# CENTRAL STATES WALLER

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

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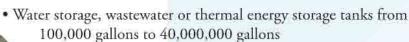
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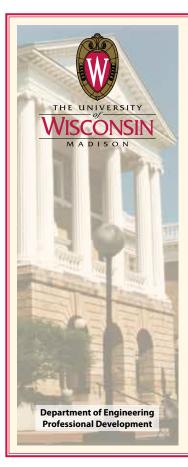
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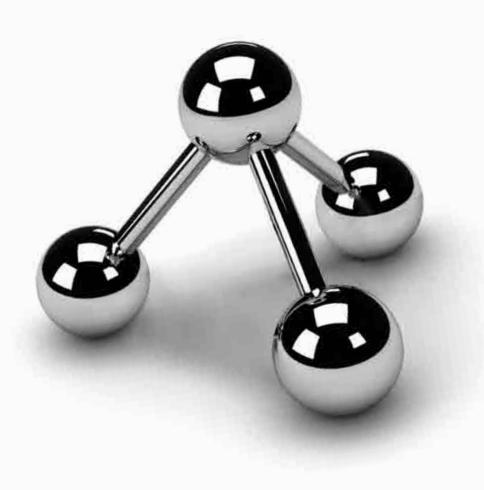
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# Our Industry's Future

By Ralph B. (Rusty) Schroedel

t is hard to believe that, as I write this, we are already half way through our 2009-2010 year. Time definitely flies by. There has been a great deal of activity on which to report. As we approach the holiday season, let me first extend my personal wish for wonderful holidays with family and friends.

The Executive Committee met in conjunction with WEFTEC, as we always do. This year WEFTEC was in Orlando, Florida and, despite the economy, it was very successful with over 17,000 attendees and nearly 1,000 exhibitors. At our board meeting, some time was spent discussing financial issues and our budgeting for the coming year. Our events in 2009 were not as financially successful as anticipated which requires us to more carefully budget for next year. We are sound financially, but need to consider the possibility of reduced attendance at our events in the upcoming budget year. We will meet in December to finalize our budget and plan for next year. We also discussed some issues in our Standard Operating Procedures regarding the awards program and our Technical Program Committee. We look to continue to improve our association and look forward to your comments, suggestions, and concerns.

I would be remiss to not mention the successes of our Central States representatives in competition at WEFTEC. Once again our two Operations Challenge teams participated, still excellently coached by Jim Miller and Rick Ashling. The CS Pumpers team included Captain Dennis Egge, Janesville, WI, Darcey Thoen, Moorhead MN, Ken Bloom, Marathon, WI and Rob Barnard, Moline, IL. The Shovelers team included

"I will be encouraging our Student Chapter contacts to enhance their level of contact and want to continue to help our Young Professionals become more active contributors to the success of Central States."

Captain Jeff Mayou, Marionette, WI, Todd Carlson, Duluth MN, Lyle Lutz, Amherst WI and Matt Schmidt, Green Bay, WI. They were excellent representatives of our association. We had two student chapter teams participate. The University of Wisconsin team competed in the Design Competition. The University of Minnesota team competed in WEF's new "Environmental Design" category and took second place. Their plague and monetary award will be presented soon. The future of our industry is in good hands with the intelligent, dedicated students who will soon (hopefully!) become active members of our industry

(Continued on page 8)





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Maintenance In Place All fluid wetted parts are replaceable onsite through the front cover without removal of pipe or drive systems. and Central States. We also again held our reception on Sunday at WEFTEC. Please be sure to thank all of the sponsors of this well-attended event. A special thanks to Scott Trotter who again managed the arrangements.

Several other activities are in progress. Our Anaerobic Digester Foaming Ad Hoc Committee has been formed, held one conference call, and has another scheduled. Please look for a survey soon to help us assess this as an issue. On another topic, I will be encouraging our Student Chapter contacts to enhance their level of contact and want to continue to help our Young Professionals become more active contributors to the success of Central States.

Several upcoming events are in the planning stages. Please block out time on your busy calendar to attend these events and encourage your co-workers to do likewise. These events are successful when well attended by interested individuals with an open sharing of data, information, and technology. The Midwest Industry Expo, which we co-sponsor with the Wisconsin Water Association, will again be held at the Kalahari in Wisconsin Dells on February 9-10, 2010. This event is an especially good opportunity for "hands on" staff to learn about the latest in the equipment and materials used in our facilities. I have attended and can assure you this is a unique learning experience.

Our nationally recognized Education Seminar is scheduled for April 6 at the Monona Terrace in Madison. This event has become recognized as one of the best technology based one-day seminars in the United States, and it is held right here within Central States. Please consider attending. This year's topic will be bio-solids management, including digestion and reuse.

Lastly, plans are well under way for the 2010 Annual Meeting, also to be held at the Monona Terrace in Madison. Local Arrangements Chair Jay Kemp and the committee have already aligned key speakers and entertainment. The call for abstracts is out. Please consider submitting to help this conference continue to be very high quality. This event is the best combination of learning, networking, and fun we have. You will agree when you attend.

As you can see, we have a great deal going on. However, it is only successful with the dedicated efforts of many of our members. Future success depends on you. Attend an event. Join a committee. Become an active member. I'm sure you will find you get much more out of your participation than you give. CS

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## Our Fiscal Health

Eric R. Lecuyer



o quote Bill Bertera, Executive Director of WEF, managing a notfor-profit association like Central States is a "Serious Business" (see Bill's article on page 32). The attention to detail, the assurance by all officers and directors that the association is being properly managed is part of the serious business and fiduciary duties of those officers. That level of attention should never vary, but as with any business during difficult economic times, it is our duty to focus closely on the fiscal health of the association. The economy, travel restrictions and the need for cutbacks across the board as our economic growth remains flat, has had an impact on CSWEA as well. Your Executive Committee has worked hard to maintain core services and meet our members' expectations while providing for responsible budgeting to match the flattening economy.

CSWEA remains fiscally healthy, and very fortunately has grown a healthy reserve fund in keeping with the association's fiscal reserve policy. As Executive

Director, I have heard comments over the past few years about why the association has all that money in reserve, and some folks thought it would be a good idea to spend those reserves down. Reserve funds are meant for rainy days, and folks, its starting to sprinkle a little. Due to lower anticipated revenues from the annual meeting and two workshops last fall and cash flow issues created by our investment in the Water For People fundraiser reward package, we have needed to dip into reserves a little this year. With adjustments to the 2010 fiscal year budget, our expenses should match expected revenues and once the economy begins to grow again, we will be able to grow our fiscal reserves. As we experienced at the 82nd Annual Meeting in Lincolnshire, we expect to have a little lower turn out for the 83rd Annual Meeting in Madison, and those folks who attend will not stay as long. As in Lincolnshire, we expect full conference registrations to be lower than normal and one-day registrations to be higher than normal, and we are adjusting to meet those expectations.

We are not alone in confronting this situation; WEFTEC '09 was a good success, with 17,772 water professionals attending. And those who attended spent less time at WEFTEC, with one-day registration numbers much higher than in the past. Like WEF, in my opinion, we are a well-managed association, with leaders committed to fulfilling their responsibilities while continuing to provide the training and education that is our association's core service. Your association is in good hands.

As we make those often difficult decisions about maintaining programs at current levels, or reduce those levels, the Executive Committee will work to assure that those programs that will sustain the association are maintained. We will also be looking to partner with our State Sections, so that some cost burdens that benefit both the association and the sections are shared, such that they may be sustained. And this partnership exists at all levels of the association and its sections, what is good for one must be good for all.

I am aware of some professional associations being forced to revert from professional, paid staff, to relying solely on volunteers to conduct the business of the associations. We reviewed that possibility at the last Executive Committee meeting and the consensus was that the association could not continue to thrive only on the strength of volunteers. My goal is to continue to execute the policies of the Executive Committee and navigate the remainder of our current economic recession in a manner to preserve the association's funds and continue to provide the services you want as Central States members. CS



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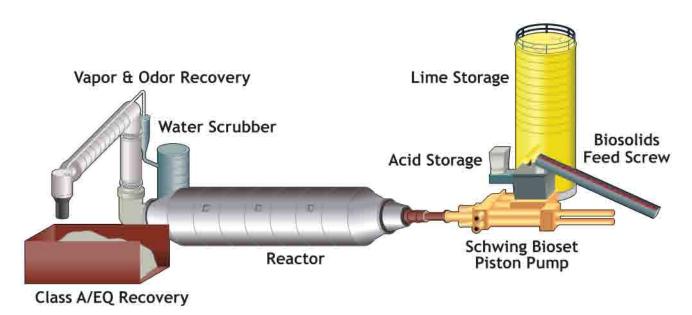




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#### May 11-14, 2010

Central States Water Environment Association 83rd Annual Conference
Monona Terrace Convention Center, Madison Wisconsin

The planning for the 83rd Annual Conference is well under way. Arrive in Madison on Tuesday May 11 for golf and catch up with friends and associates at the Meet and Greet on the scenic rooftop of Monona Terrace.

Wednesday May 12 wake up early and take a run or walk along Lake Monona over to the Nine Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant. (You get a ride back!) This 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.

Thursday May 13 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.

Friday May 14 we say goodbye to another conference with the Farewell Breakfast.

The Central States Annual Conference is a great event. Come and enjoy the beautiful Monona Terrace and explore Wisconsin's capital city.

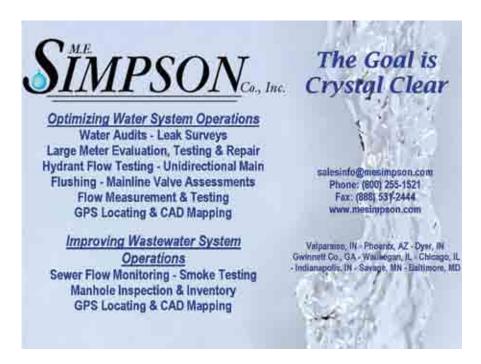


#### **CSWEA-IWEA WEFTEC '09 Welcome Reception**

Over 250 members and quests of CSWEA and IWEA attended the 15th Annual Welcome reception at the Peabody Orlando to kick off the week at WEFTEC'09. This fun-filled event featured great food and refreshments, including adult beverages and provided the opportunity for old friends to meet as well as making new friends. As always, it is our many sponsors who make this great event possible. Please be sure to thank them and patronize their businesses. Plans are under way for our WEFTEC 2010 reception in New Orleans, another great event you will not want to miss.







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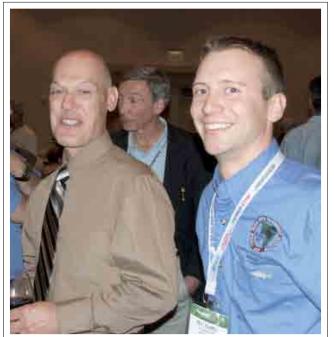
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Congratulations to the Pumpers and Shovelers representing Central States at the WEFTEC Operations Challenge. Special congratulations the Pumpers who once again secured third place in the Process Control event. This is only the third team out of 44 teams representing Central States in the

#### Main Coordinator:

Charlie La Rocco, CSWEA

#### The Pumpers:

Coach Rick Ashling
Albert Lea, MN
Captain Dennis Egge
Janesville, WI
Darcey Thoen
Moorhead, MN
Ken Bloom
Marathon, WI
Rob Barnard
Moline, IL

#### The Shovelers:

Coach Jim Miller
Buffalo, MN
Captain Jeff Mayou
Marionette, WI
Todd Carlson
Duluth, MN
Lyle Lutz
Amherst, WI
Matt Schmidt
Green Bay, WI

22-year history of this competition to bring home a trophy. It is also a two-time repeat for the pumpers. A phenomenal accomplishment considering that the team had just met and only had two practice sessions prior to the competition.

Forty-one teams consisting of more than 200 of the world's best and brightest wastewater treatment professionals competed in this year's unique, fast-paced skills competition for wastewater operations and maintenance professionals. Now celebrating its 22nd year, the competition took place October 11-13 at Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. As the largest water quality event in North America and largest annual water quality exhibition in the world, WEFTEC hosts more than 17,000 of the world's leading water quality experts and 1000 companies featuring the latest in water quality technology.

Growing from an original 22-team event to its current 41-team, 2-division format, each four-member team was judged on the best combination of precision, speed and safety. Winners were determined by a weighted point system for five events including collection systems, laboratory, process control, maintenance and safety. The events were designed to test the diverse skills required for the operation and maintenance of wastewater treatment facilities, their collection systems and laboratories – all vital to the protection of public health and the environment.

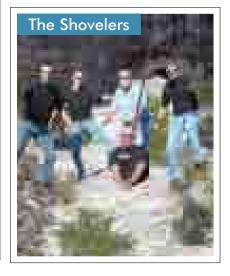
The main coordinator for the teams is Charlie La Rocco, CSWEA, Professional Wastewater Water Operator representative to the CSWEA Executive Committee.

The Pumpers are: Coach Rick Ashling,

Albert Lea, MN; Captain Dennis Egge, Janesville, WI; Darcey Thoen, Moorhead, MN; Ken Bloom, Marathon, WI; and Rob Barnard, Moline, IL.

The Shovelers are: Coach Jim Miller, Buffalo, MN; Captain Jeff Mayou, Marionette, WI; Todd Carlson, Duluth, MN; Lyle Lutz, Amherst, WI; Matt Schmidt, Green Bay, WI. Special mention for Captain Jim Huchel, Crystal Lake, IL who could not compete due to plant problems but contributed greatly to the success of both teams. Also thanks to Captain Jeff Mayou for stepping in at short notice as Jim's replacement.

These professionals competed against the best from around the United States and Hawaii to Canada and Argentina. Charlie La Rocco stated, "We should be very proud of what we were able to accomplish with just two practice sessions and with operators from three different states." Also quoted was Todd Carlson as saying, "To put eight people together with such a variety of back grounds and to have them perform as we did... WOW



www.cswea.org







#### Ops Challenge Photo 1:

Matt Schmidt in a blur of speed as he works the Pump Maintenance event.

#### Ops Challenge Photo 2:

(L-R) Darsey Thoen, Matt Schmidt, Ken Bloom, Jeff Mayou, Todd Carlson, Jim Miller, Rob Barnard, Rick Ashling, Dennis Egge, Charlie La Rocco and Lyle Lutz.

#### Ops Challenger Photo 3:

The Pumpers

#### Ops Challenger Photo 4:

The CS Pumpers compete in the Collection System Event.

#### Ops Challenge Photo 5:

The CS Shovelers take their turn at the Collection System Event.

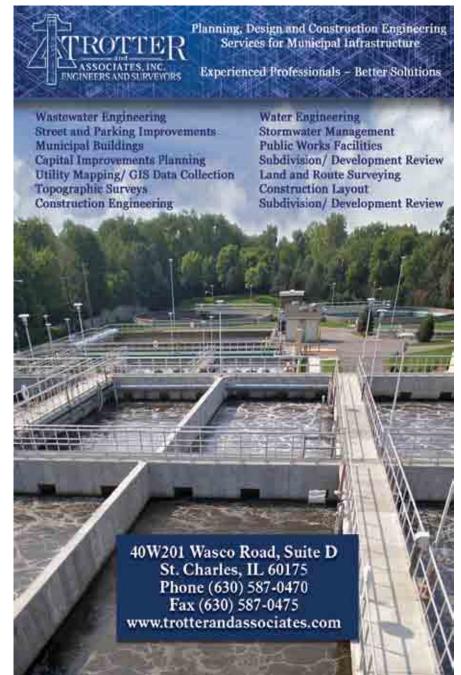
#### Ops Challenge Photo 6:

The CS Pumpers with their favorite pump.

what an experience. It was truly an honor to be part of the success of these teams!"

Congratulations to everyone for being able to pull together so quickly and smoothly. This demonstrates the diversity, tenacity and teamwork potential of the people in the wastewater profession. (S





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# CSWEA Student Design Teams Shine at WEFTEC '09

Uof W Photo 1: (L-R) Hiroko Yoshida, Joshua Gable, Mike Sergeant, Nick Bartelerio and Dan Bauknecht with WEF Past President Jim Clark.

U of W Photo 2: (L-R) Dan Bauknecht, Hiroko Yoshida, Nick Bartolerio and Josh Gable present their design.

U of MN Photo 3: The U of MN design team took second place.

U of MN photo 4. (R-L) Doug Henrichsen presents Adam Both and Eric Hettler with the WEF \$1,000 prize.









Once again, CSWEA sponsored two student design teams to compete at WEFTEC '09 at WEF's Student Design competition. Brand new this year, (following CSWEA's example) WEF created a second category of competition for "environmental designs", and our team from the University of Minnesota presented their Humanitarian Project in this category. Our team from the University of Wisconsin competed in the "classic engineering" category and both teams made outstanding, highly professional presentations.

The team from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, comprised of Nick Bartelerio, Daniel Bauknetch, Joshua Gable, Michael Sargent, Hiroko Yoshida and Kevin Ziolo for their project titled: "The Application of Co-Digestion in Madison, Wisconsin and Its Surrounding Communities." A summary of the project was published in the summer issue of Central Stats Water, and can be found at www.CSWEA.org.

Our team from the University of Minnesota are the Engineers without Borders team and includes Adam Both, Steve Hankey, Grete Schmalle and Eric Hettler, for their project titled: "Water Supply in Rural Uganda" and this project was also profiled in the summer issue of Central States Water.

While both teams did well, the University of Minnesota team was honored with the second place award in the "environmental design" category, and received a cash reward of \$1,000 as well as a plaque from WEF for this accomplishment. The U of MN team chose to have their financial reward made out to the project they have been working on, the Engineers Without Borders Uganda Project, in order to further advance the effort to bring safe drinking water and sanitation facilities to this rural community in Uganda. The team was presented with this award at the MN Section's Conference on the Environment.

The University of Minnesota chapter of Engineers Without Borders is partnering with the Uganda Rural Fund to design and implement a locally sustainable water supply for the Hope Integrated Academy and the Mulobere

#### CSWEA STUDENT DESIGN TEAMS SHINE AT WEFTEC '09

community and a sustainable alternative to the current sanitation practices. The systems will not only meet the existing needs of HIA but will also be designed to sustain the school when it is built to capacity. Overall, the design objectives for this water project are:

- A sustainable water system to provide for up to 500 people.
- The necessary water treatment.
- A distribution system to provide access to water throughout to the school grounds.
- A sustainable sanitation system to serve up to 500 people.

CSWEA is extremely proud of both teams and these young peoples commitment to the profession, improving the environment and their social conscience in brining safe drinking water to people half-way around the world. The feed back from our students was also very gratifying since they were all so excited to be able to attend WEFTEC and meet their peers and future employers. Congratulations to all involved!



Eric, I want to thank you for all your hard work to send the University of Minnesota team to WEFTEC for the student design competition. I had a wonderful time at the conference, and I really appreciate the assistance you

and CSWEA have provided to our team through this process. It was an honor being able to present in such a prestigious competition.

Before this experience with the design competition, I did not know anything about CSWEA or WEF. As I learn more about both organizations, I am confident I will continue to support them throughout my professional career. I am hoping to speak to one of our student organizations, MEESE (Minnesota Environmental Engineers, Scientists, and Enthusiasts) to encourage them to participate in the design competition next year

Again, thank you for all of your work to send our team to WEFTEC. I hope you had a great time at the conference.

Regards, Eric Hettler, University of Minnesota

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#### 5TH ANNUAL MIDWEST WATER INDUSTRY EXPO

#### Tuesday & Wednesday February 9-10, 2010

Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells

The Expo is a favorite mid-winter getaway that offers the chance for highly cost effective CEUs, and fun. The Vendor Talks offer an outstanding way to get up-to-date information on new technology and is a great way to kick off 2010. If you haven't been to the Midwest Water Industry Expo or you haven't visited the event recently come see what you've been missing.

The Expo has bee the perfect venue for attendees and exhibitors alike. Both groups found it to be a productive and valuable use of their time with the low pressure atmosphere providing for plenty of time to visit each exhibitor and learn what's new. 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.

We have worked to enhance our Vendor Talks and are getting more operator credits and generating more floor traffic in the exhibit hall. The Expo is intended to be a means to bring utility personnel (or anyone in this profession) into contact with equipment suppliers and manufacturers to promote the free exchange of information. Essentially our goal is to bring a quality water and wastewater exposition to the upper Midwest so operators and others can see equipment that they wouldn't normally have a chance to see.

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.

So besides the numerous comments from vendors and attendees alike that the EXPO was a hit, here are some fun facts about EXPO 2010:

- Like last year, we expect 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.
- We expect raffle proceeds of over \$2,000 to be raised for Water For People and Wisconsin Water for the World on behalf of Central States and WWA. This raffle has raise over \$10,000 for these two causes in past years.
- Once again, we expect more than 400 individuals, not counting exhibitors, attended the Expo over the two days.
- We expect to sell out our exhibit space, with 95 exhibitors on hand.
- There will be as many as 32 halfhour vendor presentations where vendors discuss their products and services in an educational way, earning you CEUs.
- Earn 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 9.

Registration is open, and you can register on line by visiting www.wiawwa.org or www.cswea.org and clicking the registration link. Be sure to come back for the 5th Expo and bring a friend. CS

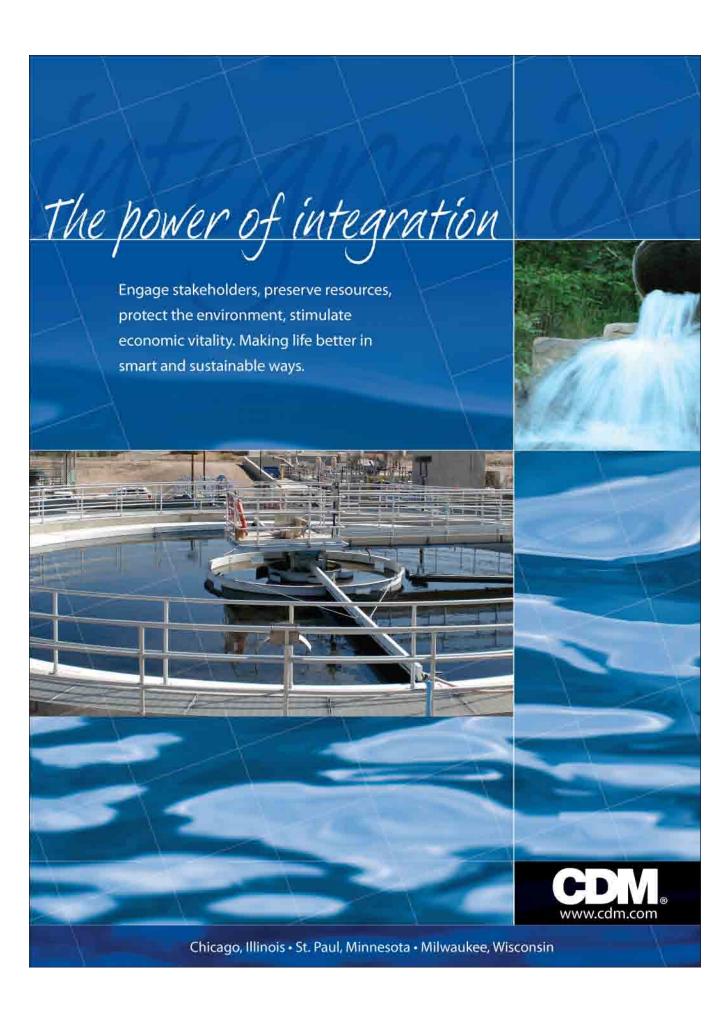
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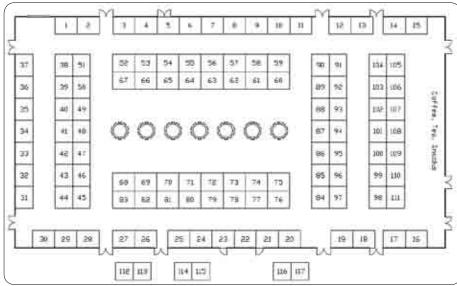






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# City of Fort Atkinson Wastewater Treatment Plant



#### **Plant history**

The City of Fort Atkinson Wastewater Treatment Plant was built in 1972. The plant at that time was a conventional activated sludge plant. The plant was modified in 1981 to a diffused air system for the digesters, and in 1982 there was the addition of a 890,000 gallon liquid storage tank. In 1989 there was another upgrade to the plant that included a diffused aeration system for the activated sludge process. Currently the City of Fort Atkinson Wastewater Plant is operating under the modifications and expansions it received when it was constructed in 1991 and 1992. It was necessary to upgrade the plant to accommodate the increasing wastewater loads from families and industries. With the new plant upgrades the city was also able to focus on important issues like dechlorination, nitrification, and a better solids processing procedure.

Click HERE to return to Table of Contents

#### Raw wastewater

Raw wastewater that enters the plant comes from many different places. The bulk of our city's wastewater comes from residential homes, commercial establishments and industry located in Fort Atkinson. Wastewater flows mainly by gravity to the plant. However, there are places in the city where this is not possible, so there are three lift stations located throughout the city. A lift station pumps the wastewater to a higher level where it can then flow by gravity to the plant. The average flow of wastewater entering the treatment plant in 2007 was 2.43 mad. In 2008 with the flooding that happened to the Rock River our daily flow averaged 3.29 mgd. When flooding was at its worst in June the plant flow peaked to 9.6 mgd and averaged 6.84 mgd for the month. Due to the extreme conditions of the 2008 flood, 2007 numbers will be used in this article. The strength of the wastewater entering the plant is measured under several different parameters: Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Biological Oxygen Demand

(BOD), Total Kieldahl Nitrogen (TKN) and Phosphorous. In 2007 the BOD averaged 373mg/L, TSS averaged 210 mg/L, Phosphorous averaged 8 mg/L and TKN averaged 33mg/L.

#### **Primary clarification**

Primary clarifiers remove settled and floating solids from the wastewater. On average 65% of solids and 30% of the organic load are removed by flowing into these large, calm tanks. Once solids either float to the top or settle to the bottom they travel out to the digesters and the flow then travels to the activated sludge system.

#### **Aerobic digesters**

Aerobic digesters are used to stabilize the sludge prior to land application. Primary sludge from the primary clarifiers and thickened activated sludge from the secondary clarifiers is fed to the digesters. Air is then introduced to the sludge to provide

oxygen to the bacteria and stabilize the biosolids. This turns the biosolids into a natural organic soil conditioner.

#### **Phosphorous removal**

Phosphorous removal is also required here at the treatment plant. Instead of using chemical to eliminate the phosphorous we remove ours biologically. In the front of our first two aerations tanks are what we call anaerobic zones. Anaerobic areas are where oxygen is only available in forms such as nitrate, nitrite and sulfate. The micro-organisms are so starved that they are able to uptake a larger concentration of phosphorous than they require. This then lowers the amount of phosphorous discharged into the river. A chemical feed system is also on hand, but is only used to assist phosphorous removal when we may be struggling to meet our DNR limits.

#### **Activated sludge system**

These large tanks contain what is a very important step to our treatment process called the activated sludge system. We have six of these tanks in all. In this system, bacteria and microorganisms feed on organic material in the wastewater. From this feeding, the waste materials are reduced by 80-90%. The micro-organisms that perform the treatment process are a population of bacteria, protozoa and other life forms. These life forms use the organic matter as food to grow and reproduce. Once the micro-organisms are fed they digest the food, relax and then they feed again in this continuous cycle. As required here at the treatment plant we have to remove ammonia. To do this we use the bacteria to convert the ammonia to another form of nitrogen called nitrate. This is called nitrification. Nitrification takes up a lot of oxygen, so in these tanks we supply a lot of air to keep the bacteria converting the ammonia to nitrate.

### Secondary clarification and disinfection

Secondary clarifiers are used to separate the activated sludge micro-organisms



from the treated water. This is done by letting the mixed liquor flow into these large calm tanks. Here the heavier solids (micro-organisms) sink to the bottom of the tank leaving a clear effluent to head to disinfection. The secondary effluent always runs to the disinfection area but is only chlorinated in the summer months of May through September. The micro-organisms now get pumped from the bottom of the clarifier and returned into the activated sludge system with the primary effluent before they discharge back into the aeration basins. Mixing the primary and the secondary return provides the activated sludge system with healthy organisms at all times to feed the incoming waste.

**Biosolids thickening** 

A portion of the biosolids that doesn't get returned into the system from the secondary clarifiers is wasted out of the system on a daily basis. It is transported to the gravity belt thickener. Once thickened it goes into our digesters. We waste everyday to maintain balance between the amount of waste coming into the plant and the amount of microorganisms we have to feed on the waste.

#### **Gravity belt thickener**

The belt press is also desinged to remove the water from the biosolids. With the belt thickener we take digested biosolids and it is pumped into the belt press and thickened with polymer. It is then squeezed between the two belts to dewater it. By doing this we end up with a end biosolids product of approximately 13% solids and 87% water. From this point the solids are either taken directly to a farmers field or we will store in on site in our biosolids storage area. CS

To learn more about the City of Fort Atkinson WWTP www.fortatkinsonwi.net





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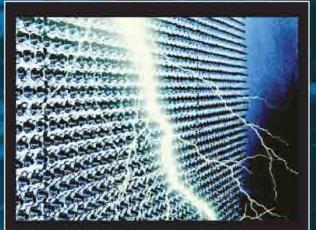
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# ARE YOU A VICTIM OF ANAEROBIC DIGESTER FOAMING?





CSWEA's Digester Foaming Ad Hoc Committee wants to know. Digester foaming has been identified as a major problem in facilities throughout Central States and beyond, causing operational problems, significant structural damage to facilities and major stress to operators, managers and designers alike. One operator described his experience with digester foaming this way: "It's just terrible, you can't sleep, you can't eat, it is so upsetting, and you worry about it all the time. You're trying to leave for home after many long hours at the plant, and this stuff is following you out the driveway and down the street after you. This has to stop!"

The committee has determined that the best way to proceed is to conduct a survey of facilities through the three states to determine the extent of foaming problems and to determine common traits of facilities with the hope of finding commonalities for facilities experiencing these problems. We are also seeking input from facilities not experiencing foaming problems so if a common trait is identified, we can compare that trait with nonfoaming facilities to see if it is a unique factor. We anticipate that this will be a lengthy process, and that the first sets of surveys may identify some common factors, but that more in-depth analysis will be needed to determine a root cause. If this was easy, somebody would have figured it out already.

The survey will be conducted electronically and you may have already received an email invitation to complete the survey. If you have done so, thank you. If you haven't done so, please take the time to complete the survey as the information you provide may just be the

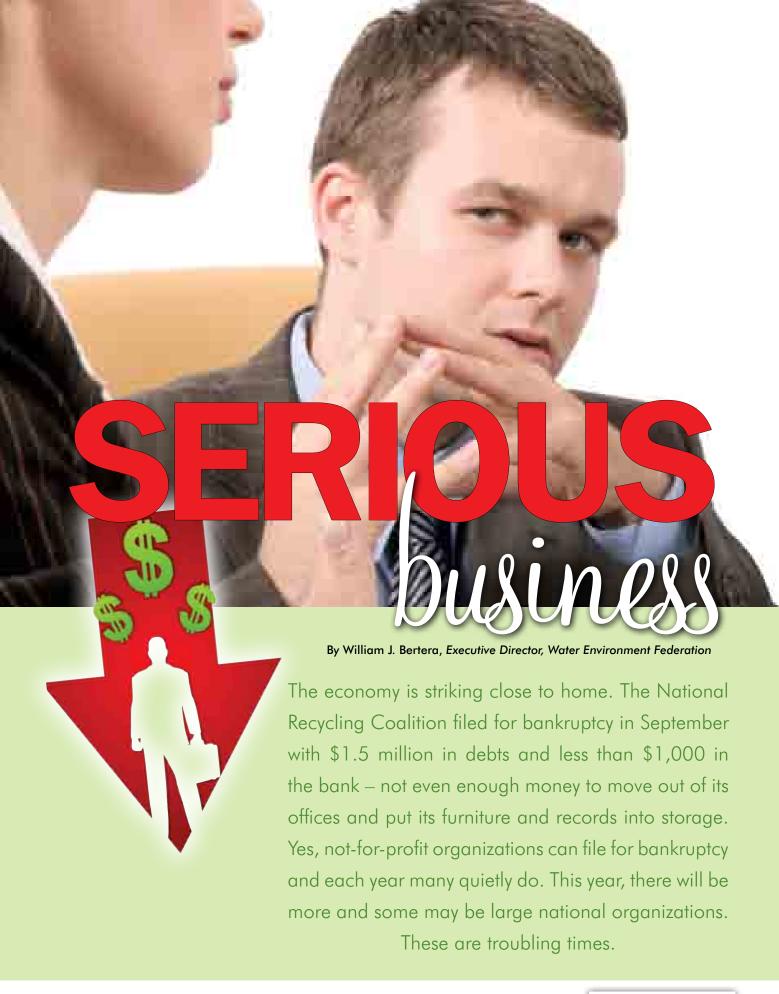
key factor needed to solve this insidious operating problem.

Knowing how much people hate completing surveys, the committee has worked to make the survey easy to complete, with the first round designed so that operators can provide information without need to complete extensive work to provide answers. Based on the results of that initial survey, follow-up information with more in-depth questions may be warranted and committee members may contact facilities directly to complete that portion. The information you provide will help determine the success of this effort and the goal is to eradicate foam from facilities everywhere. We expect this to be a difficult process, employing science, engineering, operator experience and equipment manufactures knowledge

of systems combining to develop a solution. As we have learned in the past, slogans alone, like the famous "Just say no to Nocardia" did nothing to control Nocardia. Slogans will not prevent digester foaming. Real action is needed, and you can be part of the solution.

Working with the Education Seminar Committee, with the topic of the seminar being bio-solids this year, some of the topics to be presented will include anaerobic digester foaming. Our next steps, based on the outcome of our surveys, will be to determine the format of a workshop were all interested parties can come together to discuss potential causes, operational tactics to control foam and finally achieve the ultimate goal of eliminating digester foaming everywhere. CS







anaging not-for-profit associations is not rocket science but it is not as simple as it once was. There was a time in the not-too-distant past when adherence to the mission and compliance with a few basic precepts pretty much assured the unencumbered existence of associations. That has all changed. The public interest is now more demanding, assumes more transparency and requires a comprehensive knowledge of not only the increasingly complex state and federal laws that govern and regulate not-for-profit organizations, but the psychology and politics of doing so as well.

This year, most associations with IRS tax exemptions and with incomes in excess of \$25,000 will be faced with a new federal reporting form (IRS Form 990) that will cause not-for-profit boards of directors and volunteer leaders to become, for the first time, not only more intimately involved in reporting what their organization is doing, but also encumbering them with real accountability for the manner in which the organization itself is governed.

This means that being an association board member has taken on a whole new level of seriousness that suggests a level of engagement that has not been required before. Gone are the days when simply meaning well, regardless of outcomes, constituted a free pass for volunteer leaders or their organizations. It is no longer unheard-of for exempt status to be revoked for failure to serve the public interest.

None of this suggests that volunteer organizations are not governable by volunteers or that leading cannot be fun or rewarding, but it does mean that governing associations has become a serious business with real-world consequences. It is not a lark or a place to "honor" loyal or respected members. Being a board member today requires hard work, dedication and a willingness to make difficult decisions. Some of this, as the board for the National Recycling Coalition learned, is not fun at all.

As has been true from the instance of the first not-for-profit exemption by the Internal Revenue Service, there are three basic precepts or duties to help volunteer board members and officers do a good job and to minimize their personal liability when things go wrong,

"Gone are the days when simply meaning well, regardless of outcomes, constituted a free pass for volunteer leaders or their organizations."

as they sometimes do. Those duties are care, obedience and loyalty.

The first (care) means you have to actually work at doing the job of being a leader. You have to know what is going on, you have to prepare for meetings, you have to actively participate in decision making and you have to vote. Boards can only exercise control by voting; conversation alone is legally meaningless. Obedience means you have to have a reasonable sense of state and federal laws as well as your organization's bylaws and diligently make sure your organization is abiding by them. The third duty of loyalty is the most difficult because it requires putting yourself in the position of the members and organization you serve, regardless of your personal feelings or interests. It requires that everything you do be in their interests.

How do volunteers with other areas of expertise become experts in association management so that they can properly and effectively govern? They don't and are not expected to. Instead, volunteers are expected to make a good faith and reasonable effort to know as much as they can about their organization, its interests and operations and then exercise their best judgment on behalf of the organization. They ask questions, demand data and information, and then make decisions based upon that data and information. And in so doing, they do their jobs and meet their responsibilities.

Of course, it also pays to be smart. Make sure you are protected with indemnification language in your bylaws and a complete safety net of associated insurance policies which includes a good Direct and Officer Liability Policy. Safely managing notfor-profit is not so complicated that it mandates professional staff. Most of the associations in the United States today are volunteer-managed. But it does require that volunteer leaders take their responsibilities very seriously.

"Professionalizing" volunteerism to encourage those with the interest and talents to provide leadership is a full-time responsibility for boards. Associations are not clubs –they are serious institutions of the public interest and the federal government is starting to treat them and their leaders in just that way. We need to as well. \$\infty\$

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By Patti Craddock, Reporting from the Yangtze River, China

CSWEA MN Section has joined forces with other Minnesota-based partners to produce a documentary on Minnesota's infrastructure. This activity is being directed through Blueprint Minnesota (BlueprintMN), a grassroots initiative that seeks to build awareness about the critical role that our water infrastructure plays in protecting public health and promoting economic prosperity.

History has shown us time and again that a successful city and state owe their economic prosperity, public safety, and high quality of life to the infrastructure that serves them every day. The primary

mission of Blueprint Minnesota is to develop a documentary that will introduce Minnesotans to their water infrastructure, discuss conditions of infrastructure and finally, how best to move forward. The documentary, Liquid Assets, produced by Penn State Public Broadcasting, with support from multiple partners, including WEF, was the impetus for this Minnesota initiative. Some state-wide broadcasts of the documentary, through Twin Cities Public Television (TPT), will be broadcast in conjunction with Liquid Assets.

The partner group that has met to date includes: Team Leader Andrew Sullivan, City of Eden Prairie; Lance Bernard, American Planning Association (APA); Gene Erickson, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency; Ruth Hubbard, Minnesota Rural Water Association: Patti Craddock and Alva Rankin, CSWEA; and Lucy Swift,

TPT. Other members include Jon Eaton, American Water Works Association; Stew Thornley, Minnesota Department of Health, and Don Demers, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). The APA, ASCE, Minnesota Public Works Association, and CSWEA have started the funding drive with committed donations.

The partner group identified the following **outcomes** for this initiative:

- 1. Increase local and state leadership in infrastructure.
- 2. Promote sustainability and resilience.
- 3. Develop regional, state and local infrastructure plans.
- 4. Address life cycle costs and ongoing maintenance.
- 5. Increase and improve infrastructure investment from all stakeholders.

The initial campaign is for water infrastructure, but the outcomes apply to and will interface with all types of infrastructure. CS



#### Your sponsorship

can make a world of difference. A simple donation from you ensures a documentary on Minnesota infrastructure reaches the homes of thousands of Minnesotans. We need \$30k minimum to make this project fly and are almost a third of the way there. Please join us and become a sponsor today. Go to cswea.org/minnesota and look for the link to Blueprint Minnesota to learn more.



#### The 15th Annual CSWEA Education Seminar on Biosolids

April 6, 2010 at the Monona Terrace Conference Center, Madison WI

The 2010 Education Seminar to be held at the Monona Terrace in Madison, WI on April 6, 2010 and will focus on biosolids and feature presentations by national experts in all phases of biosolids management. Topics of discussion will range from land appli-

cation of biosolids issues, to the green aspects of biosolids. Energy recovery and biosolids minimization issues will also be discussed. Of special interest will be presentations on anaerobic digestion foaming a topic of current concern to CSWEA operators.

The Speakers Reception, where all attendees are invited to join our presenter, will be the night before on April 5, 2008. Check **www. CSWEA.org** for additional details and for registration materials.

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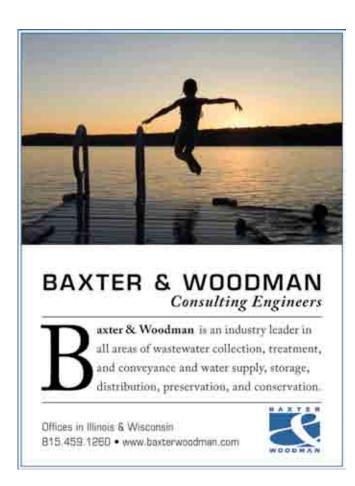
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By Gary Scott, Certification Coordinator, Voluntary Plant Maintenance Technologist Certification Program



he Water Environment Federation (WEF) in cooperation with the Association of Boards and Certification (ABC) has developed a Voluntary Plant Maintenance Technologist Certification Program for drinking water and wastewater plant maintenance personnel. CSWEA is excited at having been accepted as a Charter ABC member in this new program.

This new maintenance certification program was created to offer multi-level technical certification for individuals employed in the water quality field, whose work functions specialize in disciplines other than plant operations. Effective plant maintenance is a key component to every treatment facilities commitment to compliance, and this program is designed to cover all facets of treatment plant maintenance from entry-level (Class I) competence, to supervisory-level (Class IV) personnel involved in maintenance, electrical, instrumentation, and equipment system selection and design. CSWEA as an ABC member will have the opportunity to offer Voluntary Plant Maintenance Technologist certification in its WEF Member Association Sections of Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

Participation from plant maintenance personnel is essential for CSWEA to maintain a quality, valid certification program.

CSWEA is currently seeking volunteers to participate on subcommittees which will administer the certification program, review and certify applications for testing eligibility, and will develop and administer educational seminars as a preparation for future certification testing. We hope to place volunteer nominees from Wisconsin, Illinois and Minnesota Sections into these key positions.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

# What is this program?

A voluntary certification program for drinking water and wastewater plant maintenance. It provides an additional means for professional development and staff retention.

# What happens next?

CSWEA is currently seeking volunteers for sub-committees which will administer the certification program, review and certify applications for testing eligibility, and will develop and administer educational seminars as a preparation for certification testing. We hope to place volunteer nominees from Wisconsin, Illinois and Minnesota Sections into these key positions.

# When will information be available?

CSWEA would like to start offering testing next spring at the CSWEA Annual Meeting in Madison Wisconsin, and/or as part of the 2010 Fall Maintenance Seminar

# What is still to do?

Continue working to fill the Certification and Education Sub-Committees, and develop educational instructor resource listing.

# How do I get involved?

Contact one of your State Section Officers, or give the Certification Coordinator a call. (S

For information on the Voluntary Plant Maintenance Technologist Certification Program contact me directly as listed below.

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# 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.

# **Submit for a WEF Award**

By Rusty Schroedel

There is still time to submit a nomination for one of the WEF awards, many of which will be awarded at WEFTEC 2010 in New Orleans. We often undervalue the important tasks we perform as part of our daily activities and I encourage you to stand up and be recognized. Below is a listing of the award opportunities. As Chairman of the national WEF Awards Committee, I can tell you that many awards have few or no nominations. It's time to brag a little bit about the accomplishments of our members. Please carefully review the various WEF awards available and nominate one of our many deserving members.

# 2009 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 the **www.CSWEA.org** or **www.WEF.org** websites.

# 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.



www.cswea.org

Further information on the above awards can be found at www.CSWEA.org, WEF.org, or by contacting Eric Lecuyer, 815-954-2714,

cswea@ymail.com



Please complete the following information and submit to Jim Miller at **JM55313@yahoo.com**Nominations must be received no later than January 1, 2010 for consideration
as the Central States WEA Nominee for each award category.

Award Name:	Nominee:
Nominee contact information:	
Employer Name:	Phone #:
Email address:	
WEF member ID:	
	ns for the award:
Please provide your name (it's OK to nominate yourself!):	
Contact info Phone #:	Email address:
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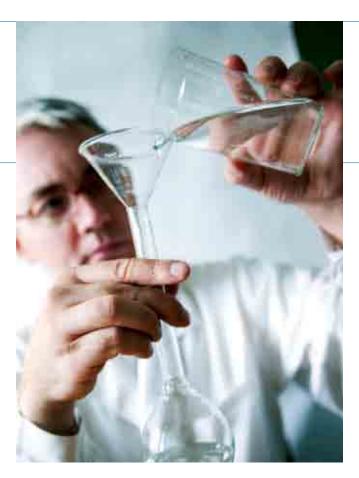
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# **PHYTOESTROGEN**

# **Levels High in Some Industrial Wastewater**

Submitted By Dennis Lindeke

Researching engineers from the University of Minnesota have discovered that certain industries may be a significant source of phytoestrogens in surface water. Phytoestrogens are naturally occurring, plant-derived estrogens that have been shown to mimic hormones and adversely affect the reproductive processes in many different species, including fish.

Many studies have looked at human-related chemicals such as those in birth control pills as the primary source for estrogens in the water supply. Civil engineering associate professor Paige Novak and graduate research student Mark Lundgren focused their research on finding point sources of plantderived estrogens discharged to surface waters. They analyzed wastewater discharge from 19 different plant-processing industries and three wastewater treatment plants in Minnesota and Iowa for six phytoestrogens. Several MCES-permitted industries participated in the research.

The study found high levels of phytoestrogens – up to 250 times higher than the level at which feminization of fish has been seen in other research - in the wastewater discharged from eight industrial sites, including biodiesel plants, a soy milk factory, a dairy and a barbecue meat processing plant. While this is of concern, the study also found that more than 90 percent of the phytoestrogens were removed through standard wastewater treatment. According to Novak, because phytoestrogens have a documented ability to act additively with other estrogens and estrogen mimics, aquatic organisms may interact with not just a few, but a complex mixture of compounds. Therefore, greater removal may be needed to protect aquatic organisms in the receiving waters.

"This study provides a valuable baseline for understanding which industries are likely to discharge high concentrations of phytoestrogens;

however, more research is necessary to understand the fate and removal mechanisms of phytoestrogens during wastewater treatment," Novak concluded. "The expansion of our plant-processing industries must occur with caution and in a manner that ensures high quality wastewater treatment to our surface water supplies." CS





By William J. Bertera, Executive Director, Water Environment Federation

As the deadline for the United Nations' millennium development goals for water and sanitation draws closer it becomes increasingly certain that we will not achieve even the modest intent of cutting in half the number of people in the world without clean drinking water and adequate sanitation. The United Nations' Year of Sanitation passed with hardly a notice and the

Fifth World Water Forum occurred in Istanbul and barely made a ripple. And then there is global warming and climate change and the threat they pose for the very existence of everyone and everything on the planet. But the most obvious environmental threat facing us all is the absence of leadership globally and here in the United States specifically.



e in the water community can do little about issues of global interest when we cannot or are unwilling to talk with one another, and then to do what is necessary to serve what is clearly in the

public interest. In this instance, it is clearly in the public interest that the professional water community find a way to speak with a single, authoritative and unambiguous voice on the issues of

> the day as they relate to water, sanitation, public health and environmental protection. The costs of not doing so are both obvious and unacceptable.

Those costs include something worse than bad public policy decisions - they encourage making no decisions at all. Precious time is being irrevocably lost and options narrowed as a result. And while the implications for us here in North America are serious, they are not lethal as they are in much of the rest of the world, especially that part of it we refer to as "developing". In truth, the list of countries that are not developing is not diminishing – nation states that hardly warrant the name – poverty-stricken, ungovernable tracts welcoming only to terrorists and worse.

The United States has spent much of its history attempting to separate itself from the





consequences of its good fortune, its wealth and its economic and political influence. We are doing so today with respect to water and sanitation. Unfortunately or not, the decision is not conscious. We have not decided to "not lead". We have simply chosen not to do that which is required to make leadership possible. Making leadership possible requires a critical mass, a critical mass which is otherwise available within the water community, but is diffuse under the cloak of a score or more competing associations.

It is not just that there are too many professional water associations in the United States, there certainly are. The problem, however, is not only in their numbers, but that their very existence works against the public interest. They have become part of the problem rather than the solution. Instead of becoming clarion voices for adaptation and change, some protect the past as though it were not only today but the future as well. It is not. Drinking water and what we used to call wastewater are not separate

"It is clearly in the public interest that the professional water community find a way to speak with a single, authoritative and unambiguous voice on the issues of the day as they relate to water, sanitation, public health and environmental protection."









sciences, technologies or industries. They never have been — we just did not know it until relatively recently. Now that we know it, not recognizing it is unconscionable.

It is abundantly clear that our existing institutions are not capable of adapting to the needs of the changing world of water without some help, some help from outside the confines of their corporate logos and bureaucracies. The petty disputes between the largest of our organizations at both the state and national levels indict us all and seem exacerbated rather than mitigated by the current economic crisis that has enveloped our national psyche. We need a path forward, badly.

Each year, for the past several years, under the initial leadership of the American Water Works Association, and then with the endorsement of many but not all of our leading water associations, we have held an annual "summit" in Washington. The summits are a wonderful idea, but they have been less than fully worthwhile. Little has been accomplished that really matters — no strategic understandings or decisions

reached – just conversation that is readily lost within a year as the leaders of all the organizations change yet again and a new crop of leaders takes the helm of their respective organizations. No continuity, no horsepower, no change and therefore, no progress. That itself needs to change. Here is an idea.

It is time to move the conversation "up a notch" as a famous celebrity chef often suggests. It is time not only to engage the leading organizations of the water community, but the leading leaders of the water community as well, from both the public and private sectors. Maybe what we need is a real national summit of senior public officials and CEOs. Maybe what we need is a White House Summit on Water and the Environment. Maybe this is something we could all agree upon and on which we could work together. Maybe that would be a real beginning. CS

"Drinking water and what we used to call wastewater are not separate sciences, technologies or industries. They never have been – we just did not know it until relatively recently. Now that we know it, not recognizing it is unconscionable."

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Wisconsin Section Government Affairs Committee

By Jane M. Carlson, PE

# Nutrient Rulemaking Update

About a year ago the Pennsylvania WEA and others ("the Group") asked Wisconsin Section members to join them in support of a nutrient standards development issue. The Group was concerned about nutrient targets EPA developed using a new approach called "conditional probability." The EPA used this approach to develop targets for five watersheds in Pennsylvania and has been encouraging states, including Illinois, to use it to develop numeric nutrient criteria. The conditional probability approach does not directly link nutrients as a cause for excessive algae growth in streams and rivers, yet it still presumes to set numeric targets for nutrients to try to control algae growth and improve stream biology. Other potential causes such as stream habitat or land use may correlate more strongly with the biological health of the stream and yet are ignored with this approach. The Wisconsin DNR with the United States Geological Survey is using a

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similar approach to develop nutrient criteria. The approach is described in an August 17, 2009 EPA guidance entitled *Empirical Approaches for Nutrient Criteria Development*.

The Group, the Wisconsin Section, and many others wrote letters to EPA requesting a peer review of the new approach. In December 2008 the EPA agreed to a Science Advisory Board (SAB) peer review. Nominations were made for SAB committee members and the committee met. The SAB provided an oral summary of their findings on September 11, 2009. The SAB committee agreed with the Group that the empirical approach used by EPA did not clearly demonstrate a "cause-and-effect" relationship between nutrients and water quality problems and that a better understanding of this relationship was required. The SAB committee was critical of the August 2009 EPA guidance but also felt it was important to set numeric nutrient criteria. Dr. Judith Meyer, the panel's chair, stated, "We felt that the [August 2009] document in its current form was not adequate, but we see this as a viable way of setting numeric nutrient criteria and we see that it's very important that those numeric criteria be set." The SAB will meet again in early November 2009 and is scheduled to submit a final report to EPA by December 10, 2009. CS

Please contact one of the Wisconsin Section
Government Affairs Committee members for additional information. Contact information can be found at
www.cswea.org/wisconsin/governmentaffairs/.

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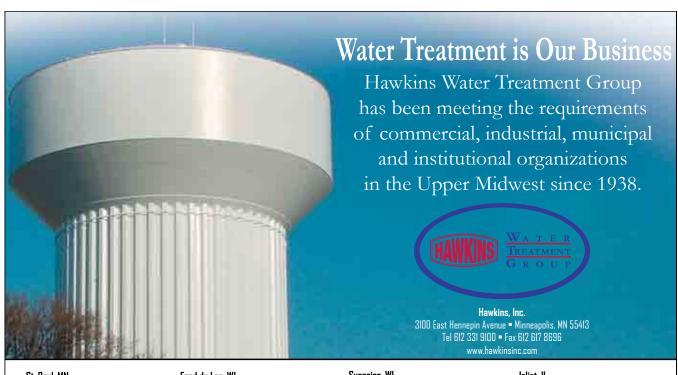


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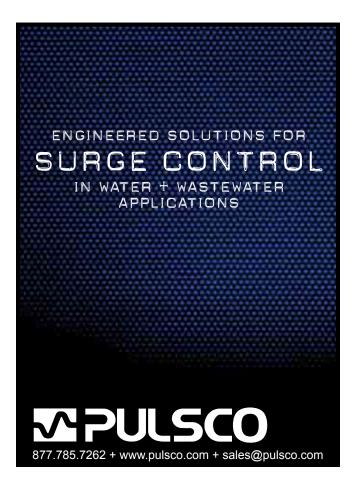
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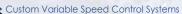
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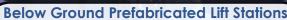


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# **JANUARY**

# **IL Section Annual Business Meeting**

January 21, 2010 Downers Grove, IL

#### IL Section CSWEA/IWEA Government Affairs Seminar

January 26, 2010 Holiday Inn, Willowbrook, IL

#### **FEBRUARY**

# Midwest Water Industry Expo

February 9-10, 2010 Wisconsin Dells, WI

# WI Section Government Affairs Seminar

February 23, 2010 Madison, WI

# MN Section CSWEA/MWOA 27th Annual Innovative Approaches

To Wastewater Operational Problems February 23, 2010

St. Cloud MN.

# MARCH

# WI Section Spring Bio-Solids Symposium

March 9, 2010 Stevens Point, WI

# **APRIL**

#### 15th Annual Education Seminar

April 5-6, 2010 Madison, WI

# MAY

# 83rd CSWEA Annual Meeting

May 11-14, 2010 Madison, WI



# JUNE

# WI Section Collection System Seminar "Classic"

June 10, 2010 Watertown, WI

# JULY

# CSWEA-CSX 2010

July 15-16, 2010 Kalahari Resort Wisconsin Dells, WI

# WI Section Collection System Seminar "Northwoods"

July 29, 2010 Marshfield, WI

# **AUGUST**

# **WI Section Management Seminar**

August 2010 Madison, WI

# **OCTOBER**

# **WEFTEC 2010**

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# Improving Infrastructure

By Jim Beier

all is here and in our state that usually means hunting, planning for the holidays and using up those extra vacation days before the first of the year. For those of you anxious for winter – and we have lots of those in the state – you won't be disappointed if my almanac is correct. Looking back for just a bit, the months of August, September and October were probably as busy in the water and wastewater market as they have ever been. I submit to you that we haven't seen a flurry of design and bidding activity like that since the early 1970s when the

Clean Water Act energized the public to begin to preserve and protect their water resources.

As I ponder that activity, there are also many water- and wastewater-related issues making the headlines today. The City of Waukesha is preparing to take the next step in their quest to drink Great Lakes water; they anticipate that their application will be ready for the WDNR by early 2010. Statewide, the amount of water sold per residential customer is continuing to decline while the average cost of water is increasing at a rate that exceeds the rate of inflation. This divergence will probably continue to widen and is due to better conservation practices and system water losses as water infrastructure continues to receive a near-failing grade. At the "dirty" end, the desire for improved tertiary wastewater treatment technologies and regulations regarding nutrient restrictions on effluent seem to be more and more relevant.

Here, we are already preparing for the 83rd CSWEA Annual Conference in Madison's Monona Terrace May 11-14, 2010. Mark your calendars. Jay Kemp is leading the Local Arrangements Committee and if you have any suggestions, please feel free to contact Jay. The call for papers is already out and Steve Reusser and the Technical Program Committee are particularly interested in operations-oriented papers and case studies this year. Papers on other subjects are, of course, also welcome. To receive consideration, please submit an electronic copy by December 7, 2009. An electronic version of the instructions for submission of abstracts can be downloaded from the CSWEA website.



Before the Annual Conference, don't forget about the 5th Annual Midwest Water Industry Expo February 9-10 in the Wisconsin Dells at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center. This event is sponsored annually with the Wisconsin Water Association. Bring your swimming suit and your family. Please refer to the CSWEA website for the brochure and more information.

Water and wastewater professionals (that's you, if you are reading this) working in the water quality industry are often overlooked for the critical role they play in protecting public health and the

environment. I hope that our Awards Committee received more nominations than they could handle this year, because often times the committee receives none. As stated in the committee's request earlier this year: "Whether in design, academia, equipment manufacture and supply, management, or operations, many of us know individuals who have successfully addressed unique and challenging issues. All of us know someone we believe to be deserving of recognition." If you missed the November 1 deadline, please make a note for next year.

Finally, let me leave you with this interesting tidbit (that may only interest me): Beer brewers from around the country gathered in Milwaukee recently to learn how to use less of beer's main ingredient – water. At every brewery, water is not only the basis of beer, but much more of it is used to cool ingredients and to clean tanks, kegs and brewing equipment and floors. The Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Co. has reduced the amount of water it uses to make a barrel of beer over 50% since implementing conservation and re-use practices. In New Glarus, the Hilltop Brewery has reduced water and other utility costs by 25%. Madison's Capitol Brewery invested heavily in upgrades that included boiler and water-cooled refrigeration systems improvements: all to prevent water going down the drain unnecessarily. Other sites are using treatment technologies and reclamation to make an impact on their bottom line. These new management practices are reducing the waste, reclaiming water and energy, and keeping these unique businesses in operation. I don't know about you, but I'd like to learn more from this industry! Field trip, anyone? CS

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# New Faces, New Roles

By Jason Benson

he holiday season is fast approaching.
September didn't look too promising but
October and November have been a
pleasant surprise hanging on to that last
bit of warmer weather. Here is what is happening
in the Minnesota Section.

The Conference on the Environment was held Thursday, November 12 in Brooklyn Park, MN. A big thanks to all on the planning committee, especially the co-chairs, Doug Henrichsen/MN-CSWEA and Clay Raasch/A&WMA-UMS. Close to 200 environmental professionals attended the one-day

event. We had a full day of exhibits and presentations. Minnesota Senator Ellen Anderson gave the keynote address on legislative updates and Jonathan Foley, Director of Institute on Environment, University of Minnesota spoke during the luncheon about challenges and opportunities for a sustainable future. The newly formed Institute on the Environment is reaching across traditional disciplines to develop bold new strategies that address environmental, social and economic challenges of global sustainability. The focus is not just about climate change but rather on real world outcomes addressing the challenges associated with energy, freshwater, food, land and ecosystems. There were many excellent presentations and the program included a wide range of topics such as regulatory updates, energy, carbon technology/policy, wastewater, stormwater and conveyance, and permit risk management. For the first time we also included an Environmental Challenge competition for students with both organizations contributing prize money to the competition in an



effort to reach out to the student participants.

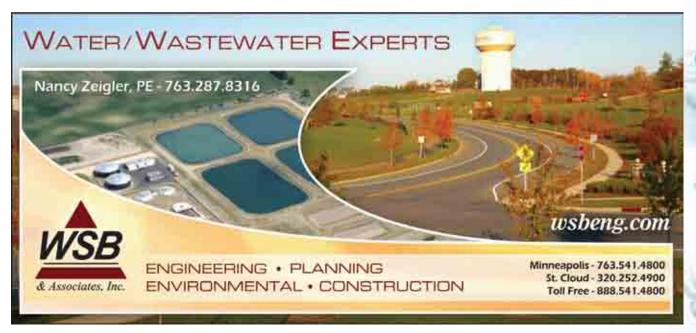
We held one of our annual business meetings for the Minnesota Section and were able to fill several roles within the organization with both new and familiar faces. The following people were voted for section officer positions:

- Immediate Vice Chair: Ted Field, TKDA
- Incoming Vice Chair: John Friel, Barr Engineering
- Secretary/Treasurer: Alison Sumption, HR Green
- MN Section Trustee: John Glatzmaier, CH2M Hill

# UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE MN SECTION AND CENTRAL STATES INCLUDE:

- 5th Annual Midwest Water Industry Expo CSWEA/WWA February 9-10, 2010
   Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells
- 27th Innovative Approaches to Operational Problems Seminar – MN-CSWEA/MWOA February 23, 2010 St. Cloud, MN
- CSWEA 83rd Annual Meeting May 11-14, 2010
   Monona Terrace, Madison, WI

Please save these dates on your calendar for these important events. CS



# Our Legacy

By Gary B. Scott, Chair CSWEA Illinois Section

o you ever look at photos of relatives or friends from generations past and wish you could sit down with them and have a meaningful conversation? Who were the people behind those solemn faces of your past? What was life like for them? What did they set out to accomplish? Was their life's work complete?

It makes me realize that each of us is part of a continuum that stretches back centuries and, hopefully, many generations into the future. The desire to leave something behind for the future inspires many people as a kind of legacy.

Many of us in the environmental industry have had experiences in our careers which have had a great impact, or at the very least have provided satisfaction in the knowledge that we made a difference in some small way. Many of us share these stories of our involvement in these episodes. We all have a different role to play in the success of our industry. This participation involves the many aspects of this important industry from the individual work performed to the highest legislative action which keeps the water flowing. With this dialogue we are building a legacy with every accomplishment, effort, and even those occasional failures.

My point is that it takes the views and actions of many to get us where we want to go. CSWEA has a long history of achievement, and many individuals who have continued our legacy as an organization and a vital part of the Water Environment Association. We as the Illinois Section must continue to achieve that which we have set out to do, but also that which we must as yet determine is necessary for us to complete our work. This is for me somewhat of a challenge similar to my opening comments. I have only a short relationship with CSWEA, just a bit more than five years. But when I



look at the history of our association, and the great strides it has taken, I am humbled and strive to excel for the meaning of this legacy. I strive to give of myself for the success of this group, its group of contemporaries, and those yet to come.

Your State Section is working to continually improve with your input. Vice-Chair Eddie McCall is working to finalize initiatives in support of organizational scheduling and membership opportunities. Congratulations to our newest Section 2nd Vice Chair, Dean

Wiebenga. CSWEA approved the addition of this new position, and will give our organization more continuity from year to year. Dean provides a wealth of experience to our group, and we know he will serve

all of us well into the future.

In preparation for the third quarter of the Section year, and as we have completed several of our annual events with several more well into the planning stages, it is also the time to update the Illinois Section Calendar of Events. You will find updated information at <a href="http://www.cswea.org/illinois/events/">http://www.cswea.org/illinois/events/</a>. I would be pleased if each of you would review this list, and provide any ideas for topics or events which you have interest or concepts for which will enhance our interesting schedule of topics.

The Illinois Section continues to provide quality seminars for our membership, and with our outreach to IAWPCO member organizations with each of our seminars, we have garnered positive interest. These gestures should prove fruitful in future cooperative endeavors. At the October Section Meeting Rich Hussey reported on the successful August 29 YP Event at Top Golf co-sponsored with IWEA, which included a golf instructor for 90 minutes with range balls, pop, and

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# 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

"Not the maker of plans and promises, but rather the one who offers faithful service in a cause. This is the person who is most likely to achieve what is good and lasting."

— Abraham Lincoln

appetizers. Several ideas for enhancing YP participation are in the works. Please contact him with your YP ideas or concepts. We hope to expand on our support for this group. Laboratory Chair Mary Dressel reported on involvement in the September World Water Monitoring Day program. This program continues to be a big success, and we look forward to increasing next year's program scope. Operations Vice-Chair Steve Bollweg reported that the Operations Seminar September 17 was its usual success. The Safety and Maintenance Seminar at the Naperville Safety Training Facility should have been completed as you read this. Thanks to "Doc" Burke for his hard work on this increasingly popular seminar.

The official notice for nominations for WEF, CSWEA and IL Section Awards was e-blasted in late October, and all nominations should be submitted as quickly as possible. Nominations

are due to CSWEA December 30, 2009. Please take a look back at the awards e-blast and let's find worthy individuals for nomination.

The Illinois Section Annual Business Meeting is now scheduled for January 21, 2010 11:00 a.m. hosted by Mary Dressel at the Downers Grove Sanitary District. One of the important aspects of this upcoming meeting is that we are scheduled to elect 2010 Officers and approve a 2010 budget. To accomplish this, the Section needs to hear from you with your opinions and needs. Nomination of potential officers must be reported to the Section in November, but at some early date in December latest.

Finally, I am proud to report that the Illinois Section has enlisted 17 associate members through our discounted offers with seminar enrollment since we began this initiative in August 2008. In the first half of this year we have six of these enrollments, and the Maintenance Seminar will likely yield a few more. We are reaching out individually to these associate members, and several are interested in full membership.

The Illinois Section is unique in Central States due to the many local organization affiliations, and competition for membership and involvement is fierce. We rely on you to keep the ideas flowing, membership growing, and the forward movement continuing. As we move into the new year give thought as to how you can be a part of this movement. Remember, as with our own past, who are the people behind the accomplishments? What was CSWEA like for them? What did they set out to accomplish in our organization? Is your CSWEA life's work yet complete? CS



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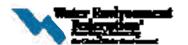
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# CSWEA Associate Membership Application

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Business Name (if applicable)	Business Name (if applicable)								
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Employer				Job Title					
Environmental Focus Other focus or interest (please specify)									
Signature (required for all new memberships)					Date				
Associate Membership in Central Sta	ites Wate	r Environn	nent Asso	ociation					
CSWEA Associate Membership Benefits include: Central States Water Magazine and Member price for CSWEA and Section Events				Dues cover a one year period, and must be renewed annually.					
* I am a Young Professional (35 yrs or younger, less than 10 work experience)  ☐ Please send me info on YP Events				Renewal notices will be sent one month prior to anniversary date. \$20.00					
Payment Information									
* Check/Money Order enclosed. Make check payable to Central States Water Environment Association.									
OR Visit www.CSWEA.org to join on-line and pay by credit card. Visa, Master Card & American Express Accepted.									
Mailing Information									
Send Form & Payment to: Central States Water Environment Association, 3809 Shenandoah Drive, Crystal Lake, IL 60012									





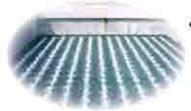
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