

ServiceLine

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

2024 ATC INFORMATION

SEE PAGES 15-17

IMPORTANCE OF A WORKING FIRE HYDRANT

OPERATION & MAINTENANCE
INSPECTION OF A LAGOON FACILITY

USDA & RURAL WATER
- AN ESSENTIAL PARTNERSHIP

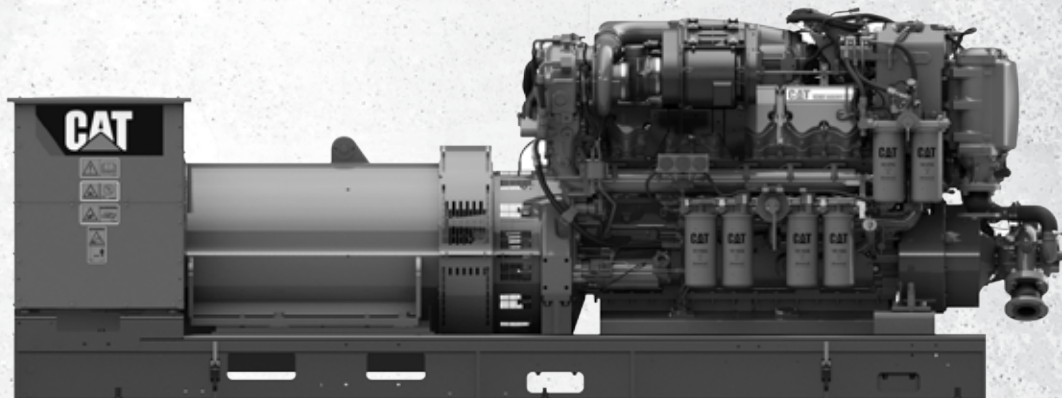
SDARWS RECOGNIZED

'Outstanding Achievement In
Communications, Public Relations,
And Public Relations' from NRWA

– see page 29 for details

WHEN YOU NEED POWER, WE ARE THERE FOR YOU

NEW OR USED, ANY SIZE OR SHAPE, IN ANY REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT



877.365.8114 | BUTLERMACHINERY.COM

Butler 



QUALITY ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS FOR RURAL WATER PROJECTS

- MASTER PLANNING
- ASSET MANAGEMENT
- HYDRAULIC MODELING
- CAPACITY ANALYSIS
- STORAGE RESERVOIRS
- PUMPING STATIONS
- PIPELINES
- TREATMENT FACILITIES
- CONSTRUCTION SERVICES

MITCHELL, PIERRE, SIOUX FALLS, STURGIS
SOUTH DAKOTA
broszeng.com



Brosz
ENGINEERING, INC.



KURT PFEIFLE
Executive Director
kpfeifle@sdarws.com



JEREMIAH CORBIN
Deputy Director
jcorbin@sdarws.com



ROBYN BROTHERS
Office Manager
rbrothers@sdarws.com



JENNIFER BAME
Marketing
jbame@sdarws.com



STEVE ATTEMA
Training Specialist
sattema@sdarws.com



MIKE MOELLER
Training Specialist
mmoeller@sdarws.com



JEFF FOSSOM
Training Specialist
jfossom@sdarws.com



BILL THORSON
Training Specialist
bthorson@sdarws.com



PAUL DORWART
Training Specialist
pdorwart@sdarws.com



DANNY AYERS
Wastewater Tech.
dayers@sdarws.com



KEVIN CHRISTENSON
Source Water
kchristenson@sdarws.com



GAVIN GRAVESON
Training Specialist
ggraveson@sdarws.com



ALLEN KOCMICH
Circuit Rider
akocmich@sdarws.com



WYATT HIX
Circuit Rider
whix@sdarws.com



JIM VAVRA
Circuit Rider
jvavra@sdarws.com

SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF RURAL WATER SYSTEMS

203 W. Center Street • P.O. Box 287
Madison, SD 57042
605-556-7219 • info@sdarws.com
www.sdarws.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 5** Association Updates
- 7** Operator Certification Training Class And Exam Schedule
- 9** 2023 Leadership Seminar Agenda
- 11** 2024 ATC Award Nomination Info
- 15** 2024 Annual Technical Conference Information
- 19** Advancing Water Infrastructure: The Role Of South Dakota Rural Water's EFC Program
- 21** Importance Of A Working Fire Hydrant
- 23** Don't Be Lumped In With The Fools, Be Smart With Your Tools
- 23** Certification Practice Questions
- 25** South Dakota's Shallow Aquifers
- 27** Operation And Maintenance Inspection Of A Lagoon Facility
- 29** SDARWS Makes An Impression At WaterPro Conference
- 31** USDA And Rural Water – An Essential Partnership

SDARWS CORPORATE PARTNERS

MARSH & MCLENNAN AGENCY, INC.
RISK ADMINISTRATION SERVICES
DAKOTA PUMP & CONTROL
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP
TREATMENT RESOURCES, INC.
BANNER ASSOCIATES
BARTLETT & WEST, INC.
DGR ENGINEERING
MAGUIRE IRON, INC.
CORE AND MAIN

DAKOTA PUMP INC.
COBANK
MILBANK WINWATER
AE2S
ISG
BROSZ ENGINEERING
HAWKINS
RESPEC
JETLINE SALES & SERVICE

Cover Photo: Spearfish Canyon - NRWA Photo Contest Winner. Photo credit Kevin Christenson.

ServiceLine is published bi-monthly by the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems. The contents of this publication may not be reproduced by any means, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of SDARWS. SDARWS reserves the right to reject or edit any manuscripts received for publication. All submissions become the property of the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems unless otherwise specifically stated in this publication. Statements of fact and opinion are the responsibility of the authors alone and do not imply an opinion on the part of the South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems. Advertisements and editorials do not represent official policies of the Association. Acceptance of advertising by SDARWS does not constitute endorsement of the advertiser, its products or services, nor does SDARWS make any claims or guarantees as to the accuracy or validity of advertisers' claims.

To submit editorial or advertising content, or to update your mailing information, please contact Jennifer Bame at 605-556-7219 or email jbame@sdarws.com.

ServiceLine - Copyright 2023



Engineering water solutions for community growth.

Clean, safe and reliable water is a basic building block of a modern community. Residents and industry depend on your system. You need proactive communications regarding system needs and innovative, comprehensive solutions. As a national leader with long-time relationships in water-focused services, Bartlett & West is your ally for success.

5900 S. Western Ave., Ste. 101 ■ Sioux Falls, SD
(888) 200-6464 ■ www.bartlettwest.com

DAKOTA PUMP

WATER PUMP STATIONS

- Modular Water Booster Stations
- Grade Mounted Water Booster Stations
- Water Booster Pump Stations
- Water Control Vaults

WHY PREFABRICATED?

- Fully Factory Tested
- Ease of Installation
- Simplified Design
- Single Source Responsibility

SEWAGE PUMP STATIONS

- Wet Well Mounted Lift Stations
- Flood Suction Lift Stations
- Self-Priming Lift Stations
- Obround Package Pump Stations

PROACTIVE PUMP STATION SALES, MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION

WE PROVIDE SOLUTIONS BUILT ON RELATIONSHIPS

DAKOTA PUMP OFFICES

MITCHELL

25524 413th Ave, Mitchell, SD 57301
MAIN 605.996.6636 | CELL 605.770.9371

RAPID CITY

12065 Quaal Rd, #99, Black Hawk, SD 57718
MAIN 605.996.6636 | CELL 605.430.2862

WATERTOWN (K&P PUMPS)

800 33rd St SW, Watertown, SD 57201
MAIN 605.753.0072 | CELL 605.881.1586

PROACTIVE PUMP STATION SALES, MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION | VISIT DAKOTAPUMP.COM

VAVRA HIRED AS NEW CIRCUIT RIDER

SDARWS would like to introduce everyone to our newest Circuit Rider, Jim Vavra. Jim joined the association team in September and comes to us from the City of Wessington Springs. He has 10 years of water and wastewater experience and holds certifications in Water Treatment 3, Water Distribution 2, Wastewater Treatment 2, Wastewater Collection 2.



When asked what he is most looking forward to in this job, Jim said, “meeting the operators and helping them with their systems, and working as a team with the rest of the SDARWS staff.”

In his spare time Jim enjoys golf, darts, bowling, traveling, and going to dirt track races. Welcome to the team, Jim!



LEADERSHIP SEMINAR - NOVEMBER 8-9

Association staff are prepping for our Annual Leadership Seminar which will be held at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel in Pierre November 8-9, 2023. 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 \$200, and includes a meal at the President’s Reception on the evening of November 8th. Check out the agenda on page 9 in this issue of *ServiceLine* or visit sdarws.com/leadership.

SOCKET-TITE DONATES TOOLS TO SDARWS

Kurt Anderson, Owner and inventor of Socket-Tite donated to the South Dakota Association of Rural Water System the following items for use: two, 5-point professional grade pentagon socket-tites along with the just released 33” ratcheting T-wrench, these are designed for curb or service box plugs and clamp like a vice when needed to remove rounded off corroded brass plugs. Works with the new 33” ratcheting T-wrench for maximum leverage or will work with any 1/2” ratchet drive. Also, he donated a Socket-tite complete Hurco hydraulic valve operating system for use with the associations valve turner.

Kurt has over 26 years of public water utility experience, he has dealt with all types of source water treatment, and distribution system water emergencies. Source water experience includes collector wells, gravel pack wells and surface water pump station repairs, cleaning, and design improvements. Finished treated water experience includes maintaining a 75 MGD lime softening treatment facility with large 900 HP high service pumps, softening basins, carbon filters, sludge screw pumps, water chemical treatment facility, flow paced pumps and emergency power generation. Water distribution system experience includes water main replacement, water break repairs, live taps, fire hydrant flushing, remote reservoir pump station repair, curb box repair and water meter replacement.

Municipal utility workers design many tools for themselves to make work efficient that are not commercially available. Socket-Tite came to be by problems encountered while working in the service field supplying water to residents and commercial business. He started making pound on pentagon brass plug extractor sockets to deal with hard to remove curb box plugs. These pound on sockets worked but there was a better concept. The clamping socket design was developed and now it is available for 5-point pentagon brass plugs and water main valve 2” operating nuts. There is also a ratcheting 3-in-1 wrench that is designed to work with the clamping pentagon socket for easy plug removal. For more information visit socket-tite.com.



WATER TOWER EXPERTS



(605) 334-9749 | MAGUIREIRON.COM |    

EXTEND THE LIFE OF YOUR WATER TANK

TANK MAINTENANCE & NEW TANKS

- Full-Service and Custom Tank Maintenance Plans
- Interior/Exterior Tank Painting
- Interior/Exterior Sandblasting and Containment
- Interior/Exterior Tank Inspections
- Lead Abatement
- Interior Tank Cleaning and Disinfection
- Custom Tank Logos
- Chemical Cleaning
- Tank Mixing Systems
- 24-Hour Emergency Services



MAGUIRE

CHAD EDWARDS

South Dakota Water Tower Expert
(605) 759-4957 | edwardsc@maguireiron.com

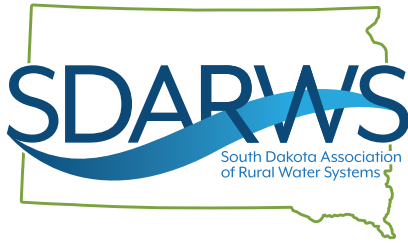
Winwater™

COMPANY

**S. Hwy. 15 • P.O. Box 350
Milbank, SD 57252
1-800-743-2972
Fax 605-432-5447**

- WATER PRODUCTS
- INDUSTRIAL PIPING
- WATER METER SYSTEMS
- PUMP SYSTEMS
- GEO TEXTILE FABRIC
- ROAD CASTINGS

*Large enough to handle any job,
but small enough to care about yours.*



OPERATOR CERTIFICATION

Register for training classes online at: web.sdarws.com/events

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.

Course Name	Date	Location
Stabilization Pond Workshop	October 12	Huron - Huron Events Center
Stabilization Pond Workshop	October 17	Mitchell - Highland Conference Center
Wastewater Collection	October 24 - 26	Rapid City Ramkota - Rushmore Room
OpCert Exam	October 26 @ 1:00 PM	Rapid City Ramkota - Rushmore Room
Basic Wastewater Treatment	November 14 - 16	Spearfish Holiday Inn
OpCert Exam	November 16 @ 1:00 PM	Spearfish Holiday Inn
Water Distribution	December 5 - 7	Rapid City Ramkota - Rushmore Room
OpCert Exam	December 7 @ 1:00 PM	Rapid City Ramkota - Rushmore Room
Basic Water Treatment	January 23 -25	Rapid City Ramkota - Rushmore Room
OpCert Exam	January 25 @ 1:00 PM	Rapid City Ramkota - Rushmore Room
Wastewater Collection	February 6 - 8	Sioux Falls - Hilton Garden Inn SW
OpCert Exam	February 8 @ 1:00 PM	Sioux Falls - Hilton Garden Inn SW
Basic Water Treatment	March 5 - 7	Aberdeen - Dakota Events Center
OpCert Exam	March 7 @ 1:00 PM	Aberdeen - Dakota Events Center
Intermediate Water Treatment	March 19 - 21	Sioux Falls - Hilton Garden Inn SW
OpCert Exam	March 21 @ 1:00 PM	Sioux Falls - Hilton Garden Inn SW
Water Distribution	April 16 - 18	Mitchell - Highlands Conference Center
OpCert Exam	April 18 @ 1:00 PM	Mitchell - Highlands Conference Center
Small Water Treatment Workshop	April 23	Rapid City Ramkota - Rushmore Room
Basic Wastewater Treatment	May 7 - 9	Watertown - Ramkota
OpCert Exam	May 9 @ 1:00 PM	Watertown - Ramkota
Advanced Wastewater Treatment	May 21 - 23	Sioux Falls - Hilton Garden Inn SW
OpCert Exam	May 23 @ 1:00 PM	Sioux Falls - Hilton Garden Inn SW
Stabilization Pond Workshop	June 6	Huron - Huron Events Center

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 to DANR. 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

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.

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).



engineering a better community

water | wastewater

Mni Wasté Water Supply Project | Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation | North Central SD

Brookings | Sioux Falls | Vermillion | Rapid City | Milbank
605.692.6342 | Toll Free 1.855.323.6342
www.bannerassociates.com

BANNER
engineering a better community

Still using door hangers ? Still mailing late payment reminders? Let's make your job easier!

Save Time and Money with IRIS - the original
web-based **Mass Notification System**.

Reduce costly mailings - instantly send messages
via voice, text, e-mail, social media and more!

GIS technology lets you easily create and send
map-based alerts to selected customers.

Use IRIS to keep customers and
employees safe and up-to-date.

- Billing & Scheduling
- Interruption of Services
- Termination Notices
- Severe Weather Advisories
- Pipe Freeze Warnings
- Contamination Notices
- Public Health Updates

Join 1,000's of water utilities
already benefiting from IRIS.

Get access to all the features of IRIS.


Notifications That Get Noticed!



Visit UseIRIS.com
or Call 866-894-5474



November 8-9, 2023 • Pierre, SD

Register online at: sdarws.com/leadership



ROOM BLOCK

\$125/night
Pierre Ramkota
920 W Sioux Avenue
605-224-6877

REGISTRATION

\$200/Person
\$30/Spouse

WEDNESDAY – NOVEMBER 8

- 1:00 WELCOME**
Lloyd Poppens, SDARWS Board President
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
AGENDA REVIEW
- 1:15 MANAGER PANEL: EASEMENTS, DEPRECIATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PFAS**
Troy Larson, Rod Kappes, Scott Buss, Rusty Schmidt
- 2:15 BREAK**
- 2:30 NAVIGATING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS**
Lyle Schumack, Bartlett & West
- 3:30 AN OVERVIEW OF BASIC PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**
Nancy Moose
- 4:30 NRWA/SDARWS BENEFITS**
- 5:30 PRESIDENT’S RECEPTION**
- 6:00 DINNER & GUEST SPEAKER**
Lee Shoenbeck, SD State Senator

THURSDAY – NOVEMBER 9

- 8:00 RECONVENE & AGENDA REVIEW**
- 8:15 BOARD PANEL: TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS**
Sid Munson, Jay Gilbertson, Ron Gillen, Jim Thyen
- 9:00 BREAK**
- 9:15 GRASSROOTS SUPPORT: THE NRWA LEGISLATIVE APPROACH**
Bill Simpson, Michael Preston, NRWA (via Zoom)
- 10:00 BREAK**
- 10:15 ATTORNEY’S CORNER**
Darla Pollman Rogers – Riter Rogers
- 11:00 REGULATORY UPDATE**
Mark Mayer - SD DANR
- 11:45 CLOSING COMMENTS**
Lloyd Poppens, SDARWS Board President, & Kurt Pfeifle, SDARWS Executive Director



COMMITTED TO MAKING YOUR WORKPLACE SAFER

We're more than a workers' compensation insurance policy provider. We're your partner in driving injury prevention.

RAS has been the endorsed Work Comp carrier for the SD Rural Water Association for over 10 years.



Our association agency partner:
Justin Overman
Marsh & McLennan Agency, LLC
605.339.3874

RASCompanies.com
800.732.1486



Trusted. Professional. Solutions.

At DGR Engineering, we know about water and its vital role in everyday life. After all, we've been working in the industry since 1952. We provide our clients with solutions they can trust, covering all types of water services from supply, treatment, storage and distribution, to wastewater treatment, collection, and sewer rehab.

Call us today to discuss solutions for your next project.



Sioux Falls, SD
Rock Rapids, Sioux City
and Sioux Center, IA
800-446-2531



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?

Give recognition where it is due by making an award nomination. Awards will be presented at the Awards Banquet. **Application deadline is October 30, 2023.** Eligible nominees must be affiliated with a system member in good standing. The online form can be found at www.surveymonkey.com/r/ATCawards or on the reverse of this page.

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.

South Dakota Rural Water AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

This form is also available online at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/ATCAwards

Name of Nominee _____ Title _____

Employer _____ Years with System _____

Name of person making nomination _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zipcode _____

Please Indicate Award:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Water System of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Manager of the Year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Water Manager of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Office Person of the Year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Water Office Person of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Operations Specialist of the Year |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Water Operations Supervisor of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Spirit of Rural Water |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Water Operations Specialist of the Year | <input type="checkbox"/> Donald B. Pospishil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Water/Wastewater System of the Year | |

Supporting Information: Please provide a narrative for why this nominee deserves the award. (Outstanding accomplishments, contributions to system and state association, certifications, awards, exemplary work on legislative issues, leadership, civic activities, etc.) Feel free to add additional pages if needed.

Deadline to apply is October 30, 2023

Please complete this entry form and mail to:
SDARWS | Attn: Jeremiah | PO Box 287 | Madison, SD 57042
or scan and email to atc@sdarws.com

Seeing success from your **PERSPECTIVE**

“We know your goals are bigger than just the project at hand. We’re invested in your overall best interest.”

Dustin Dale, PE, AE2S Engineer



Water Engineering and Beyond

Award-Winning Best Place to Work



Only the National Rural Water Association can bring together this unique Products and Services Portfolio.



That's the *Power* of Association.

nrwa.org/members/products-services-portfolio/

When It Comes To Waterworks, There Can Be A Lot Of Pressure.



To succeed, you need a partner that makes your job easier. With Dakota Supply Group, you get more than just pipe and products:

- ▶ Contact us today to learn more about how we can help you.

DSG
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP
For all the right connections!

FARGO, ND ▶ [800] 342-4676
 BISMARCK, ND ▶ [855] 337-9258
 SIOUX FALLS, SD ▶ [800] 660-5531
 RAPID CITY, SD ▶ [800] 660-5538
 BURNSVILLE, MN ▶ [800] 325-0514

www.dakotasupplygroup.com

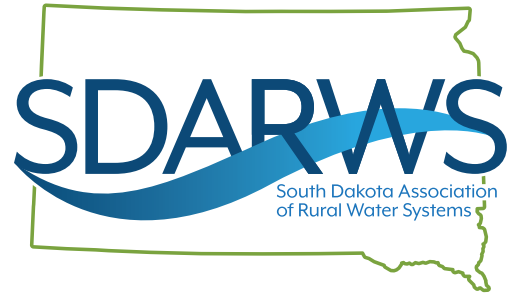
Become a NRWA Supporting member today!

NRWA Supporting Members Receive:



For more information, contact Chance Winslett at chance@nrwa.org or 580-252-0629 or by visit www.nrwa.org/members

South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems ANNUAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Register by December 15, 2023 and save \$25 off your registration or \$50 off your booth.

You can register online at sdarws.com/ATC

CLIENT MEETING ROOMS

We have a limited number of rooms available for client meetings. Call 605-556-7219 to reserve.

HOTEL INFORMATION

DAYS INN – 605-224-0411

GOVERNOR'S INN – 605-224-4200

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS – 605-223-9045

BAYMONT INN & SUITES – 605-224-4140

**JANUARY
9-11, 2024**

PIERRE RAMKOTA HOTEL &
CONVENTION CENTER



sdarws.com/ATC

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

TUESDAY

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

10:00 AM - 11:30 PM

2:30 PM - 4:45 PM

AWARDS LUNCHEON

– *Sponsored by DGR Engineering*

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

KEYNOTE

Dan Meers – Sponsored by AE2S

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

KEYNOTE BREAKOUT

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

HALLWAY EXHIBITS

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

ANNUAL MEETING

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

8:00 AM - 11:45 AM

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

RURAL WATER CENTER

ANNUAL MEETING

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

LEGISLATIVE PANEL

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

HALLWAY EXHIBITS

8:00 AM - 8:00 PM

EXHIBIT HALL & LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION

4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

THURSDAY

LEGISLATIVE OPEN FORUM & BREAKFAST

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM



Timed trials will take place on
Wednesday, January 10th from
8:00 AM - 3:00 PM at the SDARWS
Booth.

The top 9 finalists will compete at
4:30 PM in the Exhibit Hall.
A full list of rules can be found at
sdarws.com/meterchallenge

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: *DAN MEERS*



Dan Meers goes to work each day like many other men, dressed in a suit. The only difference is that instead of wearing a tie with his suit, Dan wears a tail. You see, Dan is a professional mascot.

Dan is widely known as KC Wolf, the official mascot of the Kansas City Chiefs. He travels throughout the United States and the world entertaining thousands of people both in and out of costume. Dan is in high demand not only as a mascot but also as a humorous and motivational speaker to audiences of all ages. His enthusiasm, optimism and love for life are contagious and makes Dan an inspiration to all those he meets. We are excited to have Dan Meers join us at this year's ATC!

ATTENDEE INFORMATION

MEMBER REGISTRATION

FULL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION: \$325 Early Bird; \$350 after 12/15/23

TUESDAY ONLY: \$205 Early Bird; \$230 after 12/15/23

WEDNESDAY ONLY: \$255 Early Bird; \$280 after 12/15/23

AWARDS BANQUET: \$35 Early Bird; \$40 after 12/15/23

SPOUSE REGISTRATION: \$50 Early Bird; \$55 after 12/15/23

NON-MEMBER REGISTRATION

FULL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION: \$390 Early Bird; \$440 after 12/15/23

TUESDAY ONLY: \$255 Early Bird; \$305 after 12/15/23

WEDNESDAY ONLY: \$325 Early Bird; \$375 after 12/15/23

AWARDS BANQUET: \$40 Early Bird; \$45 after 12/15/23

**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT
ENDS DECEMBER 15TH!**



WATER TASTE TEST CONTEST

RULES:

- Bring your sample to the ATC registration table by 2:00 PM on Tuesday
- Samples must be submitted in a glass jar quart size or larger labeled with your system name.
- No water system can represent more than one entry from their system.
- Systems submitting samples must be members of SDARWS and meet DENR approval by having no violations of bacteriological testing or chemical monitoring for two years prior to the Taste Test.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

A panel of judges will be selected to choose the winners. Judges will consider:

- Taste
- Clarity
- Odor

PRIZES:

First place will represent all of South Dakota in the National Drinking Water Taste Test in Washington, DC in February 2025, an art-glass trophy, two Full-Conference registration passes for the 2025 Annual Technical Conference, recognition in *ServiceLine* magazine, and bragging rights for the next year!

EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

SDARWS offers two types of exhibitor booth spaces: **2-Day Hallway** (Tuesday and Wednesday), and **Exhibit Hall** (Wednesday evening). Booth spaces are limited, so make sure to reserve your space. Each booth comes with two individual conference registrations; additional individuals will need to register as an attendee (see information to the right). You **MUST** be a member of SDARWS to exhibit. All registrations will be reviewed before your booth space will be confirmed.

2-DAY HALLWAY BOOTH

(Tuesday & Wednesday)

\$600 Early Bird | \$650 after 12/15/23

HALLWAY BOOTH SCHEDULE

Setup: Tuesday, January 9th – 9:00am - 12:00pm

Exhibit: Tuesday, January 9th – 12:00pm - 5:00pm;
Wednesday, January 10th – 7:30am - 5:00pm with the option to stay up until 8:00pm in Hallway, or move into Exhibit Hall by 4:00pm if space allows

Tear Down: Wednesday, January 10th – 5:00pm (Hallway Only) – 9:00pm (Exhibit Hall)

EXHIBIT HALL BOOTH

(Wednesday Only)

\$500 Early Bird | \$550 after 12/15/23

EXHIBIT HALL BOOTH SCHEDULE

Setup: Wednesday, January 10 – 9:30am - 3:30pm

Exhibit: Wednesday, January 10 – 4:00pm - 8:00pm

Tear Down: Wednesday, January 10 – 8:00pm - 9:00pm

Every booth comes with full conference registrations for 2 individuals.

Corporate Partners have the option of a second booth. Please call 605.556.7219 for assistance.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS SPONSOR – \$3,000

Benefits include recognition in conference displays and banners, logo displayed in session rooms, recognition in the program booklet. Sponsorship includes a booth space in the Exhibit Hall, as well as registration for two. *(Multiple Available)*

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST SPONSOR – \$3,000

Thursday morning is our farewell event, featuring a legislative panel and sit-down breakfast. Benefits include recognition in conference displays and banners, logo displayed in session rooms, and recognition in the program booklet. Sponsorship price includes a booth space in the Exhibit Hall Wednesday night and Full Conference Registration for two. *(One Available)*

BREAK TABLE SPONSOR – \$1,500

Sponsorship includes electronic signage at the break table, the opportunity to place promo materials on the break table, and recognition in the program booklet and agenda displays. *(Five Available)*

CHARGING STATION SPONSORSHIP – \$1,000

The charging station will be up for the duration of the conference, and includes advertising space for a printed 22" x 28" ad. *(One Available)*

CONFERENCE BAG SPONSOR – \$650

Your branded bag will be handed out to every conference attendee with their name badge and agenda booklet at registration. *(One Available)*

WINE SPONSORSHIP – \$750

Want to bring people to your booth? Serve them some wine! All you have to do is sign up for this sponsorship and we'll take care of the details. Includes signage. *(One Available)*

KEG SPONSORSHIP – \$600

Want extra exposure in the Exhibit Hall? Sponsor a keg! Keg can be placed in your booth if desired. Includes signage. *(Four Available)*

T-SHIRT SPONSOR – \$200

Have your one-color logo printed on the back of the official ATC t-shirts. Artwork due by December 1. *(Multiple Available)*

SWAG BAG STUFFER – \$100

Have your swag inserted into each conference attendee's bag. Price is for 400 items which must be delivered to our Madison office by December 16th. *(Multiple Available)*

PROGRAM BOOKLET ADS

Put your ad in our program booklet to be handed out to each attendee. Ad deadline is December 9th.

\$300 – Full Page Color

\$175 – Full Page B&W

\$125 – 1/4 Page Color

\$75 – 1/4 Page B&W

(Multiple Available)

Sponsorships can be reserved online with ATC booth registration, by calling Jennifer at 605-556-7219 or via email at atc@sdarws.com. Sponsorships subject to availability and are first come-first served.



WATER TREATMENT'S TOTAL SOLUTION



- ✓ Best-in-Class Process-Pump-Flow Control Equipment
- ✓ Custom Chemical Feed Skids
- ✓ Local Service and Product Support
- ✓ Proudly Serving Municipal & Industrial Markets



WWW.VESSCO.COM

952-941-2678

ISG



DRIVEN BY
PASSION+
PURPOSE

101 South Reid Street + Suite 202, Sioux Falls, SD 57103
605.274.6401

Architecture + Engineering + Environmental + Planning | ISGInc.com



Join Our Team!
bit.ly/W_WW_Jobs



Expertise Snapshot

- Capital Improvement Plans
- Feasibility Studies
- Grants + Funding Support
- Hydraulic System Modeling + Analysis
- Industrial Wastewater
- Inflow + Infiltration Studies
- Master Planning + Facility Plans
- Permitting
- Sanitary Sewer + Wastewater Collection
- Site Selection + Surveying
- User Rate Studies
- Wastewater Treatment
- Water Reuse
- Water Treatment
- Water + Wastewater Operations

ADVANCING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE: THE ROLE OF SOUTH DAKOTA RURAL WATER'S EFC PROGRAM

In April, South Dakota Rural Water embraced a significant challenge by spearheading the Region 8 Environmental Finance Center (EFC) program, focusing exclusively on EPA Region 8 states – South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, and Utah – pledging to be the Robin Hood of underserved communities. The core objective of the EFC program is to offer vital technical assistance to underserved communities and facilitate their access to engineering support and State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) financing assistance.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) magnifies this program's significance, which allocates a substantial \$50 billion for water and wastewater projects through state revolving loan fund programs. EPA Region 8, in close partnership with National Rural Water, has made it a mission to ensure that these funds are accessible to the communities that need them most, as defined by the EPA – those that have not received technical assistance from SDARWS within the past two years.

To fortify this mission, recently, I had the privilege of participating in the SRF Funding Academy in Denver. The SRF Academy serves as a crucial resource for frontline partners striving to provide technical assistance, advocacy, and project development for disadvantaged and underserved communities. This comprehensive training empowers participants to adeptly navigate the intricacies of securing SRF funding, spanning technical, programmatic, and financial management.

Ultimately, it's not just about pipes and pumps; it's about ensuring every community in our region has access



to reliable water and wastewater infrastructure,

fostering health, growth, and prosperity for all residents. The EFC program's role within EPA Region 8 is undeniably

pivotal. It bridges the gap between communities in need and the wealth of available resources through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. In a world where water is the new gold, initiatives like the EFC program emerge as our hope to ensure that no one gets stranded high and dry. 💧



PAUL DORWART joined the team at SDARWS as a Circuit Rider for the state's east side in March 2022 and transitioned to a Technical Assistance/Training Specialist in October 2023. He has a degree in Ag Management from Mitchell Technical College and a bachelor's degree in business administration from Dakota Wesleyan University. Paul worked as a general contractor for nine years before becoming the maintenance superintendent at the City of Kimball. He holds a Class I Water Distribution, Class I Wastewater Collection, and Stabilization pond certificate.

Paul currently resides in Kimball with his wife and two daughters. He enjoys hunting, traveling, gardening, landscaping, and building/remodeling projects in his spare time.

**NEVER TAKE RISKS
WITH WHAT
YOU'RE MADE OF**

Ford Meter Box will never compromise the quality of our brass products or alloy because communities around the world depend on them for reliable delivery of clean water. Ford's underground services endure for generations because of what they're made of.

FORD
FORD METER BOX
www.fordmeterbox.com
260-563-3171



Play Video



GNE

WATER
PROCESS EQUIPMENT

WASTEWATER
PROCESS EQUIPMENT


LOCAL SD
PARTS, SERVICE & SUPPORT

Great Northern Environmental
651.289.9100
www.gnenv.com | kfritze@gnenv.com

**STRUCTURE.
& INTEGRITY.**


**PITTSBURG
TANK & TOWER
GROUP**
An ESOP Company Since 1919
"100 years and still climbing"

**CREWS
AVAILABLE
GLOBALLY**



WWW.PTTG.COM

INSPECTIONS	REPAIR	TANKS
Wet Dry ROV In-Service Cleaning	Code Updates Paint Insulation	Elevated Ground Relocation Erection Dismantles
NEW TANKS - Rick DiZinno (270) 826-9000 ext. 2601	EXISTING TANKS - Jordan Pyles (270) 826-9000 ext. 4601	



JETLINE
SALES & SERVICE

Official Dealer & Distributor For

rausch USA

**SOUTHLAND
TOOL MFG. INC.**

USB-USA



Chase Johnson 320.290.5764 | chase@jetlinesales.com | www.jetlinesales.com

IMPORTANCE OF A WORKING FIRE HYDRANT

There are thousands of fire hydrants in our state, which means there will be some issues that could lead to complications when it comes time to use them to save a property or, even more importantly, a life.

Fire Hydrant repair is due to many reasons, including car accidents, non-maintenance, freezing cold winters, vandalism, and inexperienced personnel operating it. All of these can cause a hydrant not to function.

Every spring and every fall hydrant should be flushed and inspected with documentation. So many times, I have been asked to help with a non-functioning hydrant and have been told the hydrant has not been operated in many years. Some hydrants are an easy fix just by adding proper oil or grease and exercising it. Some repairs need more attention, meaning the seat and o-rings must be replaced.

But rebuilding a fire hydrant is a much more cost-effective alternative than hiring a contractor to dig one up and replace it. It costs approximately \$800-1,000 to rebuild a hydrant and roughly \$6,000 to replace it. So, when budgets are stretched beyond their means, a hydrant rebuild is the best option. It only takes about two hours to tear apart and reassemble one if everything goes right, but it might take four to five hours when things go wrong. It can also be a bit intimidating because we do not work on them very often, and many people have not seen the inside of one.

The tools for tearing one apart are very expensive, and every brand requires its own unique tool to remove the seat, which is located six feet under the ground. I want to note here that SDARWS has all of the major brands of hydrant wrenches on hand and can assist your utility if you need us.



Remember when you are dismantling a hydrant that there is an isolation valve located in front of the hydrant or how many residents and businesses will be affected. You'll also have to order parts in advance, not knowing what you will need. I suggest ordering a rebuild kit that comes with the seat and all the o-rings and gaskets needed because there is no worse feeling than disassembling a hydrant and finding out the piece you need is the piece you did not order and you have customers out of water.

If your utility has any questions about hydrants,

please call SDARWS at 605-556-7219, and we'll put you in touch with a field staff person who can help. ♦



ALLEN KOCMICH joined the SDARWS staff in November 2021 as a Circuit Rider. He previously worked for 30 years at the City of Avon, SD as the Water/Wastewater Superintendent. Al holds a Class I Water Distribution and Class I Wastewater Collection. Al has volunteered with the Avon Fire Department for over 30 years, with 15 years as Assistant Chief, and has been on the Avon Ambulance crew for 22 years. He enjoys fishing, hunting, boating, camping, and the Green Bay Packers (when they win).



ELECTRIC PUMP



An Electric Pump Company



800-211-6432

www.electricpump.com

115 Lipton Street
Suite B
Tea, SD 57064

402-333-9660

www.mc2h2o.com

SPN & ASSOCIATES

ENGINEERS SURVEYORS GIS SERVICES

Schmucker, Paul, Nohr and Associates

2100 N. Sanborn Blvd – PO Box 398
Mitchell, SD 57301
Phone (605) 996-7761
FAX (605) 996-0015
www.spn-assoc.com

Water • Wastewater • Storm Water • Streets
Airports • Solid Waste • Animal Waste
Land Surveying • Site Development
Geographic Information Systems (GIS)



**ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE
SINCE 1961**

DON'T BE LUMPED IN WITH THE FOOLS, BE SMART WITH YOUR TOOLS!

Nearly one million people each year are injured with hand and power tools. Half of those injuries also result in an emergency room visit. Most of these injuries are a result of improper use or poor maintenance. Some tools may be easy to understand and use correctly, while others may require reading manuals and/or training to use correctly. With that said here are a few general guidelines to follow to make sure you don't become one of those emergency room statistics.

- Read the owners manual (yes, follow directions); especially if it is a new type of tool that you have not used or had training on.
- Buy high quality tools that won't break in the middle of use. Opt for the heat-treated steel handle instead of the cheaper one.
- Keep tools clean and perform maintenance on tools as necessary and according to manufacturers recommendations.
- Do not use electric power tools in wet conditions unless they are designed for it. Use a GFCI or an assured grounding program.
- Make sure you wear appropriate personal protective equipment for the task at hand. Safety glasses or goggles are must for almost any task with had or power tools.
- Don't wear loose clothing or jewelry that could get caught in moving parts.
- Always use the right tool for the job. For example, use the longer breaker bar instead of the cheater bar on the ratchet.

These are just a few tips that can help you do your job safer. Whether you are at work or at home, your safety depends on you. Use your tools wisely so they don't end up hurting you! 💡



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 NRW. 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.

CERTIFICATION PRACTICE QUESTIONS

1. A 42-inch diameter pipe is flowing at a rate of 6.5 feet per second. What is the flow in cubic feet per second?
 - a. 17.86
 - b. 35.71
 - c. 62.50
 - d. 521.25
2. If the pump bearings on horizontal centrifugal pumps are over lubricated, the most important effect is that the extra lubricant
 - a. will result in smoother and more efficient operation of the pump.
 - b. will not make any difference in the operation of the pump.
 - c. will be wasted.
 - d. shaft or shaft sleeve will be damaged.
3. If packing is not maintained properly,
 - a. cavitation damage will result.
 - b. impeller will corrode.
 - c. loss of suction due to air being allowed to enter pump.
 - d. shaft or shaft sleeve will be damaged.
4. Air flow through a trickling filter when the influent is warmer than the air temperature is
 - a. upward through the filter.
 - b. downward through the filter.
 - c. inadequate and may require forced air ventilation.
 - d. improved by decreasing the recirculation.
5. An active sludge in the aeration tank with an abundant available food supply will have a relatively
 - a. high oxygen uptake and fast settling rate.
 - b. high oxygen uptake and slow settling rate.
 - c. low oxygen uptake and fast settling rate.
 - d. low oxygen uptake and slow settling rate.



Your number one source

Top providers of creative water and wastewater solutions with over 75 years of combined experience.



treatmentresources.com • 612 702-2692

“We love our new website! This is the best decision we ever made!”



RuralWaterImpact.com

Smart Websites for Smart Water Systems™



MunicipalImpact.com

Smart Websites for Smart Communities™

Trusted website provider for more than 1,400 small towns and water systems across America!



Text Alerting System • Easy Updates • Secure Hosting • Free Trial • Unlimited Support • Money-Back Guarantee

FAST LAUNCH: Get a Website in Just 3 Days! Call Today (888) 551-4815



SOUTH DAKOTA'S SHALLOW AQUIFERS

Shallow sand and gravel deposits are highly valued aquifers in South Dakota, serving as essential water sources for public water supplies, rural water systems, and numerous private users, catering to domestic, commercial, and industrial needs. These aquifers are pivotal in sustaining agriculture through irrigation and supporting livestock activities. The sand and gravel formations in eastern South Dakota, primarily deposited during the ice age, are crucial components of these aquifers found in diverse geological settings. Similar deposits are also present along modern floodplains throughout the state. These aquifers have minimal overlying material, with the water source directly accessible beneath a thin layer of topsoil.

These shallow aquifers are particularly vulnerable to contamination due to their proximity to the land surface. Any potential pollutants introduced or spilled near these aquifers can rapidly infiltrate or be carried into the water source, jeopardizing its quality. Proactive measures to mitigate hazardous land use practices around water supply wells or well fields have emerged as essential tools for public water suppliers and individuals. This approach, commonly called “source water protection,” aims to safeguard the integrity of local water sources.

Each public water supply well or well field is associated with a designated wellhead protection area (WHPA). The delineation of these individual WHPAs involves analytical modeling and geological mapping to ascertain the portions of the aquifer contributing water to the respective water supply systems. The second tier of protection is extended to the remaining parts of the shallow aquifer, permitting a range of land uses while enforcing reasonable safeguards. It's important to note that these regulations do not apply to areas devoid of shallow aquifers.

In response to amendments to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act in 1996, the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (SDDANR) initiated a comprehensive pollution prevention program dedicated to safeguarding the vicinity surrounding public drinking water supplies. These amendments mandated each state to identify existing and potential sources of pollution that could impact the quality of public drinking water supplies. Over a three-year span, the SDDANR successfully conducted source water assessments for approximately 760 public water supply systems across South Dakota.

CONDUCTING A SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT INVOLVES A THREE-STEP PROCESS:

1. Identifying the contributing watershed (for surface water sources) or groundwater area (aquifer) for each water supply.
2. Pinpointing significant potential sources of contamination within these areas.
3. Evaluating the water supply's susceptibility to contamination from these sources.

While the Safe Drinking Water Act mandated the completion of assessments, the responsibility for subsequent actions was given to state and local entities. Post-assessment, collaborative efforts between state and local governments, water providers, and concerned individuals were pivotal in formulating action plans to address identified issues and risks.

Numerous communities and public water supplies have either implemented or are developing tailor-made local strategies to tackle identified challenges and cater to specific regional needs. In all instances, the goal is to safeguard critical water resources.

While technology can transform even heavily polluted water into potable form, the associated costs are often substantial and prohibitive. Adopting preventative measures to prevent contaminants from entering our water supplies presents a far more cost-effective approach to ensuring a sustainable and ample supply of safe drinking water both now and in the future. 💧



KEVIN CHRISTENSON started with SDARWS in November of 2021 as the Source Water Protection Specialist. He was previously employed at East Dakota Water Development District in Brookings, SD as a Field Project Specialist for 10 years collecting water quality samples and discharge measurements from surrounding streams, rivers, and lakes. Kevin's hobbies include hunting small and big game across South Dakota, coaching baseball, and following his three kids around to their many sporting events and other activities.



Water Treatment Chemicals, Equipment and Local Service

Scan this QR code
to see the Hawkins
testimonial video.



800.328.5460
wtg@hawkinsinc.com

Black Hawk, SD 605.787.6881 Sioux Falls, SD 605.368.5793 Fargo, ND 701.293.9618 Washburn, ND 701.462.8588

*Customized solutions by a
professionally trained team.*

SERVICE

- Mini Bulk Delivery
- Equipment Installations
- Laboratory Testing

WATER TREATMENT

- Potable Water
- Wastewater Treatment
- Collection Systems

EQUIPMENT

- Chemical Injection Pumps
- Chlorination Control
- Chemical Feed Equipment

Now Hiring for Sales & Service!

Visit www.hawkinsinc.com/careers for current openings and locations



Since 1913, HR Green has provided solutions that build communities and improve lives.



▶ SIOUX FALLS

▶ HRGREEN.COM

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE INSPECTION OF A LAGOON FACILITY

In the world of wastewater treatment, lagoons are the most used wastewater system. The operational and maintenance (O&M) inspection of a lagoon wastewater facility is a bit like preparing for a visit from the sanitation version of Sherlock Holmes (alias DANR, Tim Flor or one of his appointees) meticulous planning, magnifying glasses, and a keen eye for details are a must. Lagoon wastewater systems are the unsung heroes of the wastewater treatment world, relying on nature's helping hand and our careful management. To ensure these systems stay out of the inspector's crosshairs and keep doing their dirty work effectively, we must roll up our sleeves and prepare for the O&M inspection; this should be a daily event. So, when you get that call, your nerves are at ease, and all you need to do is ask when you would like to make an appointment to come.

The first step in preparing for an O&M inspection is to review your Surface Water Discharge Permit and the Statement of Basis documentation, past inspection reports, and maintenance records related to the facility (have printed copies on site). Understanding your facility's history and compliance status is essential for identifying areas needing special attention before the inspection. If something needed attention three years ago at the last inspection, and for some reason, the task has not been completed, be ready to explain why this has not been a priority to complete.

MAINTAINING THE LAGOON SYSTEM IS ONGOING, AND REGULAR MAINTENANCE IS CRITICAL.

Is your inspection booklet up to date? Take credit for the work it takes to keep the lagoons in shape. How often are you inspecting, what needs to be done, did you write down when the work was completed, and did you put your initial on the task? "Take credit for the work." As people from the center of these United States, we have difficulty telling others what we have done. No, it's not bragging. Check your inspection book to see everything done that is noted and that all components are in good working condition. This includes equipment like pumps, mixers, and aerators, as well as assessing the condition of berms and liners.

A WELL-PREPARED TEAM OF MOST SMALL SYSTEMS IS A SINGLE PERSON.

Some are paid a token of appreciation, and some are "voluntold." To help ensure that personnel involved in the operation and maintenance of the lagoon facility are adequately trained and knowledgeable (that's where we come in – SDARWS has trained certified operators on staff) about their duties during the inspection. Remember, during an inspection, "I don't know, but I will find out" is an answer. Do not make something up for an answer.

ACCURATE RECORD-KEEPING IS A CORNERSTONE OF REGULATORY COMPLIANCE.

Compile your past analysis of discharges of effluent quality to ensure accurate and up-to-date data is available upon request. Also, make sure you have noted pH calibration in your inspection booklet. If a new permit is issued, review the sampling requirements and have all the testing for discharge done. A new permit could mean different tests to stay in compliance.

LAGOON FACILITIES MUST HAVE CONTINGENCY PLANS IN PLACE FOR EMERGENCIES, SUCH AS HEAVY RAIN EVENTS OR EQUIPMENT FAILURES.

Review and update these plans to ensure they are current and ready for implementation if needed. Important are the numbers of equipment and repair companies that the system has used, or the name and number of the company that should never be used again!

FIRST IMPRESSIONS MATTER, EVEN IN WASTEWATER TREATMENT.

Ensure that the facility's grounds are well-maintained and tidy. Remove any debris or vegetation. A clean and organized site demonstrates pride in keeping your system compliant.

In the grand scheme of things, an O&M inspection at a lagoon wastewater facility might not be as glamorous as a Hollywood movie premiere, but it's just as important. So, remember, when you're out there, knee-deep in mud, reviewing documents, and keeping the lagoon ducks as your only company – you're the unsung hero of wastewater management. A successful inspection ensures that the muck stays where it belongs and that our environment remains cleaner and greener. Here's to the lagoons, the inspectors, and the smiles on the faces of those who don't even realize they owe it all to a well-maintained pond somewhere in the backwoods of wastewater treatment. Keep up the good work, and may your lagoons always be a quiet place rather than a source of unpleasant odors! 💧



JEFF FOSSOM joined the SDARWS staff in February 2018 after he retired as the Water/Wastewater Superintendent at the City of Canton, SD after 32 years. Jeff is certified in Class II Water Treatment, Class II Water Distribution, Class II Wastewater Treatment, and Class II Wastewater Collection. His interests include gardening, woodworking, and talking.

RESHAPING THE FUTURE OF UTILITY TECHNOLOGY



Analytics



Security



Mobility



Office



Field

An Integrated Technology Cooperative.

CSA/PCS is an industry leader in utility software solutions. As a member-owned cooperative, we strive to provide best-in-class integrated solutions for: billing, financials, engineering, operations, analytics, and customer empowerment - in a secure, hosted environment.

We provide a true enterprise experience.

888-843-3106 • pcs-csa.com



Central Service Association

Professional Computer Solutions



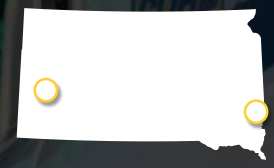
The Leading Distributor of Water, Sewer & Storm Drain Products & Services



WE'RE ALL ABOUT

South Dakota

When you need dependable service in the middle of the night, the eye of the storm or the center of town, you need the waterworks experts at Core & Main.



Sioux Falls

2101 E 54th St N
(605) 339-2814

Rapid City

2808 E Highway 44
(605) 716-9427

FUSIBLE PIPING

METERING AMR/AMI

TREATMENT PLANTS

STORM DRAIN

PUMPING

Local Knowledge | Local Experience | Local Service, Nationwide®

coreandmain.com

PASD20190529

SDARWS MAKES AN IMPRESSION AT WATERPRO CONFERENCE

Over 75 South Dakotans traveled to Aurora, Colorado, for the National Rural Water WaterPro Conference held at the Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center. It was an exciting week for South Dakota, starting with the association taking home the Outstanding Achievement in Communications, Publications, and Public Relations for the fourth time in seven years!

The SDARWS team was drawn to participate in the Rural Water Feud. After beating The SDARWS team of Jeremiah Corbin, Kurt Pfeifle, Jennifer Bame, Paul Dorwart, and Gavin Graverson beat Minnesota Rural Water and won the Feud at the Membership Appreciation Luncheon – bringing home a \$5,000 credit at USA BlueBook. Jeremiah Corbin and Jennifer Bame participated in the “fast money” portion of the ‘Feud’ contest. SDARWS once again beat the odds and added another \$2,500 to the USA BlueBook credit, for a total of \$7,500!

Two SDARWS staff, Paul Dorwart and Kevin Christenson, had photos entered in the Rural Water on Display Photo Contest.

Paul received second place in the “WaterWorks” category. Kevin took home first place in “Water in Rural America” and also took home the “Grand Prize” for best overall picture. Kevin’s photo may be featured in an upcoming issue of NRWA’s magazine, and is featured on the cover of this issue of *ServiceLine*. Paul’s picture can be found on page 21.

SDARWS was also asked to present a couple of sessions at this year’s conference. Jennifer Bame hosted a session titled “Public Relations and Customer Engagement.” Kurt Pfeifle and Jeremiah Corbin also hosted a presentation titled “Getting Results From Your Experts.” All in all it was a great conference in a great location.

Next year’s WaterPro Conference will take place in Savannah, GA, September 9-11, 2024. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend! 💧

To view more pictures from this event, visit our website at sdarws.com/news.





Bridging the gap
between idea +
achievement



Sioux Falls 605.977.7740
Rapid City 605.791.6100
hdrinc.com

Special Loan Terms for SDARWS Members!

South Dakota Association of Rural Water Systems (SDARWS) has partnered with CoBank,

a national cooperative bank that serves rural America, to provide attractive financing solutions for SDARWS members. Find out about the specially negotiated terms on many loan products and bonds for water and wastewater utilities, including:



- ✓ USDA INTERIM CONSTRUCTION FINANCING
- ✓ USDA GUARANTEED LOANS AND BONDS
- ✓ LINES OF CREDIT
- ✓ DEBT REFINANCING
- ✓ TERM FINANCING



CONTACT
Michael Griffiths
Call: 720-520-6261
Email: griffiths@cobank.com

USDA AND RURAL WATER – AN ESSENTIAL PARTNERSHIP

By Matt Holmes, CEO of National Rural Water Association

Just as water is essential to everyday life, the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Programs are vital to rural America in keeping water and wastewater services available. It is crucial that Congress continues to support these investments to protect the health and safety of rural Americans and keep our communities economically viable. In recent appropriations bills, Congress has cut funding to programs specifically designed to help rural Americans. With such major funding cuts, programs for rural communities are now at risk, which is why the time to act is now.

Over the last 80 years, through the billions of dollars in financial assistance stewarded by USDA Rural Development and its predecessor agency, the Farmer's Home Administration, our nation has made great advancements in the standard of living in rural America. Millions of rural Americans now have access to safe drinking water that their parents never did. Thousands of rural communities now have wastewater systems that have eliminated millions of questionable septic tanks, cesspools, straight pipes, and worse.

Rural Development is the only federal agency created by Congress to serve rural America specifically. They are rural America's trusted partner – and Congress needs to know that you support them. The needs are still great; 91% of the country's water systems serve communities with fewer than 10,000 persons – that's 44,924 systems. A majority of the total water systems (54%) serve less than 500 people. These communities are the heart of Rural Development's Water and Environmental Programs (WEP) portfolio and the sole focus of National Rural Water Association's technical assistance programs.

The impact of this investment is immeasurable. Rural Development, more than any other agency, is responsible for building the engine of economic development in rural communities, keeping them vibrant, and providing dramatic improvements to the environment and public health. We are proud to stand alongside Rural Development's field staff as a partner in their mission. Rural Development's field staff and the number of field offices have been reduced dramatically over the past decades. In an era where problems and division receive most of the attention, we need to recognize the tremendous success and impact these programs have provided in rural communities within

every state and territory of this nation. We commend Rural Development's staff for continuing to meet the mission and doing more with less.

Unfortunately, it can be difficult for the general public to grasp the issues caused if infrastructure improvements are not made to infrastructure and training is not supported. Water and wastewater systems need the funding that USDA provides to improve their systems. Without this funding, systems have a larger burden to find additional resources to cover costs, or the alternative is to raise rates to cover the costs of upgrades, putting more stress on already economically disadvantaged communities. Rural water and wastewater systems are vital for the health and safety of Americans. ♦

NRWA SUPPORTS USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Ron Gillen
South Dakota

“ USDA Rural Development worked directly with South Dakota staff to have them trained and provide the authority for local offices to evaluate the loans and grant parity, shared allocation of assets. Mr. Stephens offered to personally investigate specific project requests that were delayed or resulting in delays of more than 60 days. This was a huge lift for South Dakota rural water systems. South Dakota always looks forward to improving the process including fostering stronger relationships with both local RD staff and the leadership in Washington, DC. ”

By supporting USDA WEP programs through appropriated funding, Congress is supporting the effort to ensure safe drinking water and clean wastewater is a reality for all Americans. Next time you turn on the tap, think about the people who make this possible and ask Congress to support Rural Water, USDA Rural Development, and specifically USDA WEP Programs. Safe drinking water and clean wastewater are something everyone in America should have access to, whether they live in a town of 60 or 600,000. These programs ensure this is a reality for all, today and for generations to come. ♦



203 W. Center Street
P.O. Box 287
Madison, SD 57042
www.sdarws.com



*SEE THE
FULL AGENDA
ON PAGE 9*

SAVE THE DATE

**NOVEMBER
8-9, 2023**

RAMKOTA HOTEL, PIERRE, SD

REGISTER ONLINE AT SDARWS.COM/LEADERSHIP