



# THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TIMES



## MnWARN to Host Annual Meeting

MnWARN will hold their Annual Meeting on **October 26, 2022** at the *Best Western/Kelly Inn* in St. Cloud, MN.

Lunch is provided and there is **no fee** to attend.

Plan to attend! Full agenda is available on the MnWARN website [www.MnWARN.org](http://www.MnWARN.org)

**This meeting is open to MnWARN Members and Non-Members!** Please attend and find out what MnWARN has to offer! There is no charge and no commitment.

**Remember: Utilities Helping Utilities - When Disaster Strikes, How Will Your Utility Obtain Assistance?**

**5 Related Certification Hours**  
**Approved by MDH for Full-Day Attendance**  
Register by calling: 800-367-6792 or online at [www.mrwa.com](http://www.mrwa.com)

### Benefits of a WARN:

- There is no cost to participate.
- WARN is like investing in a no cost insurance policy to access resources when needed.
- WARN increases emergency preparedness and coordination.
- WARN enhances access to specialized resources.
- WARN expedites arrival of aid (don't have to work out the administrative items; the agreements and WARN protocols work them out in advance for you.)
- WARN agreement contains indemnification and worker's compensation provisions to protect participating utilities and provide reimbursement protocols.
- There is no obligation to respond.

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The 39th Annual Water & Wastewater Technical Conference will be held on **March 7-9, 2023** at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud, MN!

# MRWA WASTEWATER OPERATION & MAINTENANCE TRAINING SESSION



## AGENDA

- 8:00am MRWA Updates, Services, and Operations Specialist's Resources**  
*See what's new in the industry and learn about the changes in store for wastewater operations specialists. Get the latest on MRWA training, events, and technology. Learn about resources available to wastewater operations specialists.*
- 9:00am Collection Systems, Mechanical Plants, and Ponds**  
*Learn about bio-augmentation and algae control case studies on biosolids reduction in wastewater treatment systems, as well as how to curb algae blooms during discharge.*
- 10:00am Trenchless Sewer Rehabilitation**  
*Learn about options for trenchless pipe and manhole rehabilitation in the wastewater process. Bring your questions!*
- 11:00am MPCA Compliance & Enforcement**  
*Discover a better understanding of the process that Minnesota Pollution Control Agency uses when reviewing systems for compliance and enforcement issues.*
- 12:00pm Lunch (On Your Own)**
- 1:00pm Air Release Valves**  
*Air Release Valves may be the most underappreciated devices in wastewater. See how Air Release Valves work, how to better understand their function, how to rebuild one, and how to service one to extend its life expectancy.*
- 2:00pm Essential Math for Wastewater Operators**  
*Review the basics of essential math for wastewater operations specialists, including units, area, detention time, loading, and % removal.*
- 3:00pm Smoke Testing for I & I**  
*With new wastewater projects occurring all over Minnesota, see how to identify inflow and infiltration with smoke testing.*
- 4:00pm End of Day**

**November 3, 2022**

**Askov City Hall  
6369 Kobmagergade Ave.  
Askov, MN**



**Course Instructors:**

**Minnesota Pollution Control Agency,  
Mueller, Team Lab Chemical Co.,  
Visu-Sewer, Inc. and  
Minnesota Rural Water Association**

**Six Wastewater Certification Hours for Full Day Attendance**

**There is NO charge for this session**

**To Register For Any Training Session:** Call the MRWA Office at 800-367-6792 or online at [www.mrwa.com](http://www.mrwa.com). Use the Training Calendar link.



# LEAD & COPPER RULE REVISION WEBINAR

**Nov. 16, 2022**

**10:00 am - 11:00 am**

**“An Informational  
Overview of the Lead  
and Copper Rule  
Revisions”**

There is no charge  
for this session.

**You *MUST* watch the  
full session **on your  
own device** to get 1  
Water Certification  
Hour awarded.**

**Minnesota Rural Water Association (MRWA) is  
providing webinars for public water systems.**

These online training webinars are accredited and can be used towards your water operator certification renewal.

Our next webinar will be held on November 16, 2022, at 10am. John Nelson, MRWA Lead and Copper Technical Advisor, will be the presenter at this training session. This training session will provide an overview of the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions. Topics will include identification of service lines, the inventory process, the replacement procedures, and financial resources.

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!

***Instructor: John Nelson, Minnesota Rural Water Association***

**TO REGISTER FOR ZOOM MEETING:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEudOigqjwrGdXdlbe-wFb6to1Jt5RdT7IN>

*After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.*



# Minnesota Rural Water Association

MRWA is offering an opportunity to receive hands-on, asset management training.

Water and Wastewater systems are made up of assets. By effectively managing the assets, the utility will be able to maintain the desired level of service.

### 5 core components of asset management:

- 1) Assets
- 2) Service Level
- 3) Criticality
- 4) Life Cycle
- 5) Funding

**\*Please bring a laptop to the training (if possible) and we will practice entering data into the asset management template. We will provide a flash drive to all attendees with the water asset management template.**

## 2 Locations:

**November 22, 2022**  
Beltrami Electric Cooperative  
Community Room  
4111 Technology Drive NW  
Bemidji, MN

-OR-

**November 29, 2022**  
Waite Park City Hall  
19 13th Avenue N  
Waite Park, MN

**Time: 10am—3pm**  
**LUNCH PROVIDED**

**Call 800-367-6792 or online**  
**[www.mrwa.com](http://www.mrwa.com)**

# Asset Management Training

## Topics Covered During the Session:

- Benefits of Asset Management
- Getting Started on an Asset Management Plan
- Learning How to Create Your Asset Management Template
- Five Core Components of Asset Management

## Benefits to your system:

- \* **No charge to attend.**
- \* **One-on-one, hands-on help.**
- \* **Asset management plans help utilities make better decisions to ensure long-term sustainability of the utility.**
- \* **Learn how to develop your own asset management plan with easy-to-use, free downloadable templates.**
- \* **4 related water or wastewater hours for half-day attendance offered.**

*“Asset management was an eye-opening experience that helped locate and document all of our infrastructure as well as enlightening us as to the value and replacement cost of our infrastructure. MRWA is one of the best resources Minnesota cities have; if it is sponsored by MRWA, you know it will be excellent.”—Julie Rutter, Cyrus city clerk*

**Minnesota Rural Water Association**  
217 12th Avenue SE \* Elbow Lake, MN 56531  
(P) 800-367-6792 \* [www.mrwa.com](http://www.mrwa.com)

.....**Attention**.....

**Public Works Superintendents  
&  
Wellhead Protection Managers**

# **2023 Water Week Poster Contest**

**Deadline is February 3, 2023**

Watch your email for information  
or visit [www.mrwa.com](http://www.mrwa.com) for details!



# **MRWA REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

## **Building the future of our industry**



Pictured (L to R) Joel Jasmer - MRWA, Mathew Poythress- City of East Gull Lake,  
Lee Anderson - City of East Gull Lake

**Contact us for more information;  
MINNESOTA RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION  
800-367-6792  
MRWA@MRWA.COM  
[www.mrwa.com](http://www.mrwa.com)**



# Do Your Part. Be Cyber Smart.

Published by US EPA, Water Infrastructure and Cyber Resilience Division  
wicrd-outreach@epa.gov

## Do your part to stay cyber secure.

Cyber incidents threaten the ability of water and wastewater utilities to provide clean and safe water to customers. During National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, take proactive steps to enhance cybersecurity and resilience at your utility.

## Four Easy Steps to Saying Secure

**Step 1: Watch out for Phishing Attacks** – Phishing is when a cybercriminal poses as a legitimate party in hope of tricking an individual into clicking on malicious content.

**Step 2: Update your Password and Use a Password Manager** – A password manager can securely store all passwords in one place to help you use different complex passwords.

**Step 3: Enable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)** – MFA is a technique that uses two separate verification factors to gain access to an account.

**Step 4: Activate Automatic Updates** – Automatic updates allow you to keep software programs updated without having to check for and install available updates manually.

## Free Cybersecurity Assessments and Technical Assistance

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is offering free, confidential, cybersecurity assessments and technical assistance to water and wastewater utilities. The assessment is a questionnaire completed with staff, and the technical assistance takes the results from the questionnaire to develop a cyber action plan focused on best practices to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a cyber incident. Adoption of these practices can reduce the likelihood that a cyber-attack will be successful and potentially enable your utility to recover from any cyber-attacks faster and at a lower cost. EPA is offering these assessments and technical assistance virtually, so no on-site visit is required.

Schedule Appointment Now at:

<https://horsleywitten.com/cybersecurityutilities/>

## The Anatomy of a Data Breach

What is a data breach?

A data breach is when information is accessed or stolen from a system without the owner of the system providing access or authorization to that information.

What is the purpose of a data breach?

The primary purpose of a data breach is to grab as much information as the attacker can as quickly as possible.

How often are they caused by cyber-attacks?

92% of the data breaches in the first quarter of 2022 were the result of a cyber-attack.

What kind of data can be breached?

Cyber criminals can get access to social security numbers, credit card numbers, personal and proprietary information, login credentials, and other types of information.

What are some of the tactics used to execute data breaches?

- Phishing
- Malware
- Password Attack

How can you prevent or stop a breach?

The best way to prevent a breach is to be proactive. Set rules to ensure that passwords are complex and make sure that users report any suspicious emails. However, if there is a breach, the best possible action is to notify the local IT department immediately so that remediation can happen as quickly as possible.

*US EPA, Water Infrastructure and Cyber Resilience Division  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, Washington, DC 20460*

