

Small Systems Bulletin

Minnesota Rural Water Association



October 2025 | Fall News



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.

Watch for this quarterly newsletter and we'll see you at a future small system training workshop!

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Feature Article: Source Water Protection Grants Database is Getting a New Look!
By: Mike Strodtman, MRWA Source Water Specialist

For 15 years, the source water protection (SWP) Grants Program has been supporting Public Water Systems in protecting their source of water by offering grants for the protection of drinking water. Over the years the program has grown and an overhaul of the system has become unavoidable. Once the new grants program is up and running you will be able to complete the application online with a computer or using your mobile device.

As you may know, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) deferred the spring grant round due to the additional time and staff capacity needs to migrate data and complete the process of setting up the new system.

Once the new system is up and running, applicants will be able to apply for and report on their grant project online. The applicant will also be able to see how the application is progressing through the system to have a better idea of where it is at in the review and approval process. Many of you have utilized Technical Assistance (TA) staff at MRWA or MDH to assist with the application process or to close out the grant once the project is complete. We will still be able to help out as we have in the past. In fact, TA staff will be able to sign in to see the application and make edits or additions, if necessary.

MDH is planning to offer training on the new SWP grants database in preparation for use in the fall grant round. The trainings will be announced through GovDelivery and communications through TA staff.

MDH would like to thank you for your continued patience and understanding as they work to build a better more streamlined grants system.

More information and FAQs are available on the SWP Grants website: Source Water Protection Grants - MN Dept. of Health. www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/swp/grants.html

Training & Technical Assistance Update:

The dates and locations for our upcoming in-person training sessions are listed below. We also have these dates posted on our *Training Calendar* page www.mrwa.com/training/trainingcalendar/.

At the top of that page, please click on the box “Go To Small Systems Training” for our Class E & D training dates and locations. For our in-person training sessions, we will mail notices to operations specialists in those areas approximately one month prior to the class.

In-Person Training:

Class E Training Workshops (8 am – Noon)

October 9, 2025

Two Harbors Community Building
417 South Avenue
Two Harbors, MN

January 8, 2026

Big Lake City Hall
Council Chambers
160 Lake St N
Big Lake, MN

March 4, 2026

Best Western/Kelly Inn
University A Room
100 4th Avenue S
St. Cloud, MN

April 21, 2026

Ramsey City Hall
Alexander Ramsey Room
7550 Sunwood Drive NW
Ramsey, MN

May 7, 2026

Morrison County Government Center
Board Room
213 – 1st Avenue SE
Little Falls, MN

Class D Training Workshops (8 am – 5 pm)

October 14, 2025

Pine Island City Hall
250 South Main St
Pine Island, MN

April 8, 2026

Detroit Lakes City Hall
Training Room (West Door, Door B)
1025 Roosevelt Avenue
Detroit Lakes, MN

May 12, 2026

Forest Lake Community Center
Community Center
1408 Lake Street South
Forest Lake, MN

[Click Here to Register!](#)

Online Training:

We will continue to offer online remote training sessions using Zoom during the winter months. If you have not received these email invites for the Zoom online training sessions, please email 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.



Once the online training sessions are scheduled we will post these online training session links on our website www.mrwa.com on our *Training Calendar* page. At the top of that page, please click on the box "Go To Small Systems Training" for our online training links. 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.

Online Training Dates:

December 2025 and January 2026

Dates and Topics to Be Determined

Additional Training Opportunities

Lead and Copper Rule Revisions/Lead Copper Rule Improvements Training

(5 direct water CEUs available)

More information on these training sessions can be found on our website www.mrwa.com, on our Training Calendar page. At the top of that page, please click on the box "Go To WATER Training" for training dates and locations.

November 19, 2025

Redwood Area Community Center

Conference Center Room #3A

901 Cook Street

Redwood Falls, MN

December 11, 2025
Tonka Bay City Hall
4901 Manitou Road
Tonka Bay, MN

Asset Management Training (9am – 2pm) 5 CEUs available

More information on these training sessions can be found on our website www.mrwa.com on our *Training Calendar* page. At the top of that page, please click on the box “Go To WATER Training” for more information.

December 18, 2025
North Mankato Police Annex
1001 Belgrade Avenue
North Mankato, MN

[Register Here](#)

Technical Assistance

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

Thank you so much for all that you do to provide safe drinking water to your consumers!

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