

SMALL SYSTEMS BULLETIN

MINNESOTA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION

-July 2020-

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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!**



Everybody Has Their Source Water Protection Mountain to Climb by Scott Hanson, MRWA Source Water Protection Specialist

In Minnesota, we have several source water protection issues to contend with. In highly vulnerable areas, you might be dealing with elevated nitrates or other man-made contaminants that have found their way into your drinking water supply. The vast majority of public water suppliers in Minnesota rely on groundwater as the source of drinking water; therefore the location and status of old wells is a priority to protect their drinking water supplies.

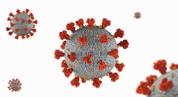
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Minnesota Nice, Especially Today! Are You Prepared for an Emergency? by Kyle Kedrowski, MRWA Technical Advisor

As all of us struggle through these uncertain times, there is time to reflect on work, neighbors, family, and friends. During this crisis, I have been in contact with many public water systems discussing emergency planning issues and updates. Everyone has been very kind and willing to share information during these phone conversations. Many of the contacts have shared their experiences about what has been taking place during the pandemic and what they are doing at work and home..

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COVID19

Do you have questions about sampling, water treatment, water operator renewals, and water quality due to low or no water usage? Check out the Minnesota Department of Health webpage, "*Public Water Systems and COVID-19*" that contains information and guidance for public water systems as it relates to COVID-19 [here](#).

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following nontransient noncommunity and nonmunicipal community water operations specialists for passing the water certification exam!



Class D

Jason Carlson - Heron Lake Bioenergy, LLC
Nicholas Cohrs - Northern Plains Dairy
Brett Grunklee - MCF-Faribault
Todd Hendrickson - Long Prairie Packing Co
Eric Martinson - College of St Benedict
Patty McCain - ISD #466 Dassel Cokato Public School
Donald Wenz - East Union Elementary School
Kurtis Williams - Queen Ann MHP, LLC

Upcoming Training:



At this time, our in-person training workshops are on hold and we are hoping to get them rescheduled as soon as possible once it is safe to do so. We will continue to follow guidance from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as it relates to holding in-person training. We understand that some of you are in need of continuing education credits now so we are working on putting a plan together for online remote training. We are hoping to start these online remote training sessions in August. We will notify you via email as soon as we have the details worked out for these online remote training workshops and the dates and times have been scheduled. We hope this online remote training will help keep you in compliance with the certification rule.

If you are receiving this newsletter, we already have your email on file. If there are new water operations specialists at your public water system that haven't provided their email to us, please have them email our office at mrwa@mrwa.com to get on our email list.

On-site Technical Assistance:

At this time, we continue to work remotely; however, if you need on-site technical assistance, you can request that for your system (please give us a call at the numbers below). We are available also by phone to help answer any questions that you may have regarding your drinking water system, operator renewals or training. If we can be of any assistance to you, please feel free to contact us. We miss working with you and providing assistance to you. We look forward to seeing you soon!

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Sincerely,

Kyle Kedrowski & Jennifer Koenig
Minnesota Rural Water Association

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