegetation along streambanks and in floodplains reduces the velocity of floodwaters, lessening the erosive force of the flood and capturing nutrient-laden sediment. Soils in this area absorb water during the wet seasons and slowly release moisture into the stream. This buffers the effect of peak runoff and keeps streams flowing longer.

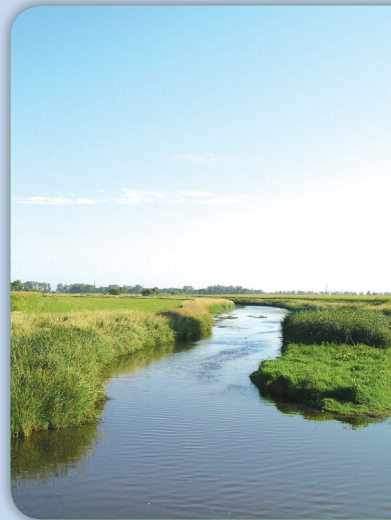
These areas also serve as nature's water treatment facilities for our watersheds. They can capture and filter surface runoff that flows from higher ground. Live vegetation and the absorbent mat of accumulated plant litter and humus help to trap sediments before they reach the river. Soil microbes that thrive in this moist environment break down chemical pollutants, further protecting water quality.

Unfortunately, because rural riparian areas are by definition unsuitable for crop farming, they often become pasture areas which are frequently



over utilized. In urban areas, the limited utility of this land also tends to lead to less than desirable uses. As a result, many of the beneficial characteristics of riparian zones are degraded. Their natural functions, which can counteract the effects of runoff from various sources are lost. Restoration of riparian zones has become an increasingly important part of watershed protection efforts.

**Resource: New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute**



Provided by:  
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