

# ServiceLine

— The Official Publication of the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems —

## WATER

USING A HYDRO-VAC  
TO FIX VALVE RISERS

## CERTIFICATION

IT'S ALL ABOUT MATERIALS

## SAFETY

KEEP YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME:  
WEAR A HARDHAT

## WASTEWATER

THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER  
AND YOUR LAGOON

## REGULATIONS

PFAS COST RECOVERY PROGRAM

RURAL  
WATER OPEN  
HIGHLIGHTS

ATC CALL FOR  
PAPERS NOW  
OPEN

2023  
ATC AWARD  
NOMINATIONS





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**Cover Photo: Summer sunset over Lake Herman. Photo Credit: Jennifer Bame**

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# FROM THE SDARWS PRESIDENT

RON GILLEN, SDARWS PRESIDENT

## WATERPRO CONFERENCE

It's almost time for this year's WaterPro Conference in National Harbor, Maryland September 26-29, 2022. NRWA puts on a fantastic show which brings in hundreds of vendors and hosts informative training sessions in operations, management, boardmanship and governance for those involved in water and wastewater utility systems – large and small, municipal and rural. WaterPro features expert speakers from across the water/wastewater industry. Want to hear about new USDA projects or EPA priorities? You can find out at the WaterPro Conference. The WaterPro exhibit hall is filled with vendors and service-providers dedicated to offering high-quality solutions for small and rural water utilities. Find out about all the best solutions for rural water today and tomorrow. For more information on this conference, including registration and hotel reservations, please visit [waterproconference.org](http://waterproconference.org).

## LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

Association staff are prepping for our Annual Leadership Seminar which be held at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Pierre November 9-10, 2022. This seminar is geared towards

Rural Water System Directors and Board Members, and includes informational sessions on water rates, asset management, sustainability, financing, and director and manager panels. The cost to attend Leadership is \$175, and includes a meal at the President's Reception on the evening of November 9th. Stay tuned for the agenda in the next issue of ServiceLine.

## ATC CALL FOR PAPERS

SDARWS is looking for presentations for our Annual Technical Conference in Pierre January 10-12, 2023. The ATC is our biggest training event of the year and hosts around 400 individuals. If your company is interested in hosting a training session, please submit your abstract. For more information, please see page 11.

## ATC AWARD SUBMISSIONS

There are only a few more short months before the snow flies, so that means it's time to get in your award nominations for the ATC! Application and information can be found on pages 12-13. The deadline to submit applications is October 29th, and it can be done by mailing in the form on page 13, or online at [surveymonkey.com/r/ATCawards](http://surveymonkey.com/r/ATCawards).💧



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# OPERATOR CERTIFICATION TRAINING AND EXAMS

Course Name	Date	Location
Wastewater Collection	August 2 - 4	Aberdeen – Ramkota Northern Rm.
OpCert Exam	August 4 @ 1:00 PM	Aberdeen – Ramkota Northern Rm.
Water Distribution	August 16 - 18	Sioux Falls – Ramkota Rushmore Rm.
OpCert Exam	August 18 @ 1:00 PM	Sioux Falls – Ramkota Rushmore Rm.
Intermediate Water Treatment	August 30 - September 1	Rapid City – Ramkota Rushmore Rm.
OpCert Exam	September 1 @ 1:00 PM	Rapid City – Ramkota Rushmore Rm.
Small Water Treatment Workshop	September 22	Zoom On-Line Course
Wastewater Collection	October 4 - 6	Sioux Falls – Ramkota Harvest Rm.
OpCert Exam	October 6 @ 1:00 PM	Sioux Falls – Ramkota Harvest Rm.
Stabilization Pond Workshop	October 13	Mitchell – Highland Conference Center
Stabilization Pond Workshop	October 18	Aberdeen – Ramkota Northern Rm.
Water Distribution	November 15 – 17	Spearfish Holiday Inn
OpCert Exam	November 17 @ 1:00 PM	Spearfish Holiday Inn
Basic Wastewater Treatment	December 6 - 8	Rapid City – Ramkota Rushmore Rm.
OpCert Exam	December 8 @ 1:00 PM	Rapid City – Ramkota Rushmore Rm.

*Classes start at 8:00 AM Tuesday through Thursday.  
Classes end at approximately 4:30 PM on Tuesday and Wednesday, and noon on Thursday.  
One-day Workshops start at 8:00 AM and end at 4:30 PM.*

*The Stabilization Pond class deals strictly with ponds/lagoons and is the best class for preparing to take the Small WW Exam. The Basic WW Treatment class deals with all types of wastewater treatment other than ponds/lagoons and is the best class for preparing to take the Class I WW Treatment exam. Small Systems that use ponds/lagoons for treatment can come into compliance with the Operator Certification Law by passing either the Small WW System exam or the Class I WW Treatment Exam.*

*Water systems serving less than 500 individuals and use wells as its source can come into compliance by passing the Small Water Treatment exam. Larger systems must pass the Class I Water Treatment exam or higher depending on the facility classification.*

#### **EXAM INFORMATION**

All exams cost \$60.00 and must be taken “in-person.”

Any exam can be taken at an exam session. You can take more than one exam at an exam session; however, the exam session remains at three hours long.

All exam applications are due no later than two weeks prior to the exam date.

Questions regarding exams can be directed to Tammie Hill with DANR

at 605-773-3577.

#### **DANR Operator Certification website:**

[danr.sd.gov/OfficeOfWater/OperatorCert/default.aspx](http://danr.sd.gov/OfficeOfWater/OperatorCert/default.aspx)

#### **STUDY MATERIALS**

DANR has water exam study material to lend to operators. These include manuals from California State:

- *Water Distribution System Operation and Maintenance*
- *Small Water System Operation and Maintenance*

#### **TRAINING CLASSES**

Certification Training Classes are conducted by the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems. **These classes are presented at no charge.** Certified Operators can obtain contact hours for attending all of the above classes.

For more information on certification training classes, please contact Bill Thorson at 605-556-7219 (office) or 605-201-0170 (cell).

#### **Register for training classes online at:**

[sdarws.com/certification.html](http://sdarws.com/certification.html)

**For Study materials, visit: [www.abccert.org/testing\\_services/ExamReferences.asp](http://www.abccert.org/testing_services/ExamReferences.asp)  
REGISTER FOR CLASSES ONLINE: [sdarws.com/certification.html](http://sdarws.com/certification.html)**





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## SOUTH DAKOTA RURAL WATER'S ANNUAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

# 2023 CALL FOR PAPERS

The South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems is looking for presentations for our 2023 Annual Technical Conference in Pierre, SD January 10-12, 2023.

Please submit your abstract for SDARWS' 2023 ATC. Presentation themes may include, but are not limited to the following:

- Drinking water security strategies and tools
- How Water Storage Can Impact Water Quality
- Fair Labor Standards Act
- Hands-on sessions:
  - ◆ Control valve repair kits
  - ◆ Hydrant maintenance and repair
  - ◆ Solution pump repairs (diaphragm and peristaltic)
  - ◆ Repair couplers, saddles, wet tapping
- The importance of Cross Connection Control
- Water Rights for public systems
- Ice Pigging to clean water and sewer pipelines
- Source water protection and sustainability of water supplies
- Climate change, water and energy efficiency, and conservation
- Clean Water Act/SDWA connections, nutrient pollution, and Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs)
- Emerging drinking water treatment technologies and optimization of current technology
- State revolving loan fund tools and techniques/ green infrastructure strategies
- Small systems: TMF, sustainability strategies, technologies, and compliance
- Trench Safety
- Data management (e.g., SCADA, GIS, IT)
- Workforce, operator certification, and/or technical assistance initiatives
- Distribution system issues
- Emerging contaminants in drinking water, both chemical and microbial
- Drinking water research
- Sanitation and wastewater management
- Risk assessment, risk communication and consumer outreach
- Implementation of regulations – challenges and successes

If you would like to make a presentation, please submit a one-page abstract with the proposed presentation title, and the name, title, affiliation, and contact information for the speaker to:

**South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems**  
PO Box 287  
Madison, SD 57042  
or email [ATC@sdarws.com](mailto:ATC@sdarws.com) by **September 30, 2022!**

**OR SUBMIT ONLINE AT**  
<https://tinyurl.com/ATCAbstracts>

### ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES:

1. Deadline for submissions is September 30, 2022
2. Abstract submissions are limited to text only.
3. The conference planning committee will select submitted abstracts for sessions.
4. Please include a five sentence biography along with a 500 word abstract or description of your presentation.



# South Dakota Rural Water AWARD NOMINATIONS

Do you know someone who is doing a great job? Goes above and beyond the call of duty? Has your water system achieved excellence this year – or has overcome some amazing challenges?

**G**ive recognition where it is due by making an award nomination. Awards will be presented at the Awards Banquet. **Application deadline is October 29, 2022.** Eligible nominees must be affiliated with a system member in good standing. The online form can be found at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/ATCAwards](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ATCAwards).

WE ARE ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR THE  
FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

**Rural Water System of the Year:** Recognition for a member system who puts forth exceptional efforts to properly manage, operate, and maintain their drinking water system.

**Rural Water Manager of the Year:** Recognition for a manager of a Rural Water System for outstanding performance in operating a Rural Water System.

**Rural Water Office Person of the Year:** Recognition for an administrative employee of a Rural Water System for outstanding performance in office management and procedures.

**Rural Water System Operations Supervisor of the Year:** Recognition for a State of South Dakota Certified Operator who is actively working a supervisory role for a Rural Water System, and has demonstrated outstanding leadership ability and/or accomplishments in drinking water.

**Rural Water System Operations Specialist of the Year:** Recognition for a State of South Dakota Certified Operator who is actively working for a Rural Water System with outstanding leadership ability and/or accomplishments in drinking water.

**Municipal Water/Wastewater System of the Year:** Recognizes a municipality who puts forth exceptional efforts to properly manage, operate, and maintain their drinking water and wastewater system.

**Municipal Manager of the Year:** Recognition for a municipal manager for outstanding performance in managing a municipality.

**Municipal Office Person of the Year:** Recognition for an administrative employee of a municipality (i.e. clerk, finance officer, etc.) for outstanding performance in office management and procedures.

**Municipal Operations Specialist of the Year:** Recognition for a State of South Dakota Certified Operator who is actively working for a municipality with outstanding leadership ability/accomplishments in water.

**Spirit of Rural Water:** This award is presented to an individual, business or group that goes above and beyond for a rural water system or rural water cause. South Dakota Rural Water wants to recognize exceptional rural water advocates that stand out from the pack because of their commitment to rural water issues and/or their passion for the job. Eligible candidates include rural and community water consumers, employees, directors, as well as lawmakers, businesses, or any person or group that puts forth a noble effort to advance rural water.

**Donald B. Pospishil:** This award honors the work of Don Pospishil who dedicated many years of his life to helping small water systems across South Dakota. The Donald B. Pospishil Award is awarded to individuals who demonstrate leadership abilities in the water supply field, provide quality services to consumers, and exhibits professionalism and dedication while operating and maintaining a small water system.







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# SDARWS' 36<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RURAL WATER OPEN

The 2022 Rural Water Open was a breezy but good time. 198 golfers on 50 teams filled the greens at Elmwood Golf Course in Sioux Falls for the annual tournament. Each golfer was treated to a cooler bag filled with golf goodies and drink tickets. As golfers arrived for their tee times, they were also treated to coffee and donuts courtesy of Summit Carbon Solutions.

Teams were sent out on the East, North, and West Nine every seven to eight minutes starting at 8:30. The last teams hit the course at 10:37. The WaterPac challenges returned this year, with On-The-Green-In-One-Shot challenges on both #8 East and West. This year a new challenge was available at the putting green which required golfers to sink putts while seated upon a royal throne (ok, it was a toilet!). Mulligans were also available through pre-sales and on the course. This year the Mulligans raised \$2,335 for WaterPac. The On-the-Green challenges raised \$1,940 and the putt challenge raised another \$640. All told, \$4,915 was raised for WaterPac, making this another successful WaterPac fundraiser for South Dakota Rural Water.

Following Rural Water Open traditions, the tournament format included four-person teams playing an 18-hole scramble with no championship or amateur division. As always, an array of talent was on display. Scores were competitive this year with the majority of teams posting scores below par. Scores ranged from 15 under to seven over. Due to the nature of the dynamic

field, scoring was based on score under or over par based on the particular 18 holes a team played. Also, tiebreakers were decided by hole handicap and final rulings were determined by the club professional, Chad Veire. The Mulligans did influence scores, as would be expected; the winning team purchased four. The top placing teams are listed on page 16. Cash prizes were given to

Box lunches consisting of a beef tenderloin sandwich, potato salad, a bag of chips, and a cookie were made available to each participant as they passed the clubhouse as they made the turn for their second nine holes. Each golfer was also provided with a tournament cooler bag filled with a cooling towel, golf towel, ball, divot tool, chapstick, Hawkins koozie, sunblock, and drink tickets provided by AE2S. Prizes were sent out to winners after the conclusion of the event.

We would like to thank all the sponsors, participants, and volunteers who helped make this event successful. The full list of 2022 Rural Water Open Sponsors can be found on page 18.

Thanks also go out to the Corporate Partners that helped make this event possible – they are listed on page three. Without their support it would be impossible to provide this event at the level that competitors have come to enjoy.

Mark your calendars for the 2023 Rural Water Open scheduled to take place on July 18, once again at Elmwood. We look forward to seeing you next year! ♦



# 2022 RURAL WATER OPEN STANDINGS

## 1ST FLIGHT WINNERS

1st – **Marsh McLennan Agency:** Justin Overman, Clint Koehn, Jim Auen, Joe Munson (57)

2nd – **Malloy:** Colin Bretsch, Todd Olmschenk, Jon Nelson, Ryan Sauerer (60)

3rd – **Brosz Randall:** Scott Pick, Brad Carstensen, Nick Gillen, Blake Harms (61)

4th – **Maguire Iron 2:** Brian Cooper, Corey Sanders, Troy Werdel, Rich Kemmis (61)

5th – **Banner A Team:** Sid Munson, Vicki Munson, Kolby Newborg, Shelly Munson (61)

## 2ND FLIGHT WINNERS

1st – **Bartlett & West:** Brian Hoellein, Jerry Backes, Austin Hoellein, Jake Jones (66)

2nd – **HR Green:** Dawn Zahn, Mark Hardie, Darin McDonnel, Nick Borns (66)

3rd – **MCWC #2:** Ben Meyer, Tom VanWell, David Fox, Scott VanderMuellen (66)

4th – **Great Plains Structures:** Rob Gravatt, Andrew Chenowith, Jesse Forman, Mike Friske (66)

5th – **MCWC #1:** Bryan Lipp, Jordan Nelson, Nathan Vrchota, Troy Schmuell (67)

## 3RD FLIGHT WINNERS

1st – **Lincoln Co / DGR:** Nathan Brandenburg, Robin Dykstra, Logan Brown, David Gonzalez (73)

2nd – **Huron / DGR:** Ryan Norman, Sam Johnson, Brett Runge, Dennis Bennett (74)

3rd – **Fischer Harris:** Joel Boy, Ben Aning, Jason Orel, Dan Schwarz (75)

4th – **Electric Pump:** Patrick Schmitt, Mark Fortuna, Brenton Fuchs, Brian Lathrop (75)

5th – **Sherwin / Maguire:** Casey Holter, Mike Bay, Tyson Rosenboom, Rafael Balayan (77)

## LAST PLACE

Last – **Team 1/Lewis & Clark:** Lori Seten, Kristin Bisgard, Cody Schultz, Justin Walsh (79).

## FLAG PRIZE WINNERS

**Closest to the Pin #4:** Matt Oedekoven – \$100 Visa Gift Card donated by Bartlett & West

**Longest Drive #7:** Corey Smith – SCS Golf Bag

**Longest Putt #9:** Mark Hardie – \$100 Visa Gift Card donated by SDARWS and Turnkey Gloves

**Closest to the Pin #12:** Rebecca Qualm – \$100 Menards Gift Card donated by DGR Engineering

**Longest Drive #16:** Barry Berg – \$100 Visa Gift Card donated by SDARWS

**Longest Putt #17:** Mike Paulson – \$100 Fleet Farm Gift Card, Hats, and Towels donated by HR Green

**Closest to the Pin E5:** Kolby Newborg – Turnkey Golf Balls donated by SDARWS

**Longest Drive E7:** Brad Carstensen – SCS Golf Bag

**Longest Putt E9:** Farrell Anderson – \$100 Visa Gift Card and Golf Balls donated by Bartlett & West

## CHALLENGE HOLE WINNERS

**On The Green (8W):** Nathan Vrchota – \$100

**On The Green (8E):** J.K. – \$100

**Putt Challenge – 3 Putts In:** Brian Hoellein – \$200

**Putt Challenge – 2 Putts In:** Scott Buss – \$100

**Putt Challenge – 1 Putt In:** Heath Thompson – \$50

## TEAM PRIZES

**1st Place each flight:** \$500 Elmwood Gift Certificate

**2nd Place each flight:** \$400 Elmwood Gift Certificate

**3rd Place each flight:** \$300 Elmwood Gift Certificate

**4th Place each flight:** \$200 Elmwood Gift Certificate

**5th Place each flight:** \$100 Elmwood Gift Certificate

**Last place:** Golf Lessons at Elmwood



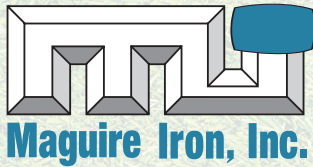






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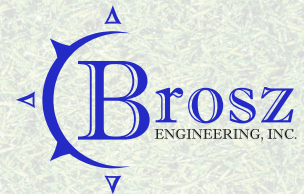
## 19TH HOLE



## BEVERAGE CART



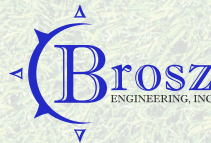
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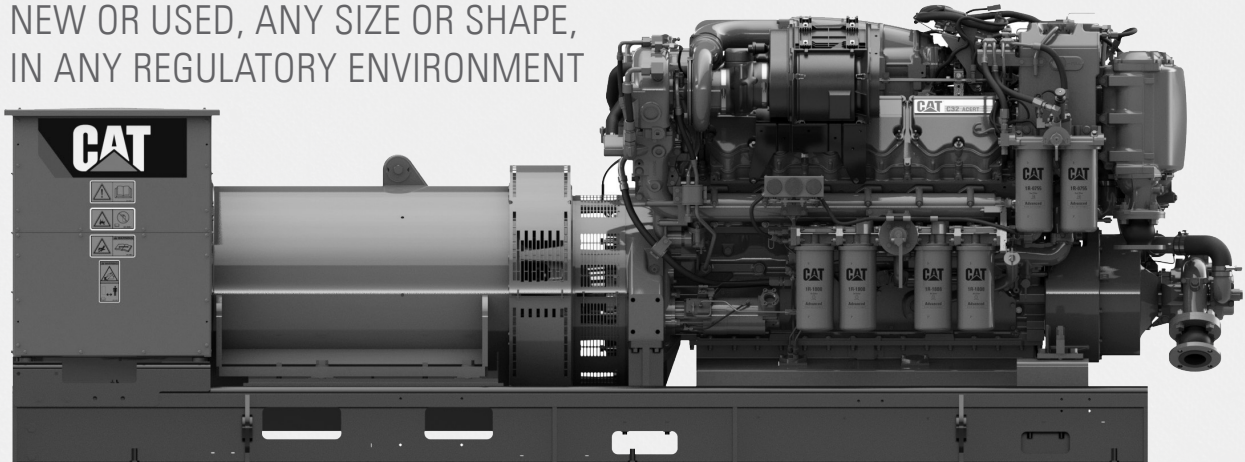
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# KEEP YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME: WEAR A HARDHAT

**Steve Attema, SDARWS Safety Training Specialist**

**T**here are many situations at work or home where a hardhat could save you from severe injury or even death. In this article, we will discuss the hardhat requirements for the workplace. Head injuries and deaths can happen in and around the home, so hardhats should also be used here when the situation calls.

## **OSHA MANDATES THAT WORKPLACES REQUIRE HARDHATS TO BE WORN BY WORKERS WHEN:**

- Objects or debris can strike a worker on the head.
- Workers can strike their heads on fixed objects.
- Their heads may come in contact with electrical hazards.

These hardhats must meet the minimum ANSI (American National Standards Institute) and are divided up into types and classes.

## **Strikes from falling objects are broken up into two types:**

- Type 1: Protects the top of the head
- Type 2: Protects the top and side of the head

## **Electrical protection is divided into three classes:**

- Class C (Conductive) – No electrical protection.
- Class G (General) – Electrical protection for up to 2,200 volts.
- Class E (Electrical) – Electrical protection for up to 20,000 volts.

The types and classes and the manufacture date need to be labeled on the hardhat. In addition, they must comply with all the other ANSI Z89.1 standards.

## **HARDHATS MUST BE REPLACED WHEN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING OCCURS:**

- It is struck by an object with significant force.
- If it has been five years or more from the manufacture date. Or two years if it is exposed to excessive heat, cold, chemicals, or sunlight.
- If there are any signs of damage during a visual inspection or any other time.
- If any cracking sounds are heard during a squeeze test (squeeze the hard hat from the sides with moderate pressure).

Also, labels, stickers, and writing on hardhats should be limited or eliminated. These can interfere with the proper inspection of the hardhat.

Using these guidelines should help with compliance and keeping your head on straight.

*For more information on this topic, visit [OSHA.gov](https://www.osha.gov).* 💧



**STEVE ATTEMA** Steve Attema joined SDARWS in May 2014 as a Training Specialist. He previously worked for six years in industrial wastewater, and three years at Bolton & Menk, Inc. as an Environmental Engineer. Steve has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) from South Dakota State University. He also holds a Class III Wastewater Treatment Certification, is an FAA certified Remote Pilot SUAS and holds Utility Management Certification with the NRWA. As a Safety Trainer, Steve holds an Advanced Safety Certificate from the National Safety Council, completion of OSHA's 30-hour General Industry Training Course and certified with the Board of Certified Safety Professionals as an Associate Safety Professional.





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# USING THE HYDRO-VAC TO FIX VALVE RISERS

**Mike Moeller, Technical Assistance Training Specialist**

**H**ave you ever had a valve riser that was hit by a car or a snowplow, and now it is not standing straight anymore, or even worse, the cast iron riser is broken? Did you know that you can get the damaged parts replaced without using a backhoe or excavator? We encountered this exact situation at the Butte Meade Sanitary Water District (BMSWD). They had ten valve risers that, over the years, had become damaged and needed some attention.

BMSWD manager Mike Wolff recently contacted me to see if our hydro-vac could be used to excavate around the valve riser to assist in changing out the damaged sections. I told Mike that yes, it was the easiest way to change out sections of the valve riser and that the whole valve riser could be changed out if needed.

I later met with the operation specialists from BMSWD to replace ten valve risers. I used the hydro-vac to excavate around the outside of the valve riser to the needed depth, and then we unscrewed the damaged section of the valve risers that needed to be replaced. Most of the time, valve risers are very rusty in the threaded area. But, by using the power washer on the hydro-vac, you can usually flush all the rust and debris out of the threads, and with minimal work, the damaged section of the riser can be removed.

Using the hydro-vac to excavate around valve risers to replace sections is a really straightforward way to perform this kind of work. It takes minimal backfill dirt to fill the hole around the valve riser once the new section is installed. This procedure can also be used to straighten valve risers. All you need to do is excavate the dirt on the side of the valve riser in the direction it needs to be tip and use your valve wrench to pull it back straight, then backfill on the opposite side.

SDARWS has two hydro-vacs and is more than willing to assist with all your valve riser issues. Call us at 605-556-7219 (east river) or 605-642-4201 (west river) to schedule a visit with one of our field staff. 💧



*Excavating a valve riser with the hydro-vac.*



*Top section of valve riser removed.*



**MIKE MOELLER** has worked for SDARWS since 2014. He previously worked at Dakota Pump and Control for five years, and served 30 years with the South Dakota National Guard. Mike also holds an Advanced Safety Certificate from the National Safety Council.





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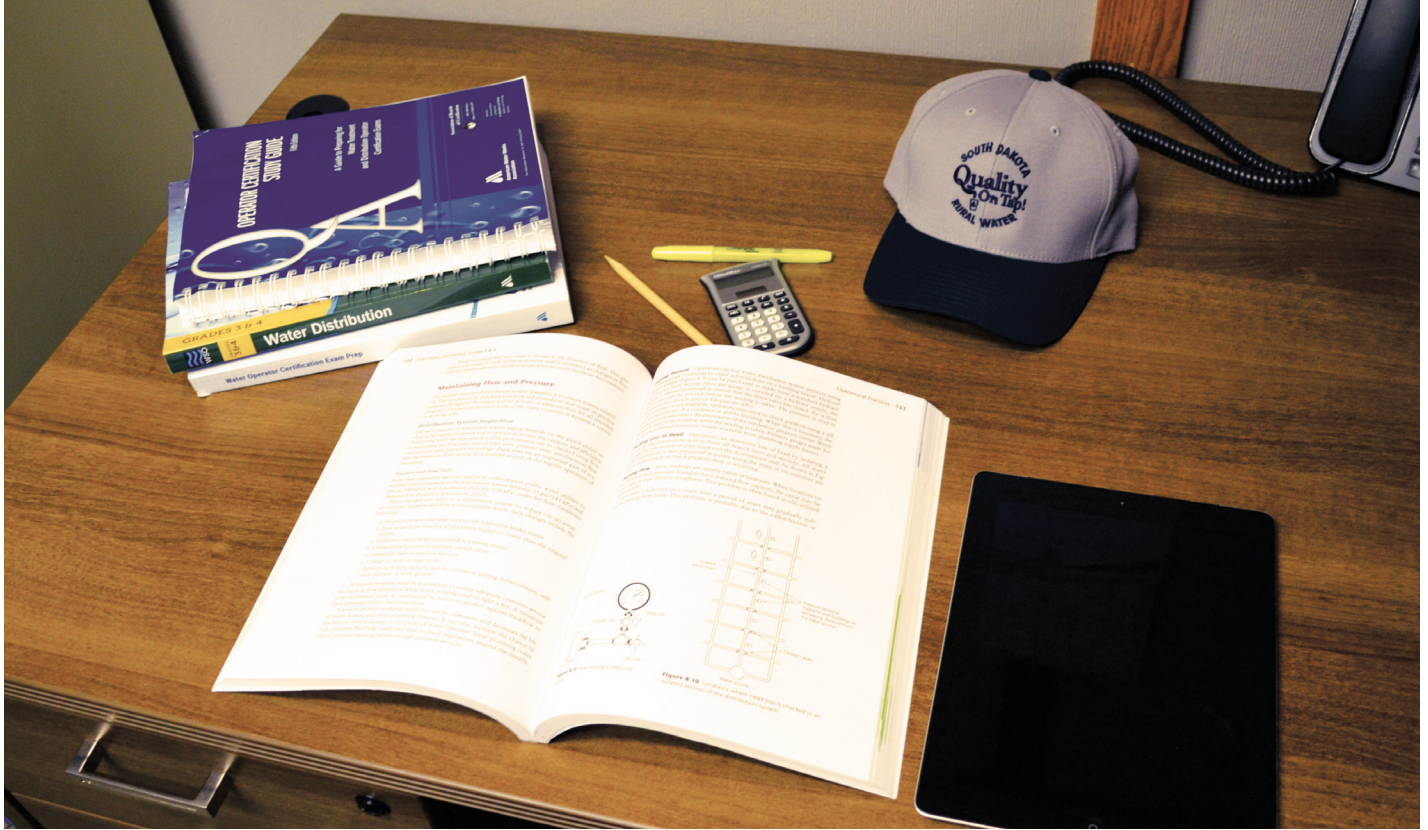
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# IT'S ALL ABOUT MATERIALS

## **Bill Thorson, SDARWS Certification Training Specialist**

Operators, especially new operators, ask if I have any training materials available. Yes, I do, but I can't provide enough for everyone who asks. There are several avenues out there for training materials. One source is online at the AWWA bookstore: [engage.awwa.org/PersonifyEbusiness](https://engage.awwa.org/PersonifyEbusiness). The manuals for Water/Wastewater System Operations are not only a good reference for certification tests but should also be a go-to reference manual for your treatment plant and distribution/collection issues each day.

The certification classes South Dakota Rural Water hosts throughout the year are only a starting point. Many people ask, "If I take the class, will I be able to pass the test?" My reply is always, "yes, but you must also do some studying on your own to be sure to pass the first time." The class material covers seventy to eighty percent of the needed knowledge to pass a certification test the first time. Still, the operator must also invest some time studying and picking up the finer details of the knowledge needed for the job on their own. I could spend a week or even two giving you information about water or wastewater operations, but that is not feasible for either of us. What I give you in a two-and-a-half-day class will get you started and includes the basics or even some intermediate information needed to be a good water/wastewater operator. Still, the fundamental knowledge comes when you dig a little deeper into the well to gain an understanding of the more intricate details of how to be a really good operator. That deep

understanding of the job allows you to meet all challenges and emergencies that can pop up on a day-to-day basis. No two systems are the same, and each has its operational headaches. Different water chemistries and wastewater contaminants contribute to unique operational and treatment problems. Collection and distribution systems can have their own sets of headaches for operators. Knowing how to deal with and mitigate major issues can decrease headaches and non-compliance problems, not to mention customer satisfaction. That increased knowledge also allows daily issues to be handled with ease. Study manuals and operations/treatment manuals should be on hand at every system. Let your supervisors and managers know that there should be a copy of the books on the shelf for continued training and a good operations reference source. If knowledge is power, then more knowledge can only be a good thing!

As always, stay safe! 💧



**BILL THORSON** joined the SDARWS staff in March of 2018 as a Wastewater Tech. Bill transitioned to Trainer/Technical Assistance Specialist with SDARWS in October of 2019, and took over Certification training in 2020. He was previously employed with the City of Canton as Public Works Director for nine years and water/wastewater operations specialist for 19 years. Bill holds Class II certifications in Water Treatment, Water Distribution, Wastewater Treatment, and Wastewater Collection and is NASSCO certified in pipeline and manhole inspections. Bill is also an SDWWA board member.



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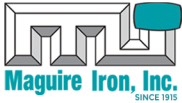


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# THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER AND YOUR LAGOON



## **Danny Ayers, SDARWS Wastewater Technician**

Once again summer is upon us, and with that comes the heat and lack of rain. Some of you may have noticed that your lagoons have begun to suffer from the heat as much as you are. If you see that chalky look or a trace of blue-green algae in your pond, it is likely due to a lack of dissolved oxygen in the water.

This issue is usually caused by excessive heat warming the pond water to the point that it is hard to keep the oxygen dissolved in the water. It is always easier to maintain dissolved oxygen in colder water because the water molecules move slower at lower temperatures. As the water warms up the molecules began to move faster releasing the oxygen from the water. When we have low dissolved oxygen in the pond water, the bacteria can not function as they need to; thus, they have difficulty processing the BOD in the water.

There are ways that operators can combat this situation. We can add dissolved oxygen to the water by first making sure that the weeds are removed from the inside slope of the pond, the top of the berm is mowed, and there are no trees or tall bushes near the pond. Doing these things allows the wind to sweep across the pond creating natural aeration.

We can also create mechanical aeration of the pond by using Venturi enhanced water pumps or solar or electric pond aerator/mixers. You can build a small aerator/mixer using a trash pump and build an air-injected spray bar from PVC pipe. You can also purchase aerator/mixers that operate from either wind, solar, or electric power.

You can also introduce chemical oxidizers into your pond which can be purchased from your chemical dealer.

Any of the above operations is better than doing nothing as the ponds do not tend to get better on their own, and no one likes the odor that comes from a pond that has turned bad.

If you have any questions about any of the aeration operations, please contact your SDARWS wastewater technicians Danny Ayers at 605-291-2299 or Glen at 605-645-6488.

Have a great summer on the pond! 💧



**DANNY AYERS** joined South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems in April of 2020. Prior to that he worked for the City of Winner as the water/wastewater Superintendent for 31 years. Danny has a Class I Wastewater Treatment, Class II Wastewater Collection, Class II Water Treatment, and Class II Water Distribution. He enjoys hunting, fishing, woodworking and camping.





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# SDARWS Conferences & Events



## Leadership Seminar | November 9-10, 2022

This seminar is geared towards Rural Water System Directors and covers a gamut of topics pertaining to rural water boards.

For more information, visit [www.sdarws.com/leadership.html](http://www.sdarws.com/leadership.html) or email [jcorbin@sdarws.com](mailto:jcorbin@sdarws.com)

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## Annual Technical Conference | January 10-12, 2023

The ATC is the annual conference of the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems, and is the largest water/wastewater conference in South Dakota. This event is designed to bring together water and wastewater utility systems – both large and small, municipal and rural – for sessions in operations, management, boardmanship and governance. This conference is held every year during the first week of the South Dakota Legislative session in Pierre, SD and hosts over 500 attendees.

To learn more, visit [www.sdarws.com/annual-conference.html](http://www.sdarws.com/annual-conference.html) or email [atc@sdarws.com](mailto:atc@sdarws.com)

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## Rural Water EXPO | April 26-27, 2023

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 contact hours for those individuals who are licensed operations specialists. Along with the training sessions, the EXPO will showcase many of our industry's manufacturer and supplier leaders. Many will be displaying the recent advances in technology our industry has witnessed over the past several years.

To learn more, visit [www.sdarws.com/rural-water-expo.html](http://www.sdarws.com/rural-water-expo.html) or email [expo@sdarws.com](mailto:expo@sdarws.com)

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## Rural Water Fishing Tourney | April 29-30, 2023

The Annual Rural Water Warriors Fishing Tournament takes place at the Outpost Lodge on Cow Creek Bay in 2023. Teams consist of 2-3 people with at least one person who is a current water/wastewater, associate member or corporate partner of the SDARWS. This tournament is limited to 50 teams. There is an eight fish maximum per boat with the largest seven fish weighed, and all South Dakota fishing regulations must be followed. A mandatory rules meeting is held at 8:00pm the night before the tournament.

For more information, visit [www.sdarws.com/fishing-tournament.html](http://www.sdarws.com/fishing-tournament.html) or email [fishing@sdarws.com](mailto:fishing@sdarws.com)



## Rural Water Open Golf Tourney | July 18, 2023

The Annual Rural Water Open will take place at the Elmwood Golf Course in Sioux Falls. This tournament is open to Utility Members, Associate Members, and Corporate Partners of SDARWS. Registration is \$100/player and includes golf, cart, lunch, and awards.

For more information, visit [www.sdarws.com/golf-tournament.html](http://www.sdarws.com/golf-tournament.html) or email [golf@sdarws.com](mailto:golf@sdarws.com)

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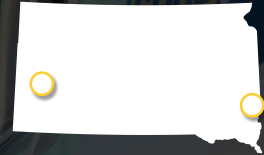
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# CERTIFICATION PRACTICE QUESTIONS

- Static suction head plus friction suction head plus static discharge head plus friction discharge head makes up the \_\_\_\_\_ of a pump.
  - operating pressure
  - pump curve
  - total dynamic head
  - velocity head
- The volume of a cone with a radius of 8 ft and a height of 12 ft is \_\_\_\_\_ ft<sup>3</sup>.
  - 84
  - 256
  - 502
  - 804
- Water is at its greatest density at a temperature of
  - 32oF (0o C).
  - 39.2oF (4o C).
  - 37oF (3o C).
  - 45oF (7o C).
- A heavy growth of algae in a surface water reservoir will have which one of the following effects on the water?
  - lower the pH
  - raise the pH
  - will have no effect on the pH
- A step in determining the threshold odor number is
  - counting the odor-producing organisms present.
  - diluting the sample with distilled water.
  - diluting the sample with odor-free water.
  - matching the odor against the standards.
- Concrete thrust blocks are used to
  - keep the pipe level.
  - the pipe from floating.
  - keep joints from opening.
  - all of the above.
- For small service connections to a thin or soft main, it is best to use a
  - copper corporation stop instead of the harder brass.
  - dry tap, to avoid splitting the main.
  - service clamp or saddle.
  - tee fitting.
- The overflow pipe on an elevated balancing water tank should be of sufficient diameter to permit wastage of water
  - at half the filling rate.
  - at the normal filling rate.
  - in excess of the filling rate.
  - none of the above.
- Insurance Services Office requires a minimum residual gauge pressure (during hydrant flows in the vicinity) of \_\_\_\_ psi.
  - 10
  - 20
  - 30
  - 40
- In deciding which premises to inspect first for a cross connection, the primary consideration is
  - convenience of the owner.
  - degree of hazard.
  - geographic hazard.
  - which location are upstream (in relation to the potable lines) of residences.

1. C 2. D 3. B 4. B 5. C 6. C 7. C 8. C 9. B 10. B



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# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KURT PFEIFLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## PFAS COST RECOVERY PROGRAM

When U.S. EPA issued the 2016 health advisory, the National Rural Water Association Board of Directors voted to engage the Napoli Shkolnik law firm to file a cost recovery action that would allow all utilities to register and recover any current and projected future expenses for testing, treatment, and remediation due to PFAS contamination upon any potential settlement or judgment in your favor. For clarification, this is not a class action lawsuit as there are multiple classes of plaintiffs; thus, they are combined into what is called multidistrict litigation. The three points stressed to utilities are:

1. The action is cost recovery, not punitive.
2. The litigation is filed against the global manufacturers of the compounds and does not impact local companies who may have used them.
3. **There is zero upfront cost to register the utility onto the cost rolls; however, a system must be registered prior to any settlement or judgment being reached in order to benefit.** While there is no timeframe as to when a settlement may be finalized, those settlement talks are underway. The recently announced revised health advisory from EPA will further place pressure on a potential settlement being

reached.

There is no threshold or cost to register onto the cost recovery rolls; we encourage all systems to register and protect their system and ratepayers from a potential increased financial burden. Systems should register regardless of testing or detection status. Registering onto the cost recovery rolls is like an insurance policy without a premium and, if your customers ask, a strong positive message that the system has undertaken action to lessen any financial burden resulting from PFAS contamination.

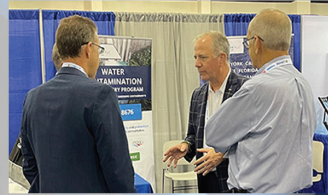
Time is of the essence; the latest health advisory levels have been lowered to non-enforceable levels of 2 and 20 per quadrillion. The EPA is establishing an enforceable maximum contaminant level (MCL) under the Safe Drinking Water Act, which means that a system with any level of detection is likely to be out of compliance with the federal standard. Considering PFOS and PFOA are labeled as hazardous substances, there is sure to be a large financial impact on utilities if these “forever compounds” are detected.

**SDARWS encourages you to take the first step and register your utility at [www.napolilaw.com/nrwa-pfas](http://www.napolilaw.com/nrwa-pfas).** 💧

# PFAS COST RECOVERY PROGRAM

Register Today!

THE TEAM SPEAKING AT CONFERENCES TO EDUCATE SYSTEMS ON PFAS CONTAMINATION.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- Q - Is there a threshold to register our utility?
- A - There are no thresholds to register onto the cost recovery rolls, but you must be registered to participate in any settlements.
- Q - Our drinking water had no detects but there is PFAS in the wastewater stream, should we register?
- A - Yes, the regulatory process for PFAS in wastewater discharge and disposal is on the regulatory radar.
- Q - Are you suing fire departments for using AFFF?
- A - **No**, we are suing the **manufacturers** of these chemicals as they should be held responsible for the cleanup of their harmful contamination.

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