CENTRAI STATES WATER

The Official Magazine of the Central States Water Environment Association, Inc.

2010 Buyers' Guide

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PLANT PROFILE



Albert Lea



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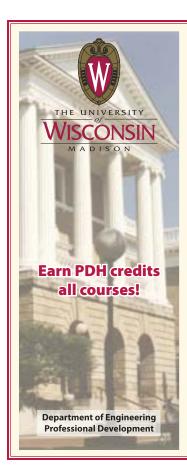


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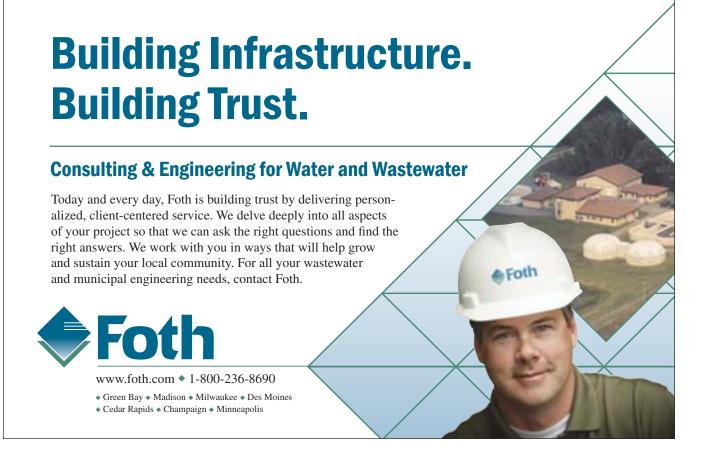
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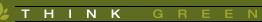
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Get Active





was looking back at Rusty's comments from last year to gain some momentum in putting together my remarks for this column and found the common recurring theme: "get active." This seems to be what all of us on the board have done – we have all taken an active role in serving our members through various means within the

organization. But where and how did we become active? As many of you know, my involvement with the Operations Challenge since its inception was a key to my becoming more active in the organization.

The Operations Challenge has touched a growing number of members since the early days of meeting one's

"My challenge is to you, our members to let your state section officers and executive board members know what is important to you and how we can do a better job."



teammates on the steps of the exhibition hall. Our collection and operations award recipients are encouraged to become involved and participate on the teams and the backing of not only their employers, but the vendors who have stepped up with contributions of funding or technical assistance have broadened the area of involvement to many who would not otherwise have gotten active. Our present Executive Board has a number of former Challenge team members now in key roles in the association. This has been one great way to get more people involved and active - but we need to work harder to find even more ways for our members to take an active role in our industry. I have set goals to look for added opportunities whether during the Annual Conference or other specialty conferences to provide avenues for involvement and activity.

The association held its annual CSX session in July and I noted that while we had a reasonable interaction and exchange of information, we need to get more committee chairs to attend to ensure we are getting the programs and information out to our members that they need. My challenge is to you, our members to let your state section officers and executive board members know what is important to you and how we can do a better job.

The board held a special teleconference meeting on August 23 to fill a vacant position and to consider ratification of a memo of understanding

(Continued on page 8)

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with our co-sponsors of the Midwest Water Industry Expo. This MOU is an example of the need to define roles we play in interaction with other partners when providing educational opportunities for our members and the industry. State sections are also working on setting benchmarks and MOUs for other co-sponsored events. Our dynamic industry has a number of other players that are basically trying to do the same things we are and when we can work together everybody wins and our efforts can see higher returns. By the way, congratulations to Dan Lynch who was confirmed by the Executive Board to fulfill the remaining year of Scott Trotter's director term. Oh, by the way, Scott will be serving on the WEF Board of Trustees as our direct representative to WEF. Congratulations to both Dan and Scott.

By the time you are reading this, WEFTEC will have been wrapped up. I would like to thank all the vendors who helped to make the CSWEA Reception a success and also thank those who represent CSWEA through the Operations Challenge and those award recipients from our organization. I spent some time with Loren Larson from SunOpta Ingredients who represented his firm in accepting the Industrial Achievement Award. I will

also be "re-presenting" the award in the hometown location of Cambridge, MN before their local city council and press. It is really great to have the privilege to recognize one of our partners in this business for the great things that they have accomplished to protect our environment. Daniel Noquera was also recognized at this year's WEF award ceremony for his efforts in the educational field. I would also like to thank our student paper representative Megan Corrado (UW Madison) and the student design team, Ian Bradley, Anthony Straub, Paul Forwarski and Alyssa Sohn (U of I) who also represented CSWEA at the WFFTFC event.

I started out this article pointing out the continued need to become active or involved and will end on the same point. We need to constantly look at what the needs are for our current and future members for our organization to be and remain effective. A great way to have a direct impact on those efforts is to simply get involved. Join a committee, send a letter or email to your state section officers, make a call, but please don't just sit back and hope that someone will come up with something. If you do become active it will be appreciated and you will know that you became part of a great organization. CS



MAXIMIZE THE IMPACT

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The 2010 Midwest Water Industry Expo will be held February 8-9 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells, WI.

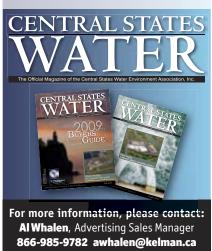
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Ch-Ch-Changes

Eric R. Lecuyer



e in the world of CSWEA and WEF are undergoing some amazing and somewhat unexpected changes. Change is never easy and we are often threatened with the unknown, which can cause anxiety, paralysis, speculation and, my favorite, rumors.

The most startling change for me came about when WEF Executive Director Bill Bertera announced that he will be leaving is position at the end of the year. I have come to know Bill well during his tenure at the helm of WEF and have learned much from him and his wise and steady leadership. Bill has navigated WEF through some interesting times, a unsuccessful attempt to become more formally associated with AWWA, the first significant and meaningful change in the governance process of WEF and an economic downturn that has resulted in some non-profits going out of business. I have been proud to include his messages in the pages of Central States Water and his thoughtful discourse often left one pondering a deeper meaning and a greater enthusiasm for what could be possible - things like "one voice for water." In a calm demeanor and often leading the conversation of matters of interest to member associations and our relationship with WEF, Bill would often transform a complaint into a solution. I will miss the time and access we have with Bill and look forward to a different future with a different Executive Director at the helm of WEF. Ch-Ch-Changes!

As reported elsewhere in this issue of CS Water, Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes

have come to the CSWEA Executive Committee as well with the elevation of our own Scott Trotter to serve on the WEF Board of Trustees. The WEF Board of Trustees is the group that along with the WEF president and officers runs the day-to-day business of WEF, a major multi-million dollar international nonprofit association. In order to accept this appointment, Scott had to resign from his post on our Executive Committee as our "junior" delegate to WEF. Pursuant to the by-laws, the Executive Committee elected a replacement, Dan Lynch, to complete Scott's term. The wisdom of this selection is obvious: Dan was slated to leave the Executive Committee following the "first" meeting of the WEF House of Delegates at WEFTEC and be succeeded by our WEF Delegate elect Dave Raby. As a freshman delegate, Dave would have been mentored by Scott, who would become our Senior WEF Delegate. By having Dan serve out the remainder of Scott's term, continuity is provided to CSWEA and Dave will receive the mentoring, background information and guidance needed to be an effective delegate to WEF and liaison to CSWEA. Our next regularly elected WEF delegate will come from the Wisconsin Section and the nominating committee is charged with providing a nominee for election to this post at our next Annual Business Meeting at the 84th Annual Meeting in Brookland, MN. Congratulations to Scott on his appointment to the WEF Board of Trustees and our thanks to Dan for his continued service to CSWEA and WEF. In this case the more things change, the more they stay the same.

Sadly, another change is the passing of Bob Roskopf, long time CSWEA member from the Minnesota Section and a past Treasurer of WEF. While I didn't know Bob well, we spoke often when he was able to attend our Annual Meetings and his kindness and gracious manner was remarkable. Upon word of his passing, there were an amazing number of emails between our members recalling how he helped so many of our members with their careers and it was an honor to be part of the email string sharing memories and anecdotes of Bob's life. Bob was a great man who will be missed by many and a person who has provided a fine example of courage and grace for us all to follow.

Another Ch-Ch-Ch-Change is the recent announcement that Past President and avid supporter of CSWEA Sam Claassen's appointment to the position of President and CEO of SEH, Inc. The last time I saw Sam he was having the time of his life at our 83rd Annual Meeting, singing and dancing along with many other CSWEA friends at our Rock Star Gomeroke event. Anybody need video? Drop me a line. Congratulations Sam! CS

CORRECTION:

In the Summer issue of Central States
Water we misspelled the name of
the Laboratory
Analyst Excellence

Award winner.
Our apologies to
Judy Tholen.



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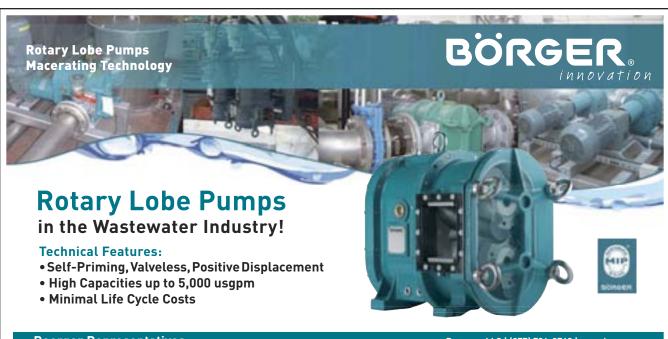
Planning for the 84th Annual Conference is well under way. Plan to arrive in Brooklyn Park on Monday, May 16 for an afternoon of golf and to catch up with friends and associates at the Meet and Greet.

Tuesday, May 17 will kick off with our General Opening Session and the first full day of the conference is packed with activities including the keynote address, three parallel tracks of technical sessions, a full day of exhibits, winding up with evening social event.

Wednesday, May 18 opens with the State Section breakfasts and another full slate of technical sessions, plus exhibits will again be open in the morning. The Association Luncheon will feature good food and recognition of our members. Wind up the day at Annual Awards Banquet.

Thursday May 19 we say goodbye to another conference with the Farewell Breakfast.

The Central States Annual Conference is great event. Come and enjoy the Northland Inn and explore the beautiful Twin Cities area.



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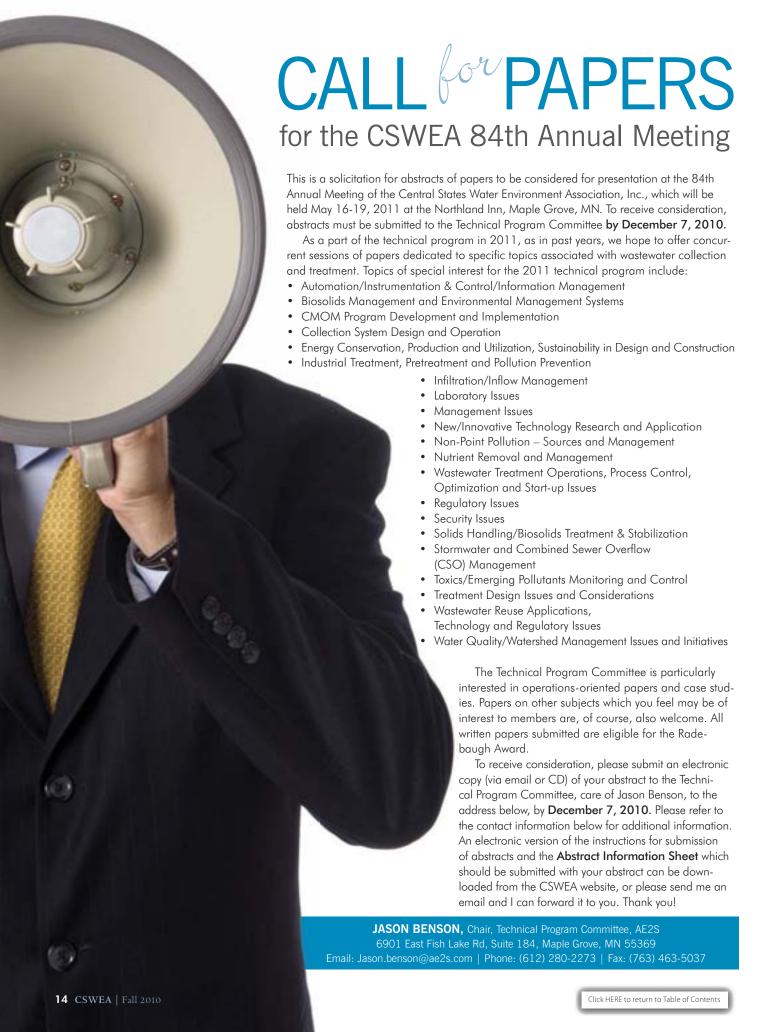
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Instructions for the submission of abstracts and criteria for paper selection annual meeting

The CSWEA Technical program Committee has the responsibility for technical sessions at the Annual Meeting. Participants in any sector of the water environment field are cordially invited to submit abstracts for evaluation. The basis for selection will be the excellence of the abstracts as judged by the committee.

Abstracts should be between 250 and 500 words in length. The abstract should be submitted electronically (double-spaced) to the Technical Program Chair whose name and address are shown on the Abstract Information Sheet. In order for an abstract to be considered by the Technical program Committee, the Abstract Information Sheet, which serves as the cover page of each of the abstracts, must be included with the abstract. The total number of abstract pages, including tables and figures, should not exceed six (6).

The presenting author of each abstract will be notified in February of the acceptance or rejection of the abstract.

The following should serve as a guide in the preparation of the abstract.

1. Originality and status of subject:

The paper should deal with new concepts or with new and novel applications of established concepts. It also may describe substantial improvements of existing theories or present significant data in support or extension of those theories. Broad studies of ill-defined problem situations should be avoided. Previously published data should be introduced only in summary form and for comparative or supportive purposes.

The abstract should substantiate that the project has been fully developed, that the theory or experimental procedure has been firmly established, and that data have been collected and subjected to analysis. It should be evident that the abstract clearly describes the entire content of the paper to be presented.

2. Technical content:

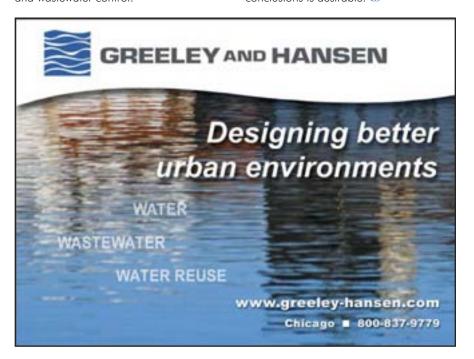
The conditions under which data were obtained should be presented along with the methodology used. The conclusions presented should follow directly from the investigation conducted.

3. Water environment significance:

The paper should relate clearly and significantly to the water environment field. Papers of a truly fundamental scientific nature are desired, but the author should make evident the relationships of the work to a practical problem area or situation in water quality and wastewater control.

4. Adequacy of abstract preparation:

Recognizing the adequacy of an abstract is indicative of the probable quality of the final paper. Authors are urged to prepare their abstracts with care. Objectives, scope, and general procedures should be included insofar as the limited length of the abstract permits. An indication of conclusions is desirable.





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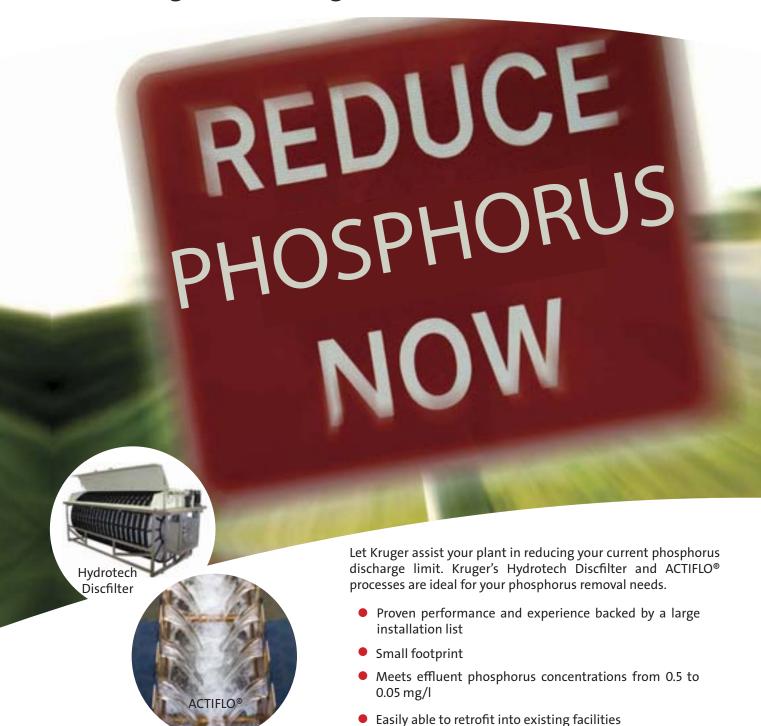
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CSWEA's CSX/YPX '10 Wrap-up

Once again, leaders from CSWEA at all levels gathered at the Kalahari Resort in the Wisconsin Dells for two days of brainstorming and strategic planning on ways to improve our association. This was a great event with plenty of interaction between committees and our three sections. As usual, we began by reviewing past years' Big Ideas and discussed the implementation status of each of those potential initiative. After thoughtful review, it was concluded that we would be better served by focusing on a limited number of topics and initiatives that would best serve our members. With that in mind, here is a rundown of the Big Ideas that we compiled at CSX '10.

Re-tooling of our CSWEA Annual Meeting to:

- a. Meet current member needs and travel limitations.
- Attract more attendance (fill the technical sessions/support our exhibitors).
- Technical Program enhancements target hot topics and issues of wide interest.
- d. Partnering with other organizations win/win.
- e. May want to add a forum at meetings like the digester foaming exchange at the education seminar that got more operators to the meeting.
 - Send issues and questions in advance to be discussed.
 - Solicit specific talks from operators as part of the forum.
 - Have 1.5 day review followed by the test.
 - Arrange to have the operator certification.
 - This needs to include an incentive to go to the booths.
- **f.** May want to have the forum as a preconference workshop or the leadership academy as a preconference workshop.
- g. Refine the technical program (interest based technical selection), number of tracks? Length during the day.
- h. The best program brings people to the conference, which brings people to the exhibitors, etc. Maybe solicit an operator focused paper track.
- i. Does CSWEA need to have events every night? Perhaps just have a late evening get-together at much less expense.



- 1. MWIE partnership with WWA: How can we grow this event and eliminate negatives.
- a. MWIE, Expo:
 - Net positive event to both organizations.
 - Issue of competing with selling booths for our event.
 - There is a commitment for at least 2011 and 2012 based on new MOU.
- b. How do we get more of our member to attend?
- Should operations challenge event be held?
- Suggestion of providing workshop space (like committee meeting).
- Reduced rate for exhibiting at both.
- Free membership with attendance registration.

2. Section Exchange: Section Chairs/Reps

- a. How to get more people to attend Section Meetings?
 - Use Go-To or other webinar meeting venue.
- b. Going paperless:
 - Make sure that events get posted to the website!
 - Use tools available, e-blasts, online registration, etc.

3. CSWEA YP Leadership Academy - Rich Hussey

(How to attract more YPs whether engineering, students, ops, maint., collection, lab. etc)

 Should this be the day before the Education Seminar? General support for this.

Wastewater Systems

- √ Facility Plans
- √ Sewer Planning/Models/Design
- √ Pump Station Design
- √ I&I/SSES/CSO/SSO Analysis
- √ Biosolids Management
- √ SCADA/Automation
- √ Energy Studies
- √ Funding Assistance
- √ Treatment Facilities
- √ Electrical/Mechanical/Security





Kenosha - Wausau - Champaign - Chicago - Indianapolis - Evansville

- Concern for it to be cheap enough for the students to be able to attend.
- Need to customize to our field/industry.
- Maybe do as a half-day or have a 10:30 start.
- Maybe tie in an intro to the topic of the Education Seminar.
- May want to have it be a returning academy that after three years you get a certificate "graduating from the CSWEA leadership academy."
- What should be fee be? Shouldn't be more than \$75 or more.
- Could be an opportunity for YPs that attend to take this back to their states and do programs in their individual sections.
 - The consensus was to move this forward at the Education Seminar for this year.

4. Staying Connected with Student Chapters

- How do we keep continuity?
 - Student and professional mixer at the end of the year.
 - Professionals need to reach out to the students, be personal.
 - Invite the student chapter presidents to the section meetings.
 - How many members are in the UW Madison (5-10 registered), some speaker presentations have about 20.
 - Need to get Student Chapter pages onto our website.
 - Have a student chapter exchange.
 - Add a resources available page on the website for student chapters.
 - Maybe have Student Chapter exchange in Feb. at MWIE.
 - Maybe have the Student Chapters submit a budget and then provide them with the funds in advance and then report on their progress at the end of the year.

 Start a mentoring program, have the sponsors pay membership fee and then be the point of contact within the organization.

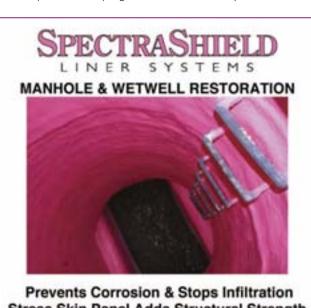
5. Awards Process Improvements - Beth Voqt

- Create links on the website for the submittal of all awards.
- Add a table of awards to the website with who to, dates -Randy Wirtz.
- Move deadlines to December 15 to subcommittee chairs and January 15 to General Awards.
- Modify the SOPs for changes to dates Beth Vogt.
 - Notify state sections that dates are changed and that they should modify their SOPs for these.
- April 1 deadline to WEF.

6. Stronger Connections between CSWEA, Sections, **Operators Groups and Others**

- Section committee chairs should be on national committee.
- Get Wisconsin government affairs information on to these committees in the other sections.
- WEF Wastewater Challenge: Is CSWEA interested in sponsoring a local version? This is a design build competition. Last year was at the WEF collection system conference in June, next year it will be in May at the Biosolids Conference; this came up at the WEF student exchange last year.

What a great CSX! You do not want to miss CSX '11 scheduled for July 21-22, 2011 again at the Kalahari. Mark your calendars now and plan to bring the family for a mini-vacation while you attend CSX. CS



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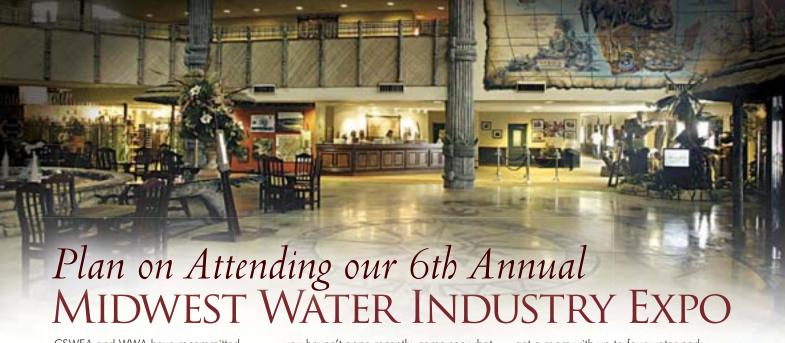
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CSWEA and WWA have recommitted co-sponsoring our Midwest Water Industry Expo for 2011 and look forward to the best event yet. The 6th Expo will be on Tuesday and Wednesday February 8-9, 2011 at the Kalahari. Plan on attending, the expo is everybody's favorite mid-winter getaway. Our first five expos were great and we expect even more fun and good sharing of information in 2010. If you haven't ever been to the expo or

you haven't gone recently, come see what you've been missing; great exhibitors, cost effective CEUs and great fun.

The expo has been enjoyed by the attendees and exhibitors. Both groups found it to be a productive and valuable use of their time. Everyone leaves looking forward to next year. Over the years, a lot of people have brought their families so they can give them a little break from winter at the Kalahari's Water Park. You

get a room with up to four water park passes for only \$99.

The expo is the exhibitors' opportunity to present their goods and services to their customers and potential customers early in the year when purchases are being considered and to provide the opportunity for open dialogue with the vendors for awareness of upcoming projects and Utility needs. The Midwest Water Industry Expo accomplishes that goal.

MWIE is enjoyed by vendors and attendees alike, here's a run down on what you can expect at MWIE 2011

- Last year, the fundraising raffle that gave away well over \$5,000 in prizes including a 42-inch flat screen television, three smaller flat screen televisions and many other exciting prizes. Over the years, the raffle has given away \$20,000.
- More than 400 individuals, not counting exhibitors, attended the expo.
- 95 exhibit spaces were used.
- Held 32 half-hour vendor presentations where vendors could talk specifically about the products they represent.
- Four CEUs per day, up to a total of eight for water or wastewater.
- Continental breakfast and lunch provided both days.
- Meet and greet from 3:00 to 5:00 on Tuesday, February 8th

Planning is already under way for the expo, but it's not too late to get involved. If you would like to help on the expo committee, send an email to Eric Lecuyer at cswea@ymail.com or talk to anyone on the committee.



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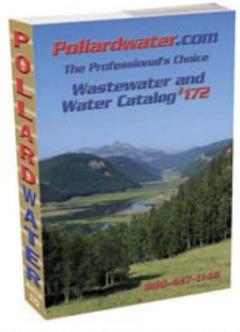
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Transitioning Success

Whether it is handing your family business down to the next generation or turning your section committee over to the next logical chair, well thought out succession planning is an invaluable part of good organizational strategy.

Certainly, while in the trough of our current economic downturn, now is as good a time as any to revisit long-term strategies as they relate to the transition of responsibility and institutional knowledge to the next generation of wastewater professionals.

Like every other aspect of business, succession planning begins with good interpersonal communication. There may indeed be difficult conversations about impending retirements or health-related concerns. While potentially uncomfortable, this thoughtful internal dialogue becomes the backbone of a solid organization. Essentially, it is in the best interest of the organization and the employee to discuss professional goals and expectations. If the proper succession planning and systematic transition of institutional knowledge has not been thoroughly considered, long-term institutional success can only be accidentally attained. We should be enabling our successors to succeed in every possible way.

While seemingly a daunting task, good organizations intrinsically possess tools and policies that aid a successful transition of responsibility. It goes without saying that employee mentoring programs and continued career development strategies improve workplace capabilities and overall performance. In a perfect world, just like with a successful baseball team, you would use your own farm system to restock your starting lineup.

employees and systematically providing the skills needed for success and career advancement.

But, like in baseball, free agency becomes an important consideration and retaining good team members can become a challenge. Placing important team members in roles that are commensurate with their skill set and systematically challenging employees to take initiative in their own career development should be encouraged and fostered by management. It has been documented that employees who clearly understand their position in the organization, and the process by which they ultimately will be promoted, will be retained. It is management's responsibility to ensure that employees know where they fit in and if they are indeed on the right career

This starts with drafting quality coachable

track to meet their goals. It is here where the employee review process becomes an opportune venue to begin this important dialogue. Employer and employee can build a roadmap through performance benchmarks that address employee retention and enable the organization to build from within. Certainly, there are instances where picking up a free agent is in the best interest of the organization, but the costs of external recruiting

coupled with the loss of institutional knowledge and professional relationships are often a high cost to pay. More often than not, organizations cannot easily hire their way out of a messy transition.

Regardless of whether or not your organization has a bona fide succession plan, retention of institutional knowledge is equally important. All organizations seem to have that one person who knows where everything is supposed to be, whether it is a sewer foreman that doesn't need an atlas to know where the utility conflicts are or an administrative assistant that understands that comprehensive databases and

archives save time for everyone. It should be every organization's goal to enable all their employees to have access to as much information as possible. Providing this can raise the level of service and also empower the employee. Technology has become an effective tool in achieving this goal. Yesterday's spreadsheets have become today's Geographic Information Systems (GIS). GIS has become an essential part of governmental planning, data storage, and streamlined service. Investment in userfriendly GIS software and the proper training of technicians can save long-term costs while systematically elevating the level of

service and memorializing data. In short, it is an excellent method of integrating an organization's data management system with an electronic record keeping system. Again, it is management's responsibility to provide the necessary tools and policies to encourage the transfer of institutional knowledge both through technology and an understanding that an employee is not training their own replacement only to become expendable. Employees are willing to work longer, and organizations with foresight are beginning to offer their recent retirees part-time consulting positions to aid their younger replacements. There is no panacea for comprehensive retention of institutional knowledge, however, a combination of technology and transition planning develop a path toward success.

It is difficult enough to manage a successful organization when times are good and all positions are filled with competent, assertive administrative and operational staff. When change occurs, whether it is through retirement or unexpected circumstances, stop gap measures can ultimately result in an organization's downfall. Just as one plans for their own eventual retirement, organizational management must plan for the retirement and transition of duties for each key member of their organization. This can be as simple as cross-training employees to ensure redundancy in knowledge of important tasks and policies. Certainly, as a public agency, one can always use peers as a reference. There are many excellent public organizations that have experienced transition and loss of knowledge. Many have learned to systematically address both issues. The Government Accountability Organization (GAO) has been at the forefront of identifying the importance of the collecting, maintaining, and sharing of information and has published many articles on the matter.

In simpler terms, every organization needs to perform a self audit or "fire drill" to understand what measures they will take if tragedy or unexpected retirement occurs within their organization. Will we have to hire a consultant to come in and cut payroll? Does anyone know the password for the main server? We all have emergency response plans for our physical infrastructure, but do we have a personnel related emergency response plan? It is part of our fiduciary duty to our customers and our staff to ensure that we do. CS

Mark Eddington, PE is a licensed engineer in Illinois and Wisconsin and is the District Manager of the DeKalb Sanitary District.

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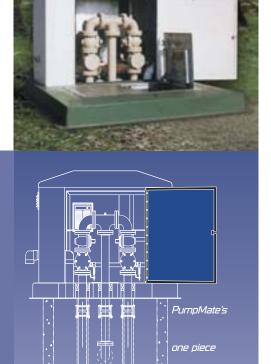
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Operations Challenge '10

With excitement and anticipation, CSWEA Operations Challenge teams members listened intently to the preparations and training for their upcoming competition at the 2010 WEFTEC in New Orleans.

Training for the competition was staged at the Madison Metro Sanitary

District Nine Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant and consisted of five events including collections systems, process control, maintenance, safety, and with the assistance of Monty Baker, laboratory.

The selection of team members began back in May 2010 at the conclusion of the Central States Annual Meeting.

The winners of the Operations and Collection System Awards were given the opportunity to participate in this year's WEFTEC Operations Challenge 2010.

The 2009 CSWEA Operations Challenge team members were also invited back to participate if needed. From this pool, two teams were assembled.







The 2010 CSWEA **Operations Challenge Teams: PUMPERS:**

Coach Rick Ashling, Albert Lea, MN; Captain Rob Barnard, Moline, IL; Greg Guerrero, Duluth, MN; Matt Schmidt, Green Bay, WI; and Darsey Thoen, Moorhead, MN.

SHOVELERS:

Coach Jim Miller, Buffalo, MN; Captain Jim Huchel, Crystal Lake, IL; Todd Carlson, Duluth, MN; Bryan Thomson, Green Bay, WI; and Ken Bloom, Marathon, WI.

The team members anticipate another exciting and challenging competition and would like to thank Central States Water Environment Association and all of the sponsors and support people whom helped make this opportunity possible. (S

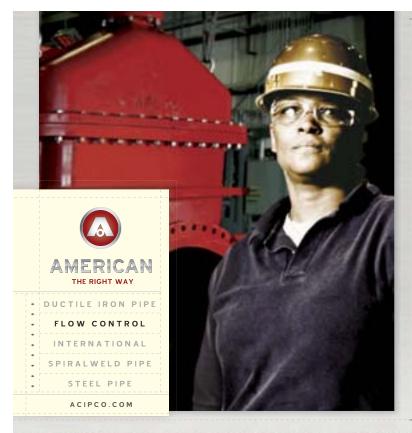


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Albert Lea By Rick Ashling Wastewater Treatment Plant

Rick Ashling and the operating staff of the Albert Lea MN WWTP received CSWEA's Operations Award for Minnesota at the 83rd Annual Meeting.

The Albert Lea wastewater treatment system is an advanced biological tertiary wastewater treatment facility.

Build in 1983, the facility is a modern, well-maintained wastewater treatment plant. The facility is designed for 12.5 mgd with wet weather flow of 20 mgd with a staff of nine.

Large debris that could damage the wastewater pumps is removed from the raw wastewater prior to entering the pumping station wet well. The raw wastewater is then pumped via a

five-mile forcemain to the wastewater treatment facility.

The wastewater treatment facility consists of grit removal, pre-aeration, primary clarifiers, two-stage aeration secondary clarifiers, nitrification aeration effluent clarifiers filtration and ultraviolet disinfection prior to discharge to the Shell Rock River. The WAS is collected in the aeration units is thickened by flotation thickeners and combined with the primary biosolids for sludge stabilization. The combined biosolids is anaerobically digested, by two primary anaerobic digesters two secondary digesters dewatered by two rotary drum thickeners and stored in two storage tanks until hauled for soil conditioner to farmland.

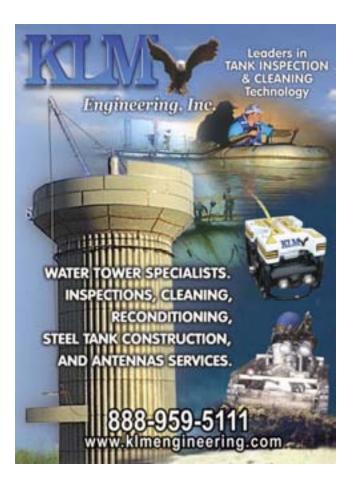
The wastewater treatment facility is designed to produce an effluent quality of 5 mg/l CBOD, 1 mg/l ammonia nitrogen and 5 mg/I TSS.

The facility is one of the first in the state of Minnesota to install and operate a microturbine using methane gas to produce 120 KW and provide heat recovery. CS

Influent Wastewater Characteristics

| Design Flow | 12.5 MGD |
|------------------------------|----------|
| BOD | 194 mg/l |
| TSS | 278 mg/l |
| Ammonia Nitrogen | 48 mg/l |
| Effluent Limitation | |
| BOD | 5 mg/l |
| TSS | 5 mg/l |
| Ammonia Nitrogen | 1.0 mg/l |
| Process Equipment | |
| Aerated Grit Chambers | 2 |
| Pre-aeration Tanks | 2 |
| Primary Clarifiers | 2 |
| Secondary Aeration Tanks | 4 |
| Secondary Clarifiers | 2 |
| Nitrification Aeration Tanks | 4 |
| Nitrification Clarifiers | 2 |
| Effluent Filters | 4 |
| Ultraviolet Disinfection | 4 |
| Dissolved Air Flotation | 2 |
| Anaerobic Digesters | |
| First Stage | 2 |
| Second Stage | 2 |
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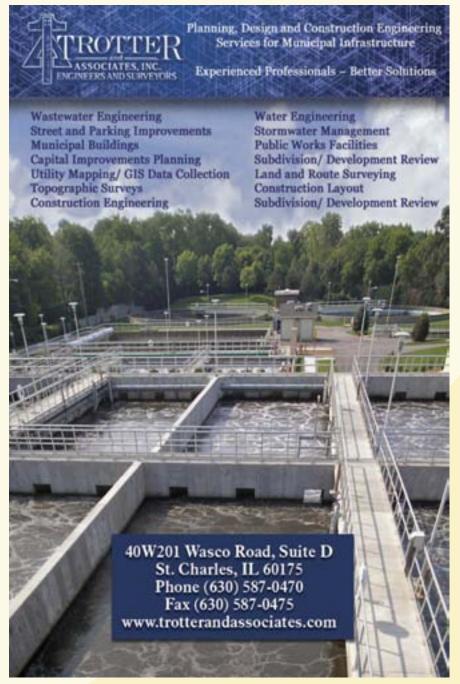




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SCOTT TROTTER WEF BOARD OF TRUSTEES



cott Trotter has been appointed to the Water Environment Federation Board of Trustees (BOT). The Board of Trustees is the governing body of WEF and holds legal and fiduciary responsibility on behalf of WEF and its membership. The board is comprised of the four WEF presidents, the executive director, the WEF treasurer, and 12 appointed trustees.

Mr. Trotter is a registered professional engineer and a board certified specialist in water/ wastewater engineering by the American Academy of Environmental Engineers. Scott is the president of Trotter and Associates, Inc. which is a 20-person civil and environmental engineering firm headquartered in St. Charles, Illinois.

Scott has been an active member of WEF and Central States WEA since 1994. Within Central States, he has served and chaired numerous committees including the Technical Program Committee, WEFTEC Reception Committee, and WEFTEC Local Arrangements Committee in 1997, 2002 and 2008. He is also a co-founder of the University of Illinois' WEF/AWWA Student Chapter. Scott has been a member of the Central States WEA Executive Committee since 2004 and was CSWEA President in 2006-07. Scott has been one of two CSWEA representatives to the Water Environment Federation House of Delegates (HOD) since 2008. The House of Delegates is the deliberative and representational body of the federation and advises the BOT on matters of Strategic Directions and Public Policy Development. While in the House of Delegates, Scott worked on several committees including the Federation Nominating Committee, Federation Audit Committee as well as co-chaired the HOD WEF/MA Relations Committee, and Chaired the HOD Budget Committee. CS

Calling on our Young Professionals and Senior Members

By Rich Hussey



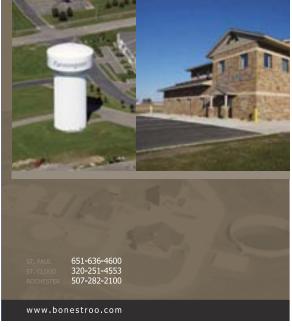
traveling to Houston for a manufacturer sales training seminar, I am brainstorming on how we can get young professionals (YPs) in CSWEA to become more active and possibly more importantly how we can get our senior members to recognize the importance of getting their young professionals from their organizations to attend CSWEA events. We are all familiar and understand the importance of sustaining growth within our membership and committees along with the development and mentoring of the younger generation, but then why do we struggle to see YPs at CSWEA and YP events?

We are facing hard economic times, but not less than five years ago we were under a historic housing market where revenues were up, growth was everywhere, and a significant amount of WWTPs were engaged in various expansion or rehabilitation projects. Budgets allowed attendance at conferences and seminars, both in state and out of state. Unfortunately at that time, the YP involvement was approximately the same as with the current market. With the hardship we face these days, we have all experienced that budgets are tighter. Therefore, since it is cheaper for the consultants and districts to send their YPs than their senior members,

WEF and CSWEA have invested significant resources in an attempt to bring more activity and opportunity to the YPs and students. CSWEA is currently developing a YP Leadership Academy, but we need your help. The preliminary plan is to schedule it the day prior to the CSWEA Education Seminar in Madison, WI. The topics will include project management, challenges within the water and wastewater community, team building, communication, networking opportunities, and a presentation focusing

let's help those budgets along and send those YPs. Senior members participate since CSWEA as an organization brings value to their attendance, therefore sending your YPs will continue to bring your organization value, just at a cheaper cost. I understand that argument will not hold, but it was worth a try.





Click HERE to return to Table of Contents Fall 2010 | CSWEA 31 on the Education Seminar topic that will be specifically developed for the YPs. We plan to make this an annual event with new topics and presentations to be held in conjunction with the Education Seminar theme. We believe this program will bring value to the attendees and with a discounted package to attend the CSWEA Education Seminar, I believe it will be one of the best two-day programs in the country at a very modest cost. We would encourage members to plan on sending a YP and include this seminar in their upcoming annual budgets.

We have seen the first generation Clean Water Act members retire in recent years in significant proportions and some leaving set to leave over the next few years. Therefore, it is only natural that the next generation becomes involved in our CSWEA community. Mark Eddington has written an article in this issue regarding succession planning and as your organizations collectively evaluate and prepare your plans, we as members also need to evaluate CSWEA's succession plan. CSWEA has provided your organization opportunities. Now is

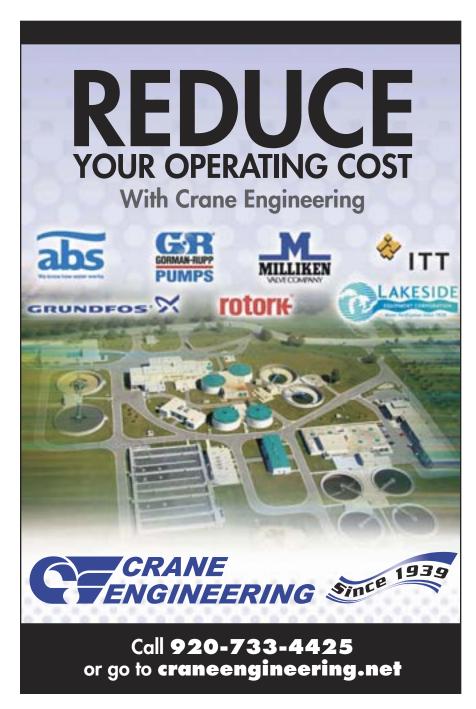
the time for our members to pay back those opportunities by allowing and encouraging your YPs to become active within CSWEA.

So as I continue this flight to Houston, I could brainstorm various opportunities to create more involvement from our YPs, but my initial thought and mindset keeps coming back to the networking possibilities, social events, and committee opportunities that we offer or could offer mean little without the support and encouragement from our senior members.

My previous employer is able to indentify young talent and present them with opportunities. They encouraged their YPs to become active within the industry and as a result have received some great results as their employees develop and gain more clients. There are a number of consultants that follow this same plan and they have experienced similar results. However, there is an argument or concern that if we start to allow our younger talent to explore organizations and networking opportunities, there is a greater risk that could lead to their departure to another organization. Yes, this does happen, but one may argue it most likely would have happened anyway. Questioning on keeping the talented YPs sheltered versus allowing them to develop further, we all know that the positives more than outweigh the negative consequences and the organization gets so much more value and return to grant these possibilities.

The YPs have a variety of social events throughout each state level, including manufacturer factory tours, technical seminars, Milwaukee Brewers baseball games, golf instructional events, and more. There are a lot of committees that would welcome YP involvement and there are YP gatherings at each of the CSWEA events. Ultimately we should all hope to see the YPs at the social events, senior members drag their YPs to events, and develop that next generation of water and wastewater professionals in partnership with our CSWEA organization, as we all benefit.

If you would like to know of upcoming YP social events or committee participation, you are more than welcome to contact me or your assigned state section chairs. We hope to see more YPs. CS



A Youthful Apprenticeship

As with many young people these days, 26-year old Andy Pakosta knew little about a career in wastewater treatment. Now he's one of the many young professionals working and learning in this important environmental industry.

In the Western Suburbs of Chicago, Illinois, the Glenbard Wastewater Authority (GWA) was established in 1977 as a regionalization of smaller locally operated wastewater treatment facilities. GWA operates Wastewater Treatment systems for the Village of Glen Ellyn, Village of Lombard, and unincorporated DuPage County serving some 105,000 residents living in roughly 22.5 square miles. GWA's systems include a 16.02 MGD Glenbard Advanced Treatment Facility, a state-of-theart high-purity oxygen two-stage activated sludge plant; a 58.0 MGD Lombard Stormwater Facility, a combined sewage overflow plant; regional interceptors; and a series of lift stations.

These treatment systems are only staffed between the hours of 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., and other hours as required during heavy rain events. A sophisticated supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system monitors and alerts on-call staff of significant changes or alarm conditions during off hours. Licensed operators then make corrections

on-line via laptop, and/or respond to the plant as required. The Authority employs fourteen (14) highly qualified operations and maintenance personnel ranging from two to 32 years' experience in the industry who provide these vital services.

Mr. Dave Goodalis, Senior Plant Operator, spoke enthusiastically about Pakosta, and the need for youth in the industry. "As protecting the environment and being green has become the latest trend, most of the younger people pursuing careers are looking for that desk in an office environment where they simply move paper around. Andy is a rarity of this younger generation. He opted for a career in the trenches getting his hands dirty protecting our water resources, and is learning quickly."

Pakosta joined the GWA staff 18 months ago, and has already acquired his IEPA Class 4 Treatment Operators License. He sees this career as making a difference in the environment, and even people's lives. He talks about his perspectives in this interview with Central States Water.



L-R: Dave Goodalis and Andy Pakosta

Photos for publication with permission received from David Goodalis
and Andy Pakosta.

CS Water: How did you get started in wastewater treatment?

PAKOSTA: Actually, I was talking to a family friend that works in wastewater treatment. As we were talking I became more and more interested in the industry. He mentioned that he knew about an opening, and after talking with my friend I became intrigued with the opportunity, decided to hand in my resume, and I got the position after interviewing.



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A Youthful Apprenticeship

CS Water: How would you describe your background and schooling? Did it prepare you for work in this profession?

PAKOSTA: I have taken some college classes mostly just the general education classes. At first I didn't think education would relate as much to this profession because it's such a specialized industry. The more I learn about the treatment process, I realize that critical thinking and math play a huge role in my career.

CS Water: What is it about this profession that you find personally satisfying?

PAKOSTA: Most satisfying about this career is you make a difference in the environment and even people's lives. I'm proud of what this industry accomplishes and what I contribute to the process daily.

CS Water: Talk about your responsibilities at the treatment plant?

PAKOSTA: There are many different responsibilities that I have at the plant,

from running our cryogenic oxygen facility efficiently to general housekeeping. What I'm most proud of is using that facility's resources to treat the wastewater in the most efficient way.

CS Water: Who has been helpful to you during the first year of your new career? Do you see it as a career?

PAKOSTA: Everyone that I work with has played a vital role in my first year, but the operators that train me and I work with, mostly have really done an exceptional job teaching me the nuances of wastewater treatment. I believe this is a very important career and I'm very proud of what we do.

CS Water: In your opinion, what can the industry do to attract more young people to join the ranks working at treatment plants?

PAKOSTA: I feel that the younger people want a career that is important; they want to feel like all their hard work is going towards something more than a paycheck. This industry provides one of the most important recourses for human survival; clean water. Also, the fundamentals of wastewater treatment is universal, you can travel anywhere in the world and there will be jobs.

CS Water: What do you think is the best way to get this message out to young people?

PAKOSTA: I think the best way is general workshops or job fairs, but the industry really has to focus on the green aspect and the importance of the job to the potential younger employees.

CS Water: How do your friends, people your age, respond when you tell them you work at a wastewater treatment plant?

PAKOSTA: At first my friends were a confused and a little grossed out by my career choice. After I explain the details and the impact of the industry on the world, they went from grossed out to jealous.

CS Water: How are you preparing yourself to advance in this profession? And, how do you see your career developing years from now?

PAKOSTA: I feel like there is unlimited growth in the wastewater industry, and you will advance on what you know and how hard you work. I'm going to focus on those two things and see where my career goes from there. My Senior Operator started out just like me, and some 28 years later, he's succeeded beyond his expectations. I'm sure I can too.

Mr. Goodalis had this final thought about Pakosta: "Andy has a great team attitude and is willing to work wherever he is needed. His skills as an operator are growing fast. He's taking advantage of every opportunity to learn new things daily from the old-timers. Andy tells me his goal is to work hard, attain his Class 1 Operator's license, and then go on to become an Operations Supervisor. If he continues with his current attitude, commitment to learning, and enthusiasm for his work, I see no reason why he cannot attain this goal. I wish I saw more young men like him coming up in our industry." (S



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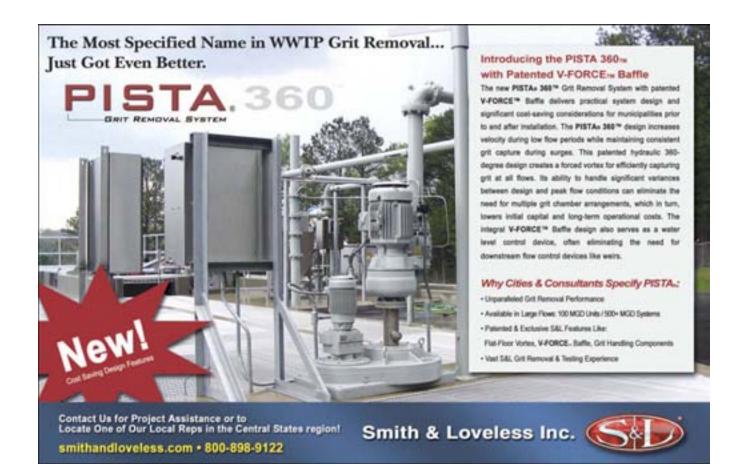
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Fox Valley Operators Association 4th Annual Conference

By Karen Katamay

Four and a half years ago, the education committee for the Fox Valley Operators Association had a meeting and discussed having a one-day conference to provide some local training for our members. Many of our members were regular operators who weren't able to travel to the bigger state conferences on a regular basis and just wanted some information that would help them run their plants better. So the committee polled our members and asked them what topics they would like to learn about. Then, with the generosity of the Huntley Public Works staff, we were able to hold our first conference at the Huntley Public Works facility on Sept. 20, 2007.

The first conference was well received and our members indicated that they

would like us to continue the conferences, so it then became an annual event. Each year we made improvements and the conference grew in both attendees and vendors. By holding the conference at a member public works facility, we were able to keep our costs low and affordable so many of our members could attend.

Our 4th annual conference was held on August 19, 2010, with the conference this year at the Algonquin Public Works facility. Over 180 people attended and we had 38 vendor displays. We had two different tracks for our technical sessions,





including a basic track for newer operators and an advanced track for our more seasoned professionals. Our basic track included training in wastewater characteristics, sampling procedures and preventive maintenance. Our advanced track included information on energy efficiency practices, energy audits and water quality standards updates. Following a buffet lunch, we then had a choice of two workshops, including electrical safety and FOG/pretreatment programs and guidelines.

The support of our vendors has been very positive, and we reluctantly had to actually turn away vendors who tried to register past our vendor deadline. Many of our vendors contributed above and beyond the cost of their booth toward the food and raffle gifts, as well as providing lots of good information and contacts for our operators. Holding the conference at the Algonquin Public Works facility also allowed us to have displays of larger items like vactor trucks, televising equipment, pumps, and even a polymer dewatering system.

Another positive result of the conference was the establishment of new professional associations with groups like CSWEA and other organizations and we are looking to establish some training partnerships with these organizations in the future.

Our mission at the Fox Valley
Operators Association is to provide
networking and training for our members
who are wastewater professionals, and
our conference is just one venue for us
to do this. As long as we have members
who want to keep learning, we will
continue to provide training. Please join
us at our future conferences.



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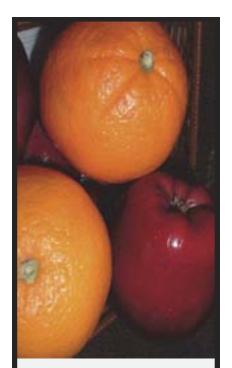
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Be sure to mark you calendars and register for the upcoming 25th Annual Conference on the Environment developed jointly by the **Air & Waste Management Association** (A&WMA) – Upper Midwest Section; and the CSWEA – Minnesota Section.

Dick Hemmingsen, the Founding Director of the Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment (IREE) will be our keynote speaker and will provide us an update on IREE and its mission of "promoting statewide economic development; sustainable, healthy and diverse ecosystems; and national energy security."

As director, he oversees IREE's operational structure, funding processes, partnerships, events, and communications and marketing efforts. Previously, Hemmingsen served as associate director of government relations for the University of Minnesota. For 16 years, he represented the U of M at the state legislature and assisted with federal advocacy for renewable energy, the Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension funding. In 1984, Hemmingsen began his career at the U of M as an extension agent and county extension director. Prior to that, he worked as an adult farm management instructor; owned and operated a crops and livestock farm; and taught high school vocational agriculture. Hemmingsen holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural education and a master's degree in adult education from the U of M. In his free time, he's a motorcycle enthusiast and an avid angler.

Conference breakout sessions will cover air quality, biomass, energy conservation/recovery, stormwater, wastewater, water, and waste topic areas. We will have several other outstanding technical papers and presentations during the day from many of our local talent. We are also planning an environmental challenge for the students.

Online registration is available by visiting www.cswea.org/minnesota/events/.

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CSWEA's Government Affairs

Comment Letters

Over the course of the last few months, your CSWEA Government
Affairs Committee, led by the Wisconsin Section's Government Affairs
committee has commented on two significant proposed rule-making from USEPA.
By providing thoughtful comments that are reflective of our associations' commitment
to improving our water environment, we have helped the agency in their consideration
of these rules.

The first comment letter was on USEPA Region 7's consideration of a TMDL for Total Arsenic for segments of the Mississippi River. As a result of the many comments received, USEPA Region 7 has suspended consideration of the Total Arsenic TMDL.

The second comment letter was in response to USEPA's request for feedback on Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) rule making and again CSWEA's Government Affairs Committee led by the Wisconsin Section, developed a comprehensive response, clearly reflective of our commitment to the environment and sensible, enforceable and effective management of SSOs. Here is a summary of that comment letter.

CSWEA would like to address the questions asked by U.S. EPA in the federal register announcement with respect to wet weather flow management for separate sewer systems.

1. Should EPA propose to clarify it standard permit conditions for SSO reporting, recordkeeping and public notification?

CSWEA believes that SSO reporting, recordkeeping and public notification should be clarified to provide consistency between states, USEPA regions and permittees. This clarification should be in the form of broad guidelines that document essential information and target notification allowing flexibility to work within existing state reporting programs and notification requirements. There should be a sufficient transition period for state programs to be modified to meet minimum federal requirements.

a. Is there a need for establishing this framework and, if so, which SSO events should be subject to reporting, recordkeeping and public notice requirements? A framework for reporting and notification

 SSOs associated with equipment or system failures and those observed associated with extreme wet weather events should be subject to reporting. It should be noted that there could be limitations of monitoring and system observation, particularly SSOs associated extreme wet weather events where a permittee will likely not know of every location, duration and volume of release.

- Releases that constitute a risk for public contact should also be subject to reporting.
- EPA should consider a deminimus volume for notification. EPA should also consider a notification policy that allows the permittee to notify potentially affected parties depending on the nature of the release. General regional notifications may ultimately be ignored if they are not focused on those affected.

b. Should EPA clarify that such requirements apply to SSOs that do not result in a discharge to waters of the United States, including sewage backups in basements?

- SSOs that do not reach waters of the United States should be documented but not subject to reporting.
- Private laterals ownership is typically either the responsibility of the homeowner or shared responsibility with the utility. Therefore basement backups due to blockages are usually the responsi-

bility of the homeowner. Basement backups do not usually result in a discharge to the waters of the United States. Basement backups are a service issue, and utilities typically record and correct those caused by the public system. Basement backups should not be reported as SSOs, but dealt with as a corrective measure through public education and a component of the CMOM program.

c. Which SSO events should be reported immediately?

SSOs with the potential for public contact and/or public health impacts should be reported immediately. We request that the notification requirements are similar to Wisconsin where a notification is submitted within 24 hours with the details and back-up submitted within 5 days.

d. What criteria should be used to determine if notice of public health officials is appropriate for an SSO event?

 Public health officials should be notified if there is potential for public contact as noted above, such as public swimming beaches or other locations where recreational use of water may occur.

should be established.

e. Should EPA establish minimum requirements for monitoring SSOs to alert the municipal operator in a timely manner? If so, what are appropriate methods, technologies for management programs for monitoring SSOs?

P Critical monitoring locations and methods should be determined through the capacity analysis of the CMOM program. Methods such as: flow and level monitoring with telemetry or remote monitoring and visual observation are tools that can be used depending on system size and complexity and personnel and financial resources.

f. Should EPA require immediate notification to the public of SSOs? If so, for which SSOs and how and when should the public be notified?

 SSOs with the potential for general public contact should require notification. Ideally the notification should be targeted at the potentially affected population. Website information, e-mail blasts to interested parties, radio, television and print media can all be used for notification.

2. Should EPA propose to develop a standard permit condition with requirements for capacity, management, operations and maintenance programs based on asset management principles? NPDES permits currently include requirements for proper operation and maintenance. A general permit condition should include a CMOM program. EPA Guidance for CMOM programs should be developed. We recommend that WEF/NACWA "Core Attributes of Effectively Managed Collection Systems" serve as the basis for CMOM principles.

3. Should EPA propose to require permit coverage for municipal satellite collection systems?

Municipal or private satellite collection systems should be permitted. Permits should include CMOM program requirements and SSO reporting provisions. Notification should be coordinated with the POTW. Permits may include control provisions specific to the POTW that receives their flow. Permits should be separate from the POTW permit and should require a responsible operator/sewer utility manager, independent of the POTW responsible for treating the sewage from the satellite community.

The State of Wisconsin in its WPDES permit program has already begun the process of permitting collection systems in communities like Fond du Lac and the tributary communities to the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District.

A phase-in period for satellite community operational managers to be required should be provided and states should develop qualification requirements, such as a certification program, for the collection system operational responsibilities.

4. What is the appropriate role of NPDES permits in addressing unauthorized SSOs that are caused by exceptional circumstance?

Wastewater collection and treatment systems are subject to flow in excess of normal residential, commercial, and industrial sanitary contributions due to groundwater infiltration (including private sources), rainfall derived infiltration and inflow, and river or lake stage induced infiltration and inflow. Collection system response to equivalent precipitation events will increase when certain environmental conditions such as frozen ground, high antecedent soil wetness, high groundwater, ripe snowpack, and fallow vegetation occur. Separate sewers systems respond not only the one day storm intensity but to the extended rainfall patterns that allow saturation and increase the likelihood of groundwater infiltration and river or lake stage induced infiltration/inflow. Collection system response will vary from community to community and within communities based on age of the sewer system, soil type, construction materials and installation practices, condition of private laterals, prevalence of foundation drain and down spout connections, and other factors.

The response of a wastewater collection system to varying precipitation and climatic conditions can be developed using deterministic or statistically-based models provided climate and flow data are available for a sufficiently long period of record. Once such a model has been calibrated and verified, long term climate data can be used to estimate long-term performance at the wastewater collection and treatment systems. Such models do not account for SSOs caused by conditions such as power outages, vandalism, sewer collapse, equipment failure, line blockages and accidents. Simplified

methodology for small systems should be available so as not to impose an unreasonable burden on those systems.

Exceptional events can then be defined as those with a small probability of occurring. What is considered a "small" annual probability of occurrence varies widely. It may range from 5 to 50 percent which corresponds to a recurrence interval range from 2 to 20 years. Exceptional events also include SSOs caused by factors that cannot be predicted by models such as power outages, vandalism, sewer collapse, equipment failure, line blockages and accidents.

5. How should EPA address peak flows at POTW treatment plants?

EPA should develop a policy that recognizes holistic operation of the collection and treatment system to minimize public health risk or other environmental impacts. Diversion of peak flows at POTWS following primary treatment to protect the biological process with recombination and disinfection, provision of high rate physical-chemical treatment or other means is being employed by numerous utilities. Peak flow management strategies typically achieve secondary treatment standards with successful disinfection as measured by indicator organisms. WEF's "Guide to Managing Peak Wet Weather Flows in Municipal Wastewater Collection and Treatment Systems" outlines a sound approach for analyzing collection and treatment system performance during wet weather conditions and develops a sound approach to incorporating wet weather management practices through facility planning, design and operation. We wish to note that in many instances high rate processes are not required to meet the applicable water quality and wastewater effluent standards because the discharges occur during periods when the receiving water is not at low flow conditions. Standard rate treatment options may in many instances provide sufficient treatment or if the flows are significantly greater than the average day design flow (e.g. 5 to 1 to 6 to 1) meet the requirements for secondary effluent as it enters the POTW. The 85% removal requirement was originally intended to apply to average day treatment conditions. We believe that the 85% removal requirement should only be applied over a longer period of time, perhaps annually.

Examples of permitted blending in Wisconsin are as follows:

Illinois has incorporated peak excess flow treatment with the requirement that secondary treatment effluent limits plus disinfection be achieved while using blending to treat excess wet weather flow. Several Illinois utilities have operated under permits that define flow conditions under which blending is to be utilized as a management practice. Permits have been issued in Illinois since the 1970's with Region 5 approval. Those utilities that treated excess wet weather flows through diversion around primary treatment and recombination with disinfection are unaware of any public health or adverse environmental impacts associated with the discharge of blended flow.

POTWs may be required to achieve greater nutrient removal than is the current performance. Peak flow management strategies will be even more important as these processes are added and POTWs should have effective options to meet

multiple environmental objectives. Initial WERF research indicates that peak wet weather flow blending is effective in managing public health risk. Further study would be useful to allow POTWs to refine their excess peak flow treatment practices to optimize public health protection.

6. What are the costs and benefits of CMOM programs and asset management of sanitary sewers?

A CMOM Program helps the POTW and satellite communities shift from a reactive mode of operation to a proactive mode. An effective CMOM Program helps managers to properly budget for O&M activities and fund their capital projects. A CMOM Program should be specific to each community to ensure that their assets are properly protected. We recommend using the CMOM principles as outlined in the WEF /NACWA "Core Attributes of Effectively Managed Collection Systems". CMOM programs as permit requirements in Wisconsin are a

relatively recent and there is not sufficient data to evaluate costs and benefits. The following describes the experience of a regional wastewater utility in Wisconsin.

A CMOM program or requirement is a good way to document good collection system practices. Providing automatic standby emergency generators at lift stations have helped immensely at locations that experience power outages due to lightning strikes. In the past these power interruptions led to bypassing at locations in collection systems. Maintenance of these generators is necessary and monthly testing insures they are operational when needed. SCADA systems can handle and monitor the performance of these generators with little human interaction. Alarms are reported to the POTWs and work orders for service can be generated to insure operability when needed. Investments in other backup systems such as back up floats and level monitoring, and redundant control systems also insure reliability. Reliable system management through a CMOM program has led to less SSOs because the entire system has a much higher reliability. In many cases a good mechanic and electrician from a POTW can be utilized to make sure the collection system operates at a reliable level. CMOM provides a level of accountability that forces compliance because someone is watching and looking over what is being done to insure reductions in SSOs.

Asset management aspects of a CMOM program are also good in order for collection system supervisors to raise a level of attention to their needs when commissions and governing bodies are looking for programs to cut such as sewer televising or cleaning. The graph below shows a

| Facility | Average Design Flow (mgd) | Peak Hourly Flow (mgd) | Treatment | Frequency of Use |
|----------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---|--|
| А | 1.8 | 18 | Primary Treatment and Disinfection | Once Every 3 to 5 years |
| В | 4.5 | 30 | Primary Treatment- Disinfection is not required in their permit | Never used in 10 years due to available storage in existing structures |
| С | 9.8 | 60 | Enhanced Primary Treatment, Storage and Disinfection | Twice per Year in wet years with no use in drier years |
| D | 12.5 | 50 | Enhanced Primary Treatment and Disinfection | 5 times in 10 years |
| Е | 10 | 110 | Primary Treatment and Disinfection | |
| F | 50 | 140 | Primary Treatment and Storage | Once every 3 to 5 years depending on extended rainfall patterns |



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trend line of SSOs at a regional Midwest collection system. While some declines and rises can be attributed to weather patterns, a good CMOM program helps communities program the proper resources to meet the needs in a community.

7. Are there other considerations?

Different size collection and treatment systems have different financial and technical resources. Flexibility should be incorporated into updated regulations and guidance so that small communities may develop a management program that is able to be implemented and provides the management tools appropriate to their facilities. In order to be fair to satellite and host communities of regional POTWs, consistent practices and policies need to apply to all contributors of a POTW. Permitting of each collection system is recommended so that a regional POTW (who has very little enforcement capability) is not held responsible for a SSO when they have little regulatory authority over another government entity. In that case a State or federal agency should weigh in with regulations that need to be followed.

The implementation schedule for developing and implementing a CMOM Program needs to be realistic.

A significant source of infiltration and inflow (I/I) is from private property such as laterals. Currently, certain types of funding are not available to use on private property. Consideration to broaden the guidelines to use federal funds on private property for the overall good of the system should be considered. There are many types of programs that utilities have implemented to address private property I/I. A resource for these types of programs can be found on the WEF website at www.wef.org/privateproperty.

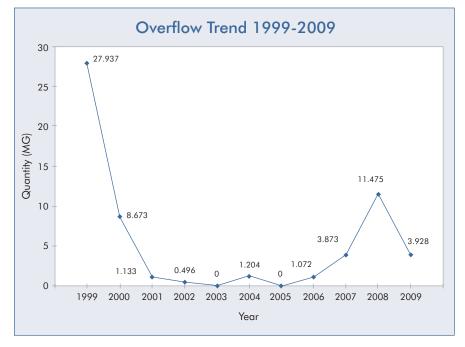
Consideration should be given to either a streamlined approach for smaller utilities (facilities serving less than 5,000 persons) that would not dictate complicated approaches in situations where sewer capacity or peak flow at the POTW are a consideration. For example, the based EPA definition of excessive I/I of 120 gpcd for infiltration or 275 gpcd for inflow coupled with a system wide analysis of the estimated infiltration inflow rate (e.g. based on a 2,500 gpd/in-dia/mile) could serve as the basis for determining the need for a more detailed CMOM approach. In addition, specific provisions regarding other causes of sewer related problems (particularly, FOG plugging)

could be addressed through proper operation and maintenance.

As an example in one of our member states, the Compliance Maintenance Annual Reports for Wisconsin requiring reporting issues regarding collection system capacity, operations and maintenance. Poor performance over an extended period could serve as the regulatory basis for including more detailed CMOM requirements in individual permits on an as needed, case by case basis.

Central States WEA thanks U.S. EPA for the opportunity to comment on this

important policy and environmental issue. Our members are committed to best management practices costeffectively employed to continuously improve and preserve our water environment. Central States WEA will be happy to continue dialogue and assist U.S. EPA with development of an SSO and blending policy that is protective of public health and the environment within a legal framework that is manageable by and provides legal protection to POTWs and their contributing communities.







By BETH VOGT and RANDY WIRTZ

Submit for an Award

Water and wastewater professionals working in the water quality industry are often overlooked for our critical role in protecting public health and the environment. A top priority of CSWEA each year is to recognize the efforts of our members and water and wastewater professionals at all levels. We also seek to provide top quality nominees to the Water Environment Federation (WEF) each year for national level recognition. In order for you or a deserving colleague to be recognized, please submit a nomination to the Central States Water Environment Association and/or WEF for one of the many awards available.

Our role in protecting the public and the environment are often undervalued and invisible to the very public that we protect. Whether in design, academia, equipment manufacture and supply, management, or operations, we all know individuals who have successfully addressed unique and challenging issues. Our awards program offers the opportunity to receive recognition for these deserving professionals.

Below is a listing of the award opportunities. Sadly, many awards have few or no nominations each year, resulting in missed opportunities to provide recognition to deserving water quality professionals. It's time to brag a little bit about the accomplishments of our members. Please carefully review the various awards

available and nominate one of our many deserving members.

Please note that award submittals need to be made by December 1, 2010 to allow distribution to the respective CSWEA or WEF Awards Committees for consideration. CSWEA will present the winners with their awards at the 84th Annual Meeting Awards Banquet on May 18, 2011. WEF awards will be presented at WEFTEC 2011, in Los Angeles.

2010 CSWEA & WEF AWARD NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Nominations are now being accepted for the following WEF awards and should you be aware of a worthy nominee we ask that you please complete and return the bottom portion of this page for consideration. Note that it is OK to self nominate. Each award is briefly described below and complete information may be found on thewww. CSWEA.org or www.WEF.org web sites.

Charles Alvin Emerson Medal: This award is presented by WEF to an individual whose contributions to the wastewater collection and treatment industry most deserve recognition. Areas of involvement include membership growth, water resource protection, improved techniques of wastewater treatment and fundamental research.

Harry E. Schlenz Medal: This award is presented by WEF and recognizes the achievements of an individual outside of the water environment profession, who takes up the banner of environmental public education. This person is typically in the journalism, film or video production field.

Richard S. Englebrecht International Activities Service Award: This award is presented by WEF and recognizes sustained and significant contributions to the furtherance and improvement of the activities of the Water Environment Federation in the international field.

Outstanding Achievement in Water Quality Improvement Award: This award is presented by WEF and CSWEA to the water quality improvement program that best demonstrates significant, lasting and measurable excellence in water quality improvement or in prevention of water quality degradation in a region, basin or water body.

Gordon Maskew Fair Medal: This award is presented by WEF and recognizes worthy accomplishments in the training and development of future sanitary engineers. Nominee must be a WEF member.

Public Education Awards: There are three categories of Public Education Awards: Individual, Member Association and Other.

The Awards are presented by WEF and recognize significant accomplishments in promoting awareness and understanding of water environment issues among the general public, through the development and implementation of public education programs.

George Bradley Gascoigne Medal: This award is presented by WEF to the author(s) of an article, which presents the solution of an important and complicated operational problem within a full-scale, operating wastewater treatment plant, which is appropriately staffed. Article must have been published in a Federation or member association magazine/newsletter during the previous year.

Thomas R. Camp Medal: This award is presented by WEF to a member who demonstrates a unique application of basic research or fundamental principles through the design or development of a wastewater collection or treatment system.

The Phillip F. Morgan Medal: The Morgan Medal is awarded by WEF and recognizes valuable contribution to the in-plant study and solution of an operational problem. A published paper is not required.

The George J. Schroepfer Medal: The Schroepfer Medal is awarded by WEF and recognizes a professional engineer for conceiving and directing the design of a project to achieve substantial cost savings or economic benefit over other alternatives, while achieving environmental objectives.

Member Association Safety Award:

This WEF award is presented to a member association to recognize the success of the safety programs in their local wastewater works.

Arthur Sidney Bedell Award: The Bedell is a Federation award that is given annually to one recipient in recognition of outstanding achievement in the sewerage and wastewater treatment works field, as related particularly to the problems and activities of the Member Association. The Bedell award subcommittee selects the nominations, and the award is presented at the CSWEA Annual Meeting.

William D. Hatfield Award: The Hatfield Award is a Federation award given annually to one recipient in recognition of outstanding operation of a wastewater treatment plant. Each State Section may nominate one person per year and submit it to the Hatfield subcommittee. This award is presented at the CSWEA Annual Meeting.

Operations Award: The Operations Award is a Central States award that is given annually to one recipient in each state. The purpose of this award is to recognize operators of wastewater treatment facilities who are performing their duties in and outstanding manner and our demonstrating distinguished professionalism. The States Sections' Committee makes the selection and each State Section winner will receive their award at the CSWEA Annual Meeting.

Radebaugh Award: The Radebaugh Award is given to the author of a deserving paper presented at the previous year's annual meeting. The Radebaugh award subcommittee selects the winner from nominations received and the award is presented at the CSWEA Annual Meeting.

Academic Excellence Award: The Academic Excellence Award is given to one student per year from each eligible institution in the state section hosting the Annual Conference (Minnesota is hosting

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the next conference.). An eligible institution shall be a college or university having a recognized graduate or undergraduate program in engineering as accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. The candidate shall be selected by the Department Chairman or other designated person at the eligible institution. Selected candidates are able to attend the CSWEA Annual Meeting with expenses paid, to receive their award and scholarship.

Collection System Award: This Award is given annually to one member from each section in recognition of outstanding contributions in advancing collection system knowledge and direct or indirect improvement in water quality. Each State Section Collection System Committee can nominate one individual per year with the selected candidate receiving the award at the CSWEA Annual Meeting. The recipient of the Association Award shall be nominated annually for the WEF Collection System Award.

George W. Burke Safety Award: The Burke Award is made annually by WEF to a municipal or industrial wastewater facility for promoting an active and

effective safety program. Each State Section Committee can nominate a facility and the nominations are then sent to the general awards committee. The winner will be presented with the Burke Safety Award at the CSWEA Annual Meeting.

Central State Section Safety Award: The CSWEA Facility Safety Award is made annually by CSWEA to a municipal or industrial wastewater facility within each State Section in recognition of active and effective safety programs from Burke Award submissions and the awards are presented at the CSWEA Annual Meeting.

Industrial Environmental Achievement Award: The award is given at the CSWEA Annual Meeting to one industry per year in recognition of outstanding contributions in waste minimization, pollution prevention, environmental compliance and environmental stewardship. Each State Section Industrial Committee may nominate one facility per year.

Lab Analyst Excellence Award: This is a WEF award that is given annually to one recipient in recognition of outstanding achievement in the area of water quality analysis. Each State Section Laboratory

Committee may nominate one person. This award is presented at the CSWEA Annual Meeting.

Industrial Environmental Achievement Award: The award is given to one industry per year at the CSWEA Annual Meeting in recognition of outstanding contributions in waste minimization, pollution prevention, environmental compliance and environmental stewardship.

Bill Boyle Educator of the Year Award: This award is given to one teacher per year in recognition of outstanding education assistance to students of any level in the study of the water environment. The award is presented at the CSWEA Annual Meeting.

CSWEA Outstanding Young
Professional Award: This award
recognizes the contributions of young
water environment professionals for
significant contributions to CSWEA and to
the wastewater collection and treatment
industry at the CSWEA Annual Meeting.

Additional information on these awards is located at www.CSWEA.org, www.WEF.org,or by contacting Eric Lecuyer, 815-954-2714, cswea@ymail.com. CS

| To submit nominations for any award, please complete and submit to: BETH VOGT Greeley and Hansen 100 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60606 Phone: 312-578-2321 Fax: 312-558-1986 E-mail: Nominations must be received no later than December 1 | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Award name: | Nominee: | | | | |
| Nominee contact information (include as much info as possible, Employer name: | | | | | |
| Phone #: | Email address: | | | | |
| WEF member ID: Other: | | | | | |
| Please provide a brief description of your nominee's qualification | ons for the award: | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Your name: | (it's OK to nominate yourself) | | | | |
| Your contact information: Phone #: Other: | Email address: | | | | |

The BENEFITS of Membership in CSWEA



You'll benefit personally and professionally by joining CSWEA:

- ✓ By keeping current on technical developments.
- By keeping current on regulatory developments.
- ✓ By networking with like professionals.
- Gain sales and marketing contacts by advertising, exhibiting and one-on-one contacts.
- ☑ Enhance relationships with regulatory agencies, and their personnel.
- Create opportunities to make a contribution to more effective water environment activities.
- Take advantage of opportunities for publication in our magazine Central States Water as well as WEF publications.
- ✓ Learn and practice leadership by becoming an officer, serve on association and state section boards, committees, etc.
- Opportunities to present papers at state section and association (threestate) conferences and seminar.
- Social interaction with all environmental professionals involved.
- Opportunities for cost-effective continuing and advanced education for both professional engineers and operator recertification.
- Support by people engaged in like activities.
- Gain professional recognition and personal development.

GOALS

The objectives of CSWEA are to:

Advance the fundamental knowledge of the water environment, its basic qualities, and physical laws governing its interaction with other aspects of the environment and with the aesthetic,

- economic and biological needs of the earth's inhabitants.
- Advance the knowledge and technology in the design, construction, operation and management of water quality systems and facilities.
- ✓ Increase the knowledge and understanding of the earth's water environment, and encourage and promote action necessary for its enhancement.
- ✓ Develop and implement effective delivery mechanisms to rapidly disseminate knowledge concerning the water environment to members and other interested parties.
- Promote sound policy in matters relating to the water environment.
- Improve the professional status of all personnel engaged in any aspect of protecting and improving the earth's water environment.
- Strengthen and build alliances with organizations throughout the

- world incorporating members of all professions dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of water quality and water resources.
- Stimulate public awareness of the relationship of water resources to the public welfare and the need for pollution prevention, resource recovery, preservation, conservation, and reuse of water resources.
- ✓ To provide a regional (Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin) organization offering multiple opportunities for the exchange of water environment knowledge and experiences among its members and the public and to foster a greater awareness of water environment achievements and challenges.
- ✓ Serve the international community of water environment professionals.
- ☑ To support and encourage activities and programs within the three states as developed by the members and committees of the State Sections.





The **BENEFITS** of Membership in CSWEA



NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

CSWEA activities allow members to establish contacts within their communities, whether facility operators and managers or consulting engineers and ask for counsel and advice on work situations in the water environment field. Attending association functions can provide members with career opportunities.

OUR MEMBERS

CSWEA members include civil, design and environmental engineers; biologists, chemists, local and state government officials, treatment plant managers and operators, laboratory technicians, students, professors, lawyers, environmental scientists, safety and maintenance professionals and equipment manufacturers and distributors.

OUR VISION

To provide a Water Environment Federation (WEF) organization (Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin) offering multiple opportunities for the exchange of water quality knowledge and experiences among its members and the public and to foster a greater awareness of water quality achievements and challenges.

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CSWEA offers membership in Central States and the Water Environment Federation, (WEF), and this membership category offers the best value for professionals with the state, regional, national and worldwide connections of both a local WEF Member Association (CSWEA) and the preeminent organization of water professionals, worldwide, WEF. Several membership categories are available and described within the membership application.

CSWEA also offers an Associate level membership, which provides membership in CSWEA only for those who may just interested in CSWEA membership. While we strongly suggest membership in both CSWEA and WEF, we understand that for some, membership in CSWEA only makes the most sense. CS

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At first glance, it would seem like diving and wastewater don't mix.

Quite often, system operators do not consider using divers when it comes time to repair or maintain systems. However, using divers can be a cost-effective alternative to taking the system off-line and draining and pumping. "We dive in clarifiers, aeration basins, repair trash racks, piping – a little bit of everything," says Randy Jacobs, president of Pro-Dive Inc.

Diving in wastewater means working in zero visibility where the work is done by feel. Therefore, the diver must understand the chemistry of wastewater and the mechanics of treatment. Divers can also face thermal issues in wastewater, especially in industrial settings, says Jacobs. "The water can be quite hot, so the diver can get very fatigued unless you take steps to keep him cool."

Aside from system maintenance and repair, zebra mussel control is another application for divers, although zebra mussels are not as large a concern as they were a decade ago. "Most water intakes in Lake Michigan have installed chemical feed systems to control zebra mussel infestations, but we do annual maintenance," says Jacobs. His company also removes dispersing rings in the fall, and reinstalls them in the spring.

Divers complete inspections using a variety of techniques, including underwater

photography and video documentation, tactile and visual inspections, and destructive and non-destructive testing. In recent years, Pro-Dive has incorporated some high-tech options like robots, or ROVs, which can be inserted in pipelines to inspect interiors. "Hydrographic surveying and sonar systems have come a long way, and they aid in locating structures and assessing the conditions remotely," says Jacobs. "Often, utilities don't yet know what the problem is, so it is helpful to put a diver in and he can diagnose the problem, usually in short order, and he can sometimes come up with a repair."



Photos courtesy Pro-Dive Inc.



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Underwater Contractors

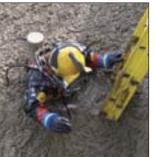
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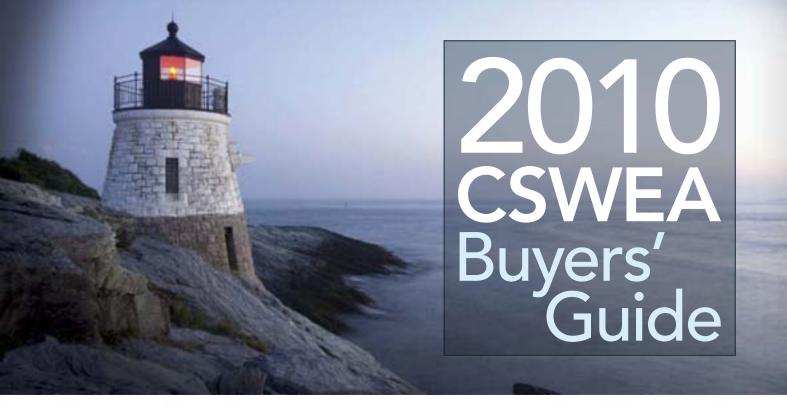
Professional divers also work in potable water, cleaning tanks, maintaining infrastructure, and the like.

Certified commercial divers can inspect water storage tanks, towers and clearwells without draining them or taking them out of service. The diver is encapsulated (no part of the divers body touches the water) in a sealed drysuit and then washed down with a 200ppm chlorine solution before entering the tank. All diving dress is used exclusively in drinking water, to avoid contamination, in compliance with American Water Works Association (AWWA) standards. The diver is then able to move about the tank to perform inspections or clean. Using a specially equipped pump or airlift system the diver is able to remove the sediment from the tank floor. Everything that is loose is removed without damage to painted surfaces. This allows the chlorine in the system to work effectively.

This process is an effective way to clean and inspect potable water storage tanks because all of the maintenance can be done while the tank remains in service and full of water and most of the interior surfaces of the tank can be easily accessed.

"It's a different technique than in wastewater, because in wastewater you have to isolate the diver from the contaminants in a sealed suit, and in potable water the diver is treated as a contaminant where he has to be isolated and all the equipment disinfected before entering the water," says Jacobs.

There are many benefits to using commercial divers in the water industry, and wastewater is no exception. It seems they do mix, after all. CS



Welcome to the annual *Central States Water* Buyers' Guide. When making purchasing decisions about products and services in the wastewater industry throughout the Central States region, please support the companies whose advertising makes *Central States Water* possible.

Our CSWEA Buyers' Guide consists of two sections:

- 1. A **CATEGORICAL LISTING** of products and services, including a list of companies which provide them.
- An ALPHABETICAL LISTING of the companies appearing in the first section. This listing includes name, contact info, website, and more.

LISTINGS BY CATEGORY

AMR, AMI, MDM Master Meter, Inc.

BACKFLOW PREVENTER TESTING Alden Pool and Municipal Supply Co.

BIOGAS CONDITIONING SYSTEMS Unison Solutions, Inc.

BLOWERS
Berryman Equipment Company

CHEMIMCAL PROCESSING & FEED SYSTEMS Alden Pool and Municipal Supply Co. Boerger, LLC Crane Engineering Force Flow Pollard Water Severn Trent Services

COATINGS, LINING & CORROSION CONTROL Crane Engineering ECO Oxygen Technologies, LLC KLM Engineering, Inc. SpectraShield Liner Systems

COMPUTER SOFTWARE/ HARDWARE IntelliSys Information Systems

CONTINUING EDUCATION University of Wisconsin-Madison CONTRACTORS
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DYK, Inc.
Process Equipment Repair Services
Pro-Dive Inc.

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL Agua Backflow, Inc.

CSO/SSO CONTROLS,
WATER RESOURCES,
DISTRIBUTION & COLLECTION
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Donohue & Associates, Inc.
Greeley and Hansen
Infilco Degremont, Inc.
John Meunier Inc.
Smith & Loveless Inc.
Strand Associates, Inc.
Symbiont, Inc.

DECHLORINATION Pollard Water

DESIGN/BUILD McMahon

DIFFUSED AERATION SYSTEMS ITT Sanitaire

DIGESTER GAS SAFETY Shand & Jurs, an L&J Technologies Company ELECTRICAL, INSTRUMENTATION/ CONTROLS/GENERATORS Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc. ControlSoft Inc. Donohue & Associates, Inc. Energenecs IntelliSys Information Systems

ITT Water & Wastewater/ Flygt Products L&S Electric, Inc. McMahon Noren Products Symbiont, Inc. USEMCO

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Donohue & Associates, Inc.
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KLM Engineering, Inc.
McMahon

Northern Lake Service, Inc.

Ruekert/Mielke

SEH Strand Associates, Inc. Symbiont, Inc. TKDA Trotter and Associates, Inc. WSB & Associates, Inc.

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Summer Recap

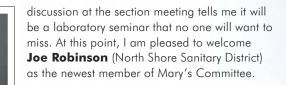
By Eddie McCall

ith fall fast approaching, we now begin to see summer in the rear view mirror. Some of us will be glad to see the backside of the blazing heat and rainy months. Illinois and the Chicagoland area experienced record flooding due to the heavy thunderstorm activity this summer, especially in July. Some of us, however, will lament the loss of summer. With the onset of winter comes the other extreme in weather conditions. Soon it will be time to put away the lawnmower and dust off the rake for the leaves and thereafter the snow blower. Happy fall gardening to all.

Not only was there extreme weather during in Illinois, but as always Illinois provided much entertainment on the political front. Act one seems to be over for the former governor with the stage set for Act two or the sequel as Hollywood likes to say. It will be interesting to see how many more acts (or sequels) there will be in this Illinois drama. With the Adams Family exiting the stage, I am sure there will be host of new characters to carry the performance. Grab your popcorn and stay tuned.

In July, we held the Illinois Section meeting at the Glenbard Wastewater Authority. I would like to express many thanks to the folks at Glenbard for hosting the chapter meeting. The meeting highlights were as follows (full meeting minutes will be posted on the CSWEA website at a later date):

- **Shelly Cumbow** provided the treasurer's report. The good news is the State Chapter is financially strong and should be able to maintain this strength going forward.
- Roger Gyger provided the public education report and as always, continues to show his commitment to the WEF initiative of Water is Life. Additionally, Roger shared the latest and greatest WEF materials available to all members to help to brand/promote the organization.
- Mary Dressel provided the laboratory report. Mary continues to build her program for the upcoming laboratory seminar with the help of her committee. The preview and



- Mark Eddington provided the collection system report. Though attendance was down at the recent collections system seminar, on a year-to-year basis, the event proved to be another great success for the chapter. Many thanks to Mark and his group for putting together an
- interesting program comprising of more than eight speakers from the regulatory, public, consulting and contracting sectors.
- Steve Bollweg provided the operations report. Steve continues to build his program for the upcoming operations seminar to be held at Wheaton Sanitary District in September. A sneak peak of the program highlights includes stormwater management related to construction and operations funding. Mark your calendars for September. Steve will have more details as soon are they are available.
- Scott Trotter provided an update on student activities. The University of Illinois and University of Madison are actively engaged in the organization through their involvement in Engineers without Borders and the Student Design competition. Scott is planning to host an exchange for the various student chapters at the Midwest Expo to increase visibility and engagement of students at the upcoming meeting in the Dells, WI.

As always we are looking for new members to join our organization and the various committees of Central States WEA. If you have not considered joining, I would like to extend an invitation for you to do so. There are so many dynamic people in the organization waiting to meet you. Until next time, please accept my sincere appreciation to all of you for taking the time to continue to make this organization successful. CS



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Wet and Wild Weather

By Keith Haas

ecent wet weather events in Central Wisconsin and in Milwaukee in the summer of 2010 will not soon be forgotten. Some of us dodged a bullet and others were inundated with water and phone calls. Sewer systems have simply not been designed to handle the intense rainfall and the corresponding flows we have experienced this past decade. These events have raised the focus on our profession and the work that needs to be done. Hopefully it will lead to additional work for the engineering and construction community in the months and years to come.

CSX '10 was well attended July 15-16 in the Wisconsin Dells at the Kalahari Resort. Members of all three State Sections were present and we discussed a wide variety of issues affecting our organization. Our Section is currently enjoying great membership and attendance at many other fine events and seminars. We recently had our Summer Business meeting and follow-on Young Professionals (YP) and Seasoned Professionals (SP) event at Miller Park. Thank you to Trevor Ghylin and Tom Mulcahy for setting up the event. It is a great chance for the SPs to meet the YPs who will carry the torch of our profession into the next several decades.

The Collection System Northwoods Seminar was held in Marshfield, WI on July 29. Congratulations to the committee leadership of Andrew Craven, Randy Belanger and Todd Stelmacher. We also can't say enough about the efforts of our local arrangers in Marshfield: Jean Coy and Ron Dickrell – fantastic work! If you are a northern Wisconsin operator, engineer or vendor, please plan on attending this collection system seminar next year. There were excellent presentations covering fats, oils



and greases (FOG), septic hauling, directional drilling and confined space entry.

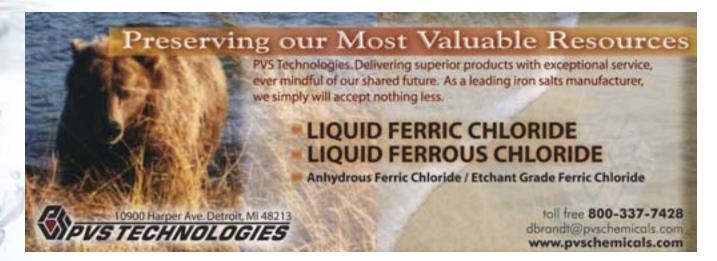
The CSWEA and WWA joint Management Seminar was held at Cabela's again on August 5 in Richfield, WI with excellent attendance and a full schedule of speakers and topics. Managers and professionals were exposed to a series of presentations covering topics like financing your utility and dealing with social networking sites in the workplace. My special thanks go out to Ken Sedmak, Paul Nehm, Tom Krueger, Mike Simon and Pete Conine and as our representatives on this committee.

Our Government Affairs Committee, under the direction of Brandon Koltz, has been extremely active in many legislative and regulatory issues affecting every member of our Section and probably every discharger. Comments were prepared and forwarded to the EPA and DNR with reference to TMDLs and SSOs, CMOM and blending issues that will affect every one of us in the coming years. Thanks to Jane Carlson and Jim Kleinschmidt for their input on this effort.

As we wind down from WEFTEC in New Orleans, we are reminded that our budget for 2011 for the Wisconsin Section will be formulated at our November board meeting this fall. All Section members are welcome and we encourage you to attend as we plan and budget for the following year.

The strength of our organization is in the strong committee structure that we have and the excellent seminars that we sponsor to publicize the good work that we do for the environment and mankind. Keep up the good work and don't forget to "drag someone along" to the next event that you attend. CS

"Our Section is currently enjoying great membership and attendance at many other fine events and seminars."



Find Your Place

By Ted Field

he saying in Minnesota is that we have only two seasons: road construction and winter. It's our way of finding fault with perfect summer weather. And while summer 2010 will be remembered for its warmth and sunshine it will also be remembered for its road closings and detours that at times had drivers surrounded and frustrated. Now it is fall, the roads are opening up, we're home from WEFTEC, and we get to enjoy a brief respite from our complaining before the snow flies.

The Minnesota Section is looking forward to hosting the 84th Annual CSWEA Meeting next May in Brooklyn Park, with the warning to our out-of-state guests that despite what you may have heard about our endless winter's road construction season will have begun.

But before winter arrives this year we're busy conducting our section's business. Jim Miller and Doug Henrichsen attended the annual CSWEA-CSX-YPX event in July at the Wisconsin Dells where they participated in discussions about how CSWEA can advance its mission, increase activity, and grow in member participation. And in late July several members of our section attended the Minnesota Wastewater Operators Association conference in Grand Rapids to celebrate and exchange ideas related to the wastewater industry.

Next for the Minnesota Section will be to co-sponsor with Air and Waste Management our annual Conference on the Environment, this year on Tuesday, November 9, at the Earle Brown Center in Brooklyn Center. This year the conference will feature presentation themes relevant to our times, ranging from asset management to energy conservation. This one-day event is always a highlight for our section as we shift from our fall to winter routines.

As many of you know, our section is participating in the preparation of a documentary called *Liquid Assets* to be aired on public television early next year. Patti Craddock and Alva Rankin are



representing the Minnesota Section on the planning committee working with TPT to produce the documentary, the purpose of which is to alert audiences on the importance of our water infrastructure to our quality of life. The committee continues to move forward with the project, which could benefit from additional financial support from individuals or organizations in our water industry. Check out the project and ways it can be supported at www.blueprintMN.com. Also, look for presentations of the project-in-progress at this year's Conference on the Environment and at our Innovative Conference in February.

The message that I wish to champion is that our section functions best with increased participation from all its members. There is a place and need for everyone to volunteer. Members just need to decide what they want to do and what their talents are. I encourage everyone to find their place in one or more of our organization's many activities.

A while ago I came across a story that speaks to sharing the talents you have.

A psychiatrist, a theologian, and an engineer are deer hunting in the woods when a violent snowstorm comes up suddenly. Wet, cold, deep in the forest, and in need of emergency shelter, they come upon a cabin, unoccupied but locked, but they enter by breaking open the door. Inside it is furnished comfortably. There is plenty of firewood stacked on the porch, and as they haul armloads inside to start up the woodstove they remind themselves to thank the cabin owner with appropriate compensation beyond a simple thank-you note.

They are surprised by the woodstove's location. It sits in the middle of the cabin but hangs several feet above the floor supported by thick wires strung from the ceiling. As they stand underneath and reach up to insert kindling in the stove, they question its peculiar location.

Continued on page 58.



Continued from page 57.

The psychiatrist thinks he knows the answer. "The cabin owner put the stove up high for an emotional reason," he says. "He can sit underneath, feel its warmth, and feel like he's returned to the safety and comfort of the womb."

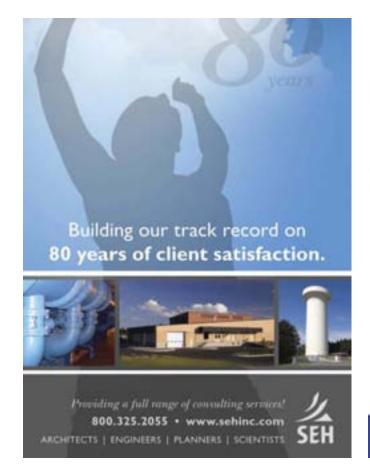
The theologian replies, "No, no, no, it's spiritual. He can sit underneath and look up at the stove as if he's admiring the creator, a power greater than himself."

The engineer shakes his head. "You're both wrong. It's not emotional or spiritual. It's thermodynamic. With the stove off the floor, it heats the room more efficiently. That's all."

As the stove warms up they sit and continue to debate the issue. Unexpectedly, the cabin owner shows up. He accepts their apology for breaking in by saying it's nothing, he's glad to be of help. Then he listens to their various theories on why the stove is hung in the air. They ask which is correct.

"None of them. You're all wrong," he replies. "I put the stove up there because I had more wire than stovepipe."

The story's lesson is to use the talents you have. I tell this story as a preface to inviting all our members to volunteer any way they like. Central States can use your time and talents, whatever they might be. And while our talents are different, our will to share them doesn't have to be. Whether we are rich in wire or stovepipe, our organization needs us. Do and give what you can. Please consider what you would like to do or what your special talents are and contact one of our many officers in the organization with an offer to help out in some way. CS





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November 15, 2010 Cabala's, Richfield, WI

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CSWEA/IWEA Government Affairs Seminar

January 2011 Naperville, IL

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CSWEA/WWA 6th Annual Midwest Water Industry Expo

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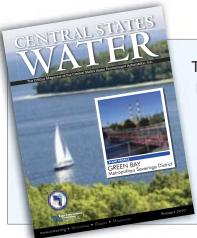
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