



SMALL SYSTEMS BULLETIN

MINNESOTA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION
-October 2015-

In This Issue

[Stillwater Prison Gets a New Water System!](#)

[The QUIZ SPOT](#)

[Upcoming Training Sessions](#)

Quick Links

[Register for Training Session](#)

[About Us](#)

[Our Corporate Partners](#)

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Dear Lori,

Welcome to this edition of the *Small Systems Bulletin*. The purpose of this bulletin is to keep you informed on issues concerning your water system. We issue this bulletin quarterly. Topics covered in the bulletin include: operation and maintenance, treatment, backflow/cross-connections, regulations, operator training, management, and many others. Dates and locations of future workshops are included.

If you have suggestions about topics that you would find helpful give us a call at 800-367-6792 or send us an email at kyle.kedrowski@mrwa.com or jennifer.koenig@mrwa.com. Maybe you had a unique experience at your water system that you would like to write about and submit for the bulletin. We're always looking for volunteer writers! We hope this bulletin will be of assistance to you in operating your water system. **Watch for this quarterly newsletter and we'll see you at a future small system training workshop!**



Stillwater Prison Gets a New Water System!

by Jennifer Koenig

As I drive across Minnesota working with small public water systems, I am amazed at the amount of historical buildings and sites that we have here. If you have ever driven through Stillwater, you have more than likely noticed the original Stillwater Prison warden's house which is located on Highway 95. When I first started this job in 2001, I can remember driving by the house (now a museum) and noticing the original Stillwater Prison. It was not long after this, that the original prison was destroyed by fire. I can still remember the pictures on the news showing this piece of history going up in flames.

Most of you may not be aware of the fact that the Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF) - Stillwater has its own water system. [Read more>>>](#)



Inside the MCF-Stillwater Water Plant with Jennifer Koenig (left) and Operations Specialist Rob Eastman (right).

The Perfect Time to Find That Valve

by Kyle Kedrowski



This is the perfect time for starting or expanding a "locating project." How about starting or expanding a valve locating and water line mapping project. Many water systems know where a majority of their water valves are, but how about all of the water main valves?

Not knowing the location of all of the main valves could cost an enormous amount of money if a lot of water is lost during a water break. The cost is not simply figured in dollars and cents, but also the cost of valuable time lost during an emergency (a water reservoir is draining due to a water leak or something similar). Valves are there for a good reason, but if they cannot be located or are no longer in a good operating condition, the bottom line is that they are not accomplishing their purpose. [READ MORE>>>](#)

The QUIZ SPOT

1. When opening and closing valves in high-pressure lines, the valves should be opened:

- a. and closed as rapidly as possible.
- b. and closed slowly.
- c. rapidly and closed slowly.
- d. slowly and closed rapidly.

2. The free chlorine residual in water is the amount of

- a. chlorine applied as measured in milligrams per liter
- b. chlorine in raw water as it comes from the stream, reservoir, or well
- c. chlorides in the water
- d. uncombined chlorine that remains in the water after the chlorine has been applied and allowed to react.

3. The carrying capacity of water mains is often reduced by

- a. tuberculation
- b. looping
- c. vacuum breakers
- d. lining

answers: 1-b, 2-d, 3-a

YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER FOR THESE CLASSES:

To register: Call our office at: 800-367-6792 - OR - Online at: www.mrwa.com

**All Class D & E training sessions are subject to cancellation because of low attendance.*



Upcoming Training Sessions

Class E Training (8am - Noon)

October 21, 2015 -

Cloquet Forestry Center
175 University Road, Cloquet, MN

November 24, 2015 -

Minnesota Department of Health
18 Wood Lake Drive Southeast, Rochester, MN

December 9, 2015 -

Maple Grove Public Works
9030 Forestview Lane, Maple Grove, MN

December 15, 2015 -

Redwood Area Community Center
901 Cook Street, Redwood Falls, MN

Sincerely,

Kyle Kedrowski & Jennifer Koenig
Minnesota Rural Water Association

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