

For Immediate Release

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CITY OF EAST GRAND FORKS WINS BEST TASTING WATER IN MINNESOTA TASTE TEST AT MINNESOTA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION’S 38TH ANNUAL WATER AND WASTEWATER TECHNICAL CONFERENCE!



Officials at the Minnesota Rural Water Association (MRWA) have found the best-tasting water in Minnesota!

On March 2, 2022 at the 38th Annual MRWA Water and Wastewater Technical Conference, the winner of a statewide competition was announced in an effort to identify the best tasting water in Minnesota and participants hope, in the nation.

Small and rural water utilities from around the state submitted samples of their water, straight from the tap. The winner of the event was the city of East Grand Forks, whose water sample was chosen by judges as the most appealing. “It tasted clean, pure and refreshing”, stated the judges. Jeff Holbeck, operations specialist, represented the city of East Grand Forks at the conference. The cities of Battle Lake and Frazee were runners up. The contest is sponsored by MRWA & RMB Environmental Labs who donates a YETI cooler to the winner. The winner and runner’s up receive a cash prize for bringing water samples to the conference.

Shown in the photo above from left to right: back row: MRWA Source Water Protection Specialist Robyn Hoerr; Taste Test contest winner representing the City of East Grand Forks Jeff Holbeck; runner-up City of Frazee; runner-up City of Battle Lake; MRWA Source Water Protection Specialist Mike Strodman; bottom row: taste test judges for the contest Minnesota Rural Water Association Board Director & City of Two Harbors Water-Wastewater Plant Superintendent Luke Heikkila; National Rural Water Association Senior Vice President John O’Connell; and Pete MacPherson, Minnesota Pump Works.

“Because of the quality of this water, Minnesota has a good chance at the national taste test in Washington, D.C.” added Lori Blair, Executive Director of Minnesota Rural Water Association. The competition is part of the *Quality on Tap!* campaign to emphasize the high quality, standards and taste of water. Winners of the state taste test will compete in a national taste test contest at Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. in February 2023. This event is part of the Rural Water Rally, an annual legislative event for the 49 state affiliates of National Rural Water Association.