

Small Systems Bulletin

Minnesota Rural Water Association



October 2020 | Fall News

Onsite Technical Assistance

We are still available to help answer any questions that you may have regarding your drinking water system, operator renewals or training. If you are in need of onsite technical assistance at your public water system, please feel free to contact us to set up an appointment. Our contact information is listed below. We look forward to seeing you soon!



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 e-mail 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!

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MRWA Wellheadlines:

Unused Well Scavenger Hunt

By: Katie Breth

Locating and sealing an unused well can be a lot like navigating through a scavenger hunt. Conceptually, you know what you are looking for... an unused well. And you know that it needs to be sealed. However, you might not know exactly what the well looks like or know where it is even located. Then, to top things off, how is a well properly sealed? Let's work through a virtual scavenger hunt together...

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Unused wells are not only a concern for individual property owners but are also a concern to Public Water Suppliers (PWS). Unused wells can act as a direct conduit for potential contaminants to enter a public water supply. It is in the best interest to the PWS, and their water users, to seal any unused wells within their Drinking Water Supply Management



Area (DWSMA). Public Water Suppliers may have access to additional funding sources through the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). PWS are eligible for different grants based on their customer base and if they have a source water protection plan. To learn more about MDH grant funding please click the following link:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/wp/grants.html>

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 offering one-hour webinars each month on topics pertinent to small public water systems. We will notify you via email approximately two weeks before the scheduled webinar date. We hope these online remote training webinars will help keep you in compliance with the certification rule.

Note: 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.

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