

# Small Systems Bulletin

## Minnesota Rural Water Association



October 2021 | 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!



MRWA  
Corporate  
Partners



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](mailto:kyle.kedrowski@mrwa.com) or [jennifer.koenig@mrwa.com](mailto: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!***

About Us

Visit Our Website



## Feature Article:

### The Importance of Collecting Long-Term Data

The city of Kinney is a quaint community situated in the heart of the Iron Range. Bill, their long-time water operations specialist, has been recording static water level and pumping water level data for the city's primary and emergency wells for the past 22 years. Each week he writes the information on a monthly desk calendar and archives the sheets at the city shop. Bill stated that when he began working for the city, he noticed the previous operations specialist had been collecting the data, so he just kept on doing the same.

*By: Mike Strodman,  
MRWA Source Water  
Protection Specialist*



Bill said that for many years the numbers were very similar, although starting around 2009 he began to see a change in the static and pumping levels of about 100ft. By 2011, the difference in static and pumping levels changed by 250 ft. and in 2015 the greatest drops were over 300 ft. He began putting the pieces together and linked the changes in pumping levels to the mining activity northeast of town. “When they started mining further and further west is when we really saw the change in pumping levels,” said Bill. When the mining stopped (around 2016) and they built a reservoir lake he began to see the numbers go back to levels they were in 2009 and earlier.

In 2019, the mining company contacted the city and indicated they needed to develop a contingency plan with the cities of Kinney and Mountain Iron as required by the Department of Natural Resources. While discussing the details of the plan, Bill informed them that he had over 30 years of pumping data from their wells...

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## Training & Technical Assistance Update:

We are now offering in-person training sessions in addition to our online training sessions. We are currently working on scheduling training for January – June 2022. As soon as we have those dates and locations finalized we will post them on our *Training Calendar*. Our *Training Calendar* can be found at [www.mrwa.com](http://www.mrwa.com). The following training dates are posted on our *Training Calendar* under “MRWA Class E Training” (about half-way down the web page). For our in-person training sessions, we will mail notices to operations specialists in those areas approximately one month prior to the class. 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.

### December 9, 2021

Ramsey Municipal Center  
Alexander Ramsey Room  
7550 Sunwood Drive NW  
Ramsey, MN

[Click Here to Register!](#)

## Online Training:

We will continue to offer online remote training sessions using Zoom. If you have not received these email invites for the Zoom online training sessions, please email [mrwa@mrwa.com](mailto:mrwa@mrwa.com) and provide your name, public water system name, and preferred email address to us so that we can add you to our email list. If you have received emails from us in the past but not these Zoom notices, please check your Junk/Spam folder. If you use a Gmail account, you may need to check the “Promotions” folder for the email

invites. We also have a link on our *Training Calendar* under our “MRWA Class E Training” listings. You will be notified via email of the date and time of each online remote training session. An email address will be needed to register for these online remote training sessions. ***Each operations specialist must***



register and sign-in separately on their own device to receive credit for attending the online remote training session.

**November 30, 2021**

Iron, Manganese and Arsenic Treatment  
Online via Zoom

Phil Olsen from Midwest Water Engineering, LLC, will be the speaker during this webinar. This training session will cover filtration technologies, application techniques, proper media selection, backwashing mechanics and system troubleshooting. Jennifer Koenig and Kyle Kedrowski, MRWA technical advisors, will be assisting during this webinar.

If you have any questions that you would like to email us prior to the webinar, please send them to us at [mrwa@mrwa.com](mailto:mrwa@mrwa.com) and we will include them in the webinar.

To register for this webinar, please click on the link below. **Each operator must register and sign-in separately to receive credit for attending the webinar.** If you have any questions about the webinar or how to register, please feel free to call our office at 800-367-6792. We hope you will join us!

[Click Here to Register!](#)

## Technical Assistance:

We also wanted to let you know that if you are in need of onsite technical assistance, please feel free to contact us to set up an appointment. If you have any questions about training or technical assistance, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you so much for all that you do in providing safe drinking water to your consumers! Have a great summer!

*Jennifer Koenig*

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*Kyle Kedrowski*

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