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Working To Improve Life In Rural Arkansas

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The ARWA Magazine is published quarterly by ARWA
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Georgia Congressman Sanford Bishop speaking at NRWA Water Rally.



Water Taste Test



Rally dinner for ARWA Attendees



Chris Harris and Dennis Sternberg

FROM YOUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER DENNIS STERNBERG

rkansas Rural Water Association attended the National Rural Water Association Water Rally in Washington, D.C. on February 4-7, 2019. In attendance from Arkansas Rural Water Association's Board of Directors and staff were Steve Wear, Greg Cross, Cecil Zolliecoffer, Tate House, John Choate, Terry House, ARWA Deputy Director Chris Harris and myself.

I would like to Thank all of our six Arkansas U.S. Congressional members for seeing and understanding that the most efficient way to continue to assist water and wastewater systems comply with EPA regulations across the state and this nation is through the programs that Rural Water are funded with through USDA and EPA.

During the NRWA Water Rally the first week of February 2019, some of the ARWA Board members met with all six of the Arkansas delegation or staff to discuss the continued need for funding for Rural Water programs which consist of the USDA Circuit Rider, Wastewater Technician, FSA Source Water, EPA Training & Technical Assistance programs, and the USDA Loan & Grant funding for water and wastewater systems.

On the Senate side, Senator Boozman and Senator Cotton both were very supportive of these programs and understand the need for continued funding for these types of programs. Senator Boozman agreed to make these programs a priority again this year, as he has in the past. Senator Cotton agreed to support the requests that Senator Boozman makes on behalf of Rural Water.

On the House side, Congressman Womack, Congressman Hill, Congressman Crawford, and Congressman Westerman all agreed these programs were needed and were very supportive of these programs and understand the need for continued funding for these types of programs. All four of the Congressman agreed to consider making these programs a priority again this year as they have in the past years.

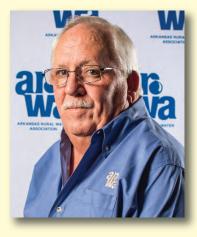
We encourage all members of congress to review all federal programs with strict scrutiny and make prioritization of federal dollars. I believe the Rural Water programs will rank as high as any of the federal government programs in existence today.

With the earmark ban by the House and Senate a few years back, the requirements changed for members. Now if a member wants to support a specific funding request, each member is required to submit their requests to the committee chairs electronically and post them for the public to see if they wanted a specific funding request to be made a priority. That is why we ask ALL members to make our funding request a priority.

To continue funding for the Rural Water programs will require YOUR system to start telling the Arkansas Congressional members of the need for these very vital technical assistance and training programs, how these programs have assisted your City, Water District, PWA, PFB and Water Associations for years, and how they must continue to assist your communities in the future to stay in compliance and sustainable for your communities to thrive into the future.

Washington, D.C. - Tahlequah Public Works Authority, located in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, claims the 2019 title of America's best tasting drinking water at the 20th Anniversary of the Great American Water Taste Test, held on February 6, 2019 in Washington, D.C. as part of the Rural Water Rally.

I would like to also mention that ARWA was proud to have Russellville/City Corp winners of Arkansas' Best Tasting Water in September at the Arkansas Rural Water Association's 41st Annual Conference, Russellville attended and competed for the "Great American Water Taste



Test" on Wednesday, February 5, 2019 at the Rally. They also attended some of the congressional meetings with the ARWA board members to speak in favor of continued funding for water and wastewater utilities.

On May 29th, 2019, the ARWA/Ernie Faucett/Jack Lambert/Lannie Johns Annual Scholarship Golf tournament will be held at the beautiful Hurricane Creek Golf Course in Bryant, Arkansas. Some of you might be wondering about the addition of the name Lannie Johns being added this year to the Scholarship Golf Tournament. Lannie Johns was a big supporter of ARWA and was one the individuals who helped create the ARWA/Ernie Faucett Scholarship program for ARWA back in 2001. Lannie Johns was a Rockwell/Sensus Meter representative for many years, and I would say one of the most knowledgeable individuals on all meters of proper sizing and installation. Unfortunately, Lannie Johns was diagnosed with brain cancer and succumbed to this terrible disease in January 2019. So, everyone mark your calendars for this very worthy event which benefits the member utilities of ARWA with scholarships for their dependents to further their education and are awarded at the Monday luncheon at the ARWA conference in September.

On June 12th, 2019, ARWA will host this year's "Operator Expo" at the Dale Bumpers Rural Water Training Facility, Lonoke, Arkansas. This year there will be three days of training (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) for water and wastewater training, so everyone can get their credit hours if you attend all three days. Wednesday, June 12, 2019, will be the "Operator Expo" with indoor classes being presented and outdoor booths to visit with the vendors as well. Everyone will be required to pay a registration fee to attend the one day "Operator Expo" on Wednesday. So, mark your calendar for this fun event and enjoy the speakers, see their products, and enjoy the lunch and possibly win some of the prizes to be given away.

On to another topic. I hope everyone will be making plans to attend the upcoming Arkansas Rural Water Association's 42nd Annual Technical Conference September 15-18, 2019 at the Hot Springs Convention Center, Hot Springs, Arkansas. Make sure you pre-register to be eligible for the GRAND PRIZE drawing of a brand new 4-wheeler on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at the luncheon. The staff has designed a great agenda for the water and wastewater personnel, and we will have the exhibit hall full of exhibitors displaying the latest water and wastewater products for all to see.

So, make plans for these events, and watch the mail for all the registration information to be coming out soon. Till then, take care and remember to call ARWA for any of your training and technical assistance needs at (501) 676-2255.



Arkansas Rural Water Association's Board of Directors/Deputy Director at U.S. Capitol



Congressman Womack's staff member with ARWA'S Board of Directors and Executive Director



Congressman Crawford's staff member with ARWA'S Board of Directors and Deputy Director



Senator Tom Cotton with ARWA'S Board of Directors, Executive Director, and Deputy Director



ARWA'S Board of Directors, Executive Director, and Deputy Director outside Senator Tom Cotton's office



Senator John Boozman with ARWA'S Board of Directors, Executive Director, and Deputy Director



Congressman French Hill's Staff with ARWA'S Board of Directors, Executive Director, and Deputy Director



Water Taste Luncheon Left to right: Steve Mallett, Jonathon Shipley and Larry Collins



Congressman Westerman with ARWA'S Board of Directors and Deputy Director

Loving Waler?



Arkansas Rural Water Association

is looking for the

"BEST TASTING WATER" in the state.

The State Water Taste Test will be held September 16, 2019 2:30 pm - 3:00 pm

ARWA Annual Technical Conference in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

All member water utilities are encouraged to enter.

Arkansas Rural Water Association will choose the best of the best to represent the Arkansas Rural Water Association in

Washington, D.C. at the NRWA Water Rally February 3-5, 2020

Systems need to bring a quart of water, labeled with their system name, to the ARWA Annual Technical Conference registration desk by Noon on September 16th, 2019

For more information, contact the

Arkansas Rural Water Association at 501-676-2255

2018 WINNER
City Corporation Water & Sewer

ANRC Announces New Streamlined Financial Assistance Application

ark Bennett, Chief of Water Development ANRC, announced the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission has recently updated and streamlined the application form for ANRC's water, sewer and solid waste programs. "This is an outcome of the customer focus group conducted by the Commission, with the assistance of EPA, in Bentonville last fall. Our applicants and their engineers indicated they wanted an on-line, blank fillable, streamlined application form." Efforts were already underway to provide on-line guidance documents for applicant's use such as environmental review requirement guidance. The form revision was under the direction of Debra Dickson and Darla Brooks of ANRC Water Development staff.

Under the direction of ANRC Deputy Director Ryan Benefield P.E., ANRC has begun a review of the ANRC Water Development Division's financial assistance process from application to final project completion to debt retirement. "Our goal is to remove any unnecessary delays that are attributable to ANRC and allow the projects to move through the process smoothly and in the minimum amount of time necessary." Bennett said.

"In addition to revising the application form, we will be receiving technical assistance from EPA to review our Drinking Water and Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund requirements to make sure we are not requiring information no longer required. Each year the federal requirements change and we do a good job adding the new requirements, but may overlook removing all of the requirements no longer mandated" Bennett stated. Richard Dawson, P.E., Water Development Engineering Supervisor will lead a team to work with EPA and its contractor in updating the division's engineering requirements.

A. Mark Bennett III
Chief –Water Development
Arkansas Natural Resources Commission
101 E. Capitol Avenue Suite 350
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
(501) 682-3978
(501) 682-0561 fax
mark.bennett@arkansas.gov

The new application may be found on the Commission web site: https://www.anrc.arkansas.gov/divisions/water-resources-development.



UPCOMING ARWA EVENTS

MAY 29, 2019

Ernie Faucett/Jack Lambert/Lannie Johns MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Hurricane Creek Golf Course 4300 Hurricane Drive, Bryant, AR 72022

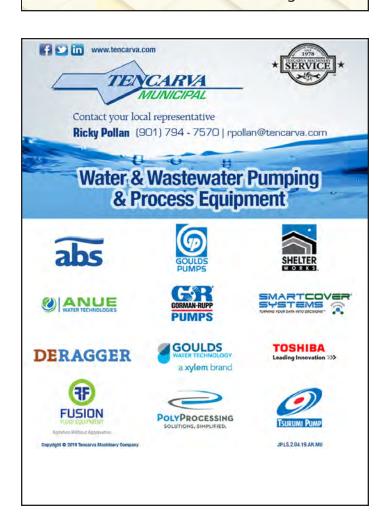
JUNE 12, 2019
ARWA Equipment & Supply EXPO

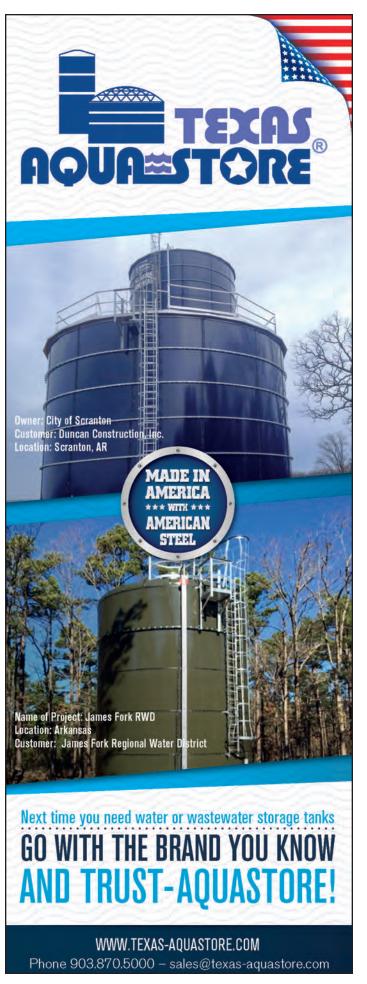
ARWA Headquarters 240 Dee Dee Lane, Lonoke, AR 72086

SEPTEMBER 15-18, 2019
ARWA 42nd Annual
TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

Hot Springs Convention Center
134 Convention Blvd., Hot Springs, AR 71901

Website: arkansasruralwater.org
Ph: 501-676-2255 Email: arkrwa@sbcglobal.net





SPRING 2019

By James Philipp, USEPA Training Specialist

Great day fellow Arkansas drinking water professionals. Warmer weather is just around the corner as is the two-year period for both water and wastewater license renewals. If you obtained your license prior to July 1st, 2017, you are required to have the 24-hours of continuing education in order to keep your license current. If you obtained your license between 2017 and now, your training hours should suffice for

the direct hours needed to renew the license. It is wise however, to be sure to document all training received (time, place, and organization) and be able to verify should the regulatory agencies require proof of training.

The ARWA has seven separate three-day water and waste-water specialized training sessions located throughout the state for operator convenience. Twelve hours of direct water training along with 12 hours of direct wastewater training allow an operator to renew both licenses at one convenient location, thereby saving your utility valuable financial resources.



We invite all operators from across the state to check one out if you have not before. This helps reduce the number of students in required certification classes and also exposes the operators to new technologies, services, and products available to help you continue to provide safe drinking water and properly treated wastewater.

We look forward to seeing old friends and many new faces at our scholarship golf tourna-

ment, operator EXPO, annual technical conference, and other events sponsored by the Arkansas Rural Water Association. Please check our website at www.arkansasruralwater.org for information on ARWA activities, where you can also download the 2019 training calendar for your convenience.

If you or your system is in need of technical assistance or training, contact our office and let our dedicated team of professionals help. Until I write again, please continue to educate yourself and your public, continue to work safely, and keep that water flowing!





YOUR RURAL WATER SYSTEM INSURANCE PROVIDER

At Risk Services of Arkansas/INSURICA, our exclusive AQUASURE program provides our clients with access to customized analysis, risk management and insurance solutions that are specifically tailored to the unique exposures your industry faces.





Are You An ARWA Member?

All of our regular training classes are free of charge to all ARWA members. Non-members will be charged \$99 a day for each person attending our training sessions. These fees cover the cost of training materials provided in each class.

If you want to update your ARWA membership you can print our membership form online at www.arkansasruralwater.org

> You can also call us directly at 501-676-2255.



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Thank You National Rural Water Association Scholarship Committee



Dear NRWA Scholarship Committee,



As I opened the letter from National Rural Water Association regarding who had been chosen to receive the Scholarship Award for the 2019 year, I was shaking and very anxious to know if I had been chosen to receive either scholarship. When I read that I was chosen as a recipient for the scholarship, I was so exhilarated. My mother and I, very literally,

jumped for joy. Thank you NRWA for allowing me to further my education and create a brilliant future for myself and my fellow citizens.

Thank You Arkansas Rural Water Association for employing my mother, Kathryn Mashburn. If it was not for her employment with Arkansas Rural Water Association, I would not have been given the opportunity to apply for this scholarship on a National Level.

Thanks again, National Rural Water for this opportunity!

Sincerely,

Dominich Olinn

Dominick Quinn

To: National Rural Water Association Scholarship Committee,

Thank you National Rural Water Association (NRWA) for having Arkansas Rural Water Association (ARWA) as one of your Member State Associations. With my dad, Jeff Huber, being employed with such a great organization as ARWA, I received the opportunity to apply for scholarship monies through the National Rural



Water Association (NRWA). I was recently notified that I was one of the chosen recipients of the NRWA Scholarship Award.

Thank You National Rural Water Association from the bottom of my heart! With this opportunity, I am given the chance to go to college and help shape the future YOUTH of America. It's not every day that people find the drive and ambition in others.

I am truly grateful for this opportunity. I promise not to let anybody down at ARWA or NRWA. Anyone can see that what you do does makes a wonderful difference. Not everyone can do what you do!

THANK YOU!

Joshua Huber



services to help you manage your system

- asset management
 water wells | tanks | treatment plants
 meters | concrete assets | pipes
- water wells management
 water well drilling | well & pump
 rehabilitation and maintenance
- water quality in distribution systems ice pigging | in-tank water mixers trihalomethane removal systems
- energy & water conservation smart data systems | metering services leak detection | biosolids



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NRWA INITIATIVES for Arkansas Rural Water Member Utilities

The National Rural Water Association has a new series of affinity programs available for Arkansas Rural Water Association's Member Utilities to support small water and wastewater utilities across the country.

Please go to the NRWA website at www.nrwa.org or the WaterPro community website www.waterprocommunity.org to learn more about these programs.







Smart Websites for Smart Water Systems. Rural Water Impact is the industry leader in profes-

sional, cost effective websites - custom designed for rural water systems.

Phone: 1.888.551.4815

Web: https://nrwa.org/affinity/rural-water-impact-com/



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Phone: 1.800.768.7475

Web: https://nrwa.org/affinity/data-breach-insurance/



Residental Service Line and Leak Adjustment Program ServLine is a new and unique insurance program that covers water loss with no deductible, as well as repairs or replacement of a customer's water and sewer line in

a timely fashion. ServLine is a full service program backed by Hanover Insurance Company – not a warranty program. Phone: 1.800.589.9876

Web: https://nrwa.org/affinity/servline/

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Phone: 1.800.530.5229

Web: https://nrwa.org/products-services/loifestyle-health-plans-2/



IRIS is a SaaS (software -as-a-service) created and owned by TechRadium, Inc. TechRadium is a leading provider of high-speed communications services

to water districts, educational institutions, corporations, non-profits and government entities worldwide. IRIS – Immediate Response Information Systems, gives organizations the ability to broadcast information via voice and text to thousands of people simultaneously with its easy-to-use mass notification service. IRIS, TechRadium is the owner of eleven United States patents and has multiple patents pending.

Phone: 1.866.894.5474

Web: https://nrwa.org/products-services/iris/



The Rural Water Loan Fund (RWLF) is a funding program specifically designed to meet the unique needs of small water and wastewater utilities. The RWLF

provides low-cost loans for short-term repair costs, small capital projects, or pre-development costs associated with larger projects. The RWLF was established through a grant from the USDA/RUS, and repaid funds used to replenish the fund and make new loans.

Phone: 1.800.332.8715

Web: https://nrwa.org/initiatives/revolving-loan-fund/

Other support initiatives



Ford Fleet Vehicle Pricing http://nrwa.org/initiatives/fleetprogram/ **Water University**

Water University NATIONAL RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION

http://www.wateruniversity.org/about.aspx

Mobile Apps

http://nrwa.org/initiatives/apps/ WaterPro Community Center

http://careers.waterprocommunity.org/

ARWA Membership - Why Should I Join?

he rural water and wastewater industry face many challenges now and in the future due to increasingly complex regulations. These regulations place an increasing technical and financial burden on small communities and systems. Rural communities and systems must stay informed to keep up with changing laws and regulations governing their systems. Operators, managers, board members, and owners must maintain an adequate level of training to deal with these changes. ARWA offers numerous services and educational opportunities in order to make this possible. We welcome communities and utilities to join our association.

We've Got

You Covered!

- ARWA is a non-profit organization with the purpose to assist water systems with day-to-day operational and management problems.
- · Largest water and wastewater utility membership association with over 600 utility members.
- Training and renewal hours in Water, Wastewater, Backflow Tester Certification and Backflow Re-Certification, Backflow Repair, the ARWA EXPO, and the ARWA Annual Technical Conference.
- · Governed by a sixteen member nonpaid Board of Directors.
- Energy Circuit Rider, Wastewater Technicians/Trainers, Water Trainers, and Source Water Technician that provide on-site training and technical assistance.
- Legislative voice for water and wastewater utilities.
- Employs field staff that provides energy saving tips, water and wastewater training and on-site technical assistance for ARWA members year-round.
- Members receive an opportunity to participate in a series of Affinity Programs through National Rural Water Association.
- Members receive an opportunity to become a member of the AQUASURE Program through Risk Services of Arkansas/INSURICA.
- Through our quarterly magazine, "Water Insight", members stay up-to-date on water related news and association activities.

- Comprehensive technical training program for water and wastewater operators, managers and board members.
- · Members receive a yearly Training Calendar of continuing education training sessions each January.
 - All of the training sessions for operator certification renew al offered by ARWA are approved by Arkansas Department of Health and Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality. Members receive discounted prices at ARWA's Annual Technical Conference and Operator Expo.
 - ARWA works with the Arkansas Department of Health, Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, the USDA Rural Development Administration, the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, and other state and federal governmental entities that influence water, wastewater, and solid waste policies in Arkansas.
- Lobbying Arkansas Rural Water Association monitors water and wastewater legislation in both Little Rock, Arkansas and Washington, DC.
 - NRWA Water Rally The Washington, DC "Water Rally" provides an opportunity for small system representatives to meet with our Congressional delegation to express the concerns of the water and wastewater industry on funding and regulations.

The Arkansas Rural Water Association strives to meet the needs of each individual water and wastewater system. Suggestions on how we could better serve you and your system or need membership forms?

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Tips For Tornado Season

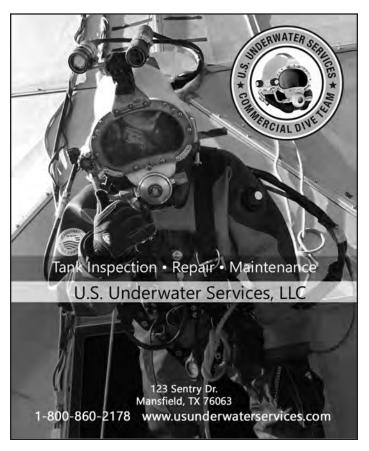
By Roy Richards, Circuit Rider

t's springtime in Arkansas, so that means that tornado season is here. In my experience in disaster relief, I've learned a few tips that utilities can do to be prepared before the disaster hits, such as a tornado.

1. Does your system have generators? If so, that is great! If not, you need to know three things when you request a generator. What phase is it (single phase or three phase), what voltage is it (such as 240 or 480), and which watt or kilo-

watt do you need to run your pump stations, lift stations, wells, water & wastewater plants, etc.. Also, a manual transfer switch comes in handy when having to wire in a generator. On a lift station, you may be able to use a trash pump by making a by-pass tap on the force main.

- 2. If your system does not own a generator, find out what you need, locate a few rental companies, and get credit application to them. This could be a major time saver in an emergency and maybe the difference of your system receiving the generator instead of somebody else.
- 3. Contact your county's Emergency Management Coordinator and ask what resources they have available for your system and what they need from you when a disaster hits.



4. Does your system have meters, valves, and manholes located by GPS? When a tornado hits, everything is going to look different. In most counties after it's over, the homeowners pile all the debris up along the ditches near the roads, so they are able to take a loader down the road and use dump trucks to haul away the debris. In a lot of cases, this is when the utilities' problems begin. By having everything located by GPS, you can go in before the clean up begins and lo-

cate all the meters, valves, and manholes. There will also be several meters that will have to be shut off before the main line can be pressured back up. I've learned some of the radio read meters have built-in locators on them. This would be a good question when doing a meter change out program.

5. If at all possible, make sure that the water tanks are topped off and full. By doing this, it makes the tank more stable, and if you do lose power, it will help keep the water supply longer. In the wastewater collection system, keep the wet wells pumped down as often as possible before the storm, so that there will be more storage in case of a power

I hope this article helps everybody prepare a little better for tornado season. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at Arkansas Rural Water Association at 501-676-2255.

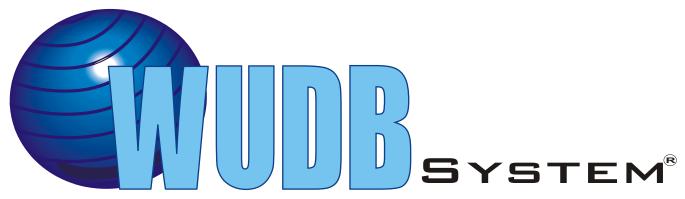


EMERGENCY CONTACTS

ADEM – www.adem.arkansas.gov

ARWARN - www.arwarn.org

Arkansas Rural Water Association Arkansasruralwater.org 501-676-2255



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EASEMENTS IN ARKANSAS by David Johnson

et's say that our water system is preparing to enter a lucrative lease with a big telecommunications company for cellular equipment that will sit atop one of our water towers. Everything looks good, and we're just about ready to sign. But then we catch a glimpse of this one provision in the lease: "Water System shall provide Telecommunications Company with access across the adjoining private property for ingress and egress to water tower." Now that we think about it, we're not sure exactly about our own legal authority to use that gravel road that cuts across the neighbor's property; we've just always used it. But if we're not sure about our authority, should we question our authority to grant access to the telecommunications company, too?

Easements are tricky. Awareness of the history of our own easements is a good business practice. And knowing the rules that control the creation and use of easements can help us avoid pitfalls along the way. Of those rules, the biggest, most important one is this: The intent of the original parties to the easement dictates. And there's no better way for a court to determine that intent than to look straight at the language that the parties wrote in the easement instrument. That language — or lack thereof - will control virtually any question that arises in the future about the scope and duration of the easement. Will new owners of the property be subject to the easement? May additional parties make use of the easement? Is use of the easement limited to certain purposes? For each of those questions, the court will start at the language in the easement instrument itself.

Sometimes, the language in an easement instrument won't address a situation that arises. In those instances, the court will turn to established, tried-and-true principles of easement law. Three warrant mention here. First, the law favors the so-called free alienability of property. Therefore, barring evidence that the grantor intended only to benefit certain individuals, an easement generally will transfer along with the parcel served for the benefit of its new owners.

Second, maintenance of an easement generally rests with the owner of the easement as opposed to the owner of the property that the easement crosses. That makes sense - the easement owner knows his or her own needs with the easement the best. Still, the easement owner must operate within the permissions of the easement instrument, and each of the easement owner and property owner are expected under law to respect and not to interfere unreasonably with the other's interests.

Finally, while the owner of an easement is permitted to abandon an easement, mere nonuse of the easement does not constitute abandonment. In fact, achieving abandonment is no small feat. The easement owner must demonstrate intent of never resuming use or claiming right to it ever again. "To abandon means to give up absolutely; to forsake entirely; to renounce utterly; to relinquish all connection with or con-

cern," Arkansas courts say. Recording a formal release of the easement demonstrates that intent. Absent a release, though, convincing a court that someone abandoned an easement may be a tough sell.

Back to our lucrative lease deal: Turns out there's an easement from the 1970s that grants access to the water system across the neighbor's property along the established gravel road. That's good for us. But there's nothing about that access extending to anyone else. And, back when the concept of cell phones was more Star Trek than reality, no one would have ever intended use of an easement to extend to wireless carrier personnel. So we better assume that the telecommunications company is not permitted to use that easement. Our best approach would be to negotiate a new easement or to tell the telecommunications company to get its own. The last thing we want to do is to sign that lease giving assurance that we don't have to give. And then neighbor sells the property to a new owner. And then the new owner doesn't like the telecommunications company crossing its property. And then the new owner figures out the truth about the easement. And then the new owner roadblocks the telecommunications company from accessing the tower. And then the telecommunications company looks to us. And then . . . well, it ain't pretty.









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Falls from elevated surfaces are frequently listed as one of the top 10 causes of accidents in the workplace, especially in the transportation and warehousing industry where you could be working from many different locations. Most of these accidents occur due to failure to follow basic ladder safety. To help prevent ladder injuries no matter your location, practice the following safety tips.

Setting up Safely

Make sure you select the correct ladder for the job—check the length and duty rating. Proper length is a minimum of 3 feet extending over the roofline or working surface.

Inspect your ladder before each use for loose or damaged parts, such as the following:

- Steps
- Rungs
- Spreaders
- Rung dogs
- Safety feet
- Other parts

Clear the area where you will be working. Never place a ladder in front of a door that isn't locked, blocked or guarded, or in front of equipment that may become nonstationary.

Because metal ladders conduct electricity, use a wooden or fiberglass ladder near power lines or electrical equipment.

Check that all locks on extension ladders are properly engaged before placing your ladder on a steady surface. The ground underneath the ladder should be level and firm. Large, flat wooden boards braced underneath a ladder can help level it on an uneven surface or soft ground. Straight, single or extension ladders should be set up at approximately a 75 degree angle.

Use the 1:4 ratio to ensure your safety when on a ladder. Place the base of the ladder 1 foot away from whatever it's leaning against for every 4 feet of height to the top of the ladder.

Use Caution

Always use caution when using a ladder and do not use a ladder for any other purpose than intended.

Other safety considerations include the following:

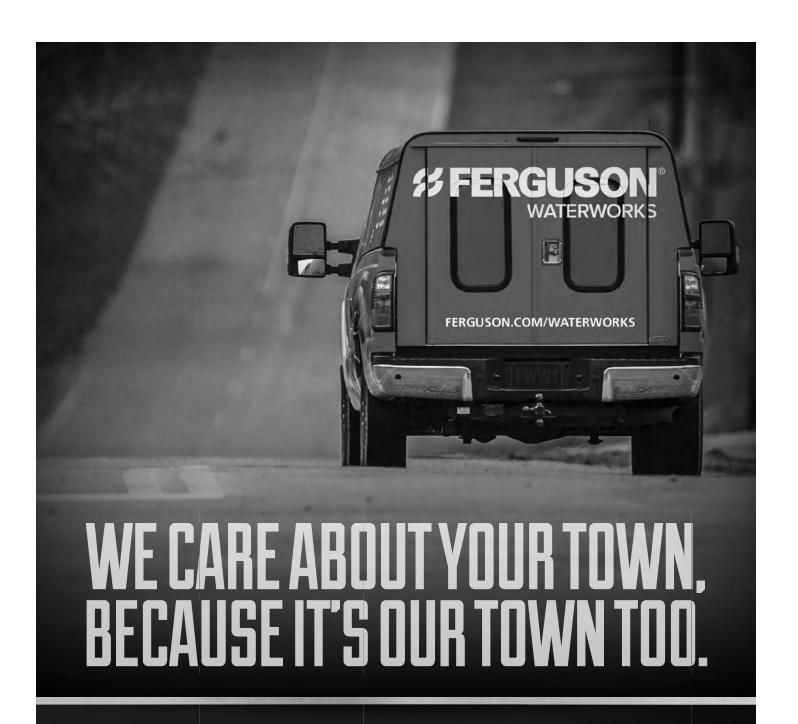
- Make sure the weight that your ladder is supporting does not exceed its maximum load rating (user plus materials). Only one person should be on a ladder at a time.
- Keep your body centered between the rails of the ladder at all times. Do not lean too far to the side while working. Never overreach instead, descend from the ladder and move it to a better position.
- Do not step on the top step, bucket shelf or attempt to climb or stand on the rear section of a stepladder.
- Always face the ladder when climbing up or down. Never leave a raised ladder unattended.
- Slowly step down from a ladder if you feel dizzv or tired.
- Non-slip footwear should be worn at all times when on a ladder.

For more information contact:

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Spring Is Upon Us, Along With Unpredictable Weather

By Tee Easley, Energy Circuit Rider

rkansas is very unpredictable when it comes to weather. There's no warning when it comes to power outages, and as a utility, you want to be prepared when the time comes. There's nothing worse than not having a backup generator when there is a power outage. The last thing you want is an entire town upset because you, as a utility, are not prepared.

Traveling the great state of Arkansas, I've noticed the lack of generators or poorly maintained generators for water wells and wastewater lift stations. Keeping these in service during a power outage is crucial. When I ask a utility why they don't have one or why they don't keep the one they have maintained, I always get the same answer, "I've been here for 30 years, and we've never lost power." Why take the chance? Generators can be costly, but there are ways to obtain one fairly cheap. Always check surrounding utilities to see if they are selling used ones in preparation for new ones. Also, check with the local surplus.



Step 1 – Choose a generator for your utility to determine the right size. Determine whether a stationary or portable generator will work for your critical infrastructure assets.



Step 2 – Should you buy, rent, or borrow a generator? If you plan to rent a generator, be sure to write up a contract so you'll know where you stand in priority with your vendor since many people will need to rent a generator during an outage.

Step 3 – Know which type of fuel you'll need to run the generator-Gas, Diesel, Propane, Natural gas.

Step 4 – How will you connect your generator? Generators require a special connection to hook to your facility's equipment quickly and safely. This is usually done through a transfer switch. If you don't have transfer switches, install them ahead of time to decrease the time for connection during an emergency.

Step 5 – Keep generators at a secure location. Also, keep both generator and fuel above flood level, and use weather-proof enclosures to protect generators.

Step 6 – Maintain your generator. If they are not maintained, they will not function properly during an emergency. Run generators regularly under required load to test for any problems. Record all maintenance activities to assess performance.

As a utility, take basic actions to prepare for disasters that include power loss. Just because you haven't had a power loss in 30 years, doesn't mean it won't ever happen.







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WATER OPERATOR LICENSE EXAMINATIONS MAY-DECEMBER 2019 • PAPER BASED EXAM SCHEDULE

Most current Exam Schedule is available at http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/eng/autoupdates/oper/operexam.htm

You must register for the exam 45 days in advance at: https://health.arkansas.gov/wa_engTraining/ExamType.aspx.

Listed below are the dates and locations of examination sessions as scheduled, as October 31, 2018. All Treatment and Distribution exam grades will be available at the sessions. Acceptable photo identification (Drivers License or equivalent) will be required to sit for an Exam. Cell phones, pagers and other electronic communication devices are not allowed. Non-Programmable calculators are allowed in exam sessions.

EXAM DATE	REGISTER DEADLINE	CITY	LOCATION	TIME
5/1/2019	3/18/2019	Hot Springs	AWW&WEA Annual Conf. HS Convention Center	9:00 AM
6/7/2019	4/23/2019	Fayetteville	Fayetteville Operations Center, 2435 S Industrial Dr	9:00 AM
6/7/2019	4/23/2019	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility, 240 Dee Dee Ln	9:00 AM
6/7/2019	4/23/2019	Nashville	Carter Day Center, 200 Lake Nichols Drive	9:00 AM
6/14/2019	4/30/2019	Camden	AR Environmental Training Academy, 100 Carr Road	9:00 AM
6/14/2019	4/30/2019	Clarksville	CLW (Operations Bld) 710 East Main (Hwy 64 East)	9:00 AM
6/14/2019	4/30/2019	Jonesboro	Jonesboro CWL Office Training Rm, 400 E Monroe	9:00 AM
9/5/2019	7/22/2019	Mtn. Home	Baxter Co OEM Training Facility, 170 Dillard Dr, Midway	9:00 AM
9/6/2019	7/22/2019	Fayetteville	Fayetteville Operations Center, 2435 S Industrial Dr	9:00 AM
9/6/2019	7/22/2019	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility, 240 Dee Dee Ln	9:00 AM
9/13/2019	7/30/2019	Camden	AR Environmental Training Academy, 100 Carr Road	9:00 AM
9/13/2019	7/30/2019	Clarksville	CLW (Operations Bld) 710 East Main (Hwy 64 East)	9:00 AM
9/13/2019	7/30/2019	Jonesboro	Jonesboro CWL Office Training Rm, 400 E Monroe	9:00 AM
9/18/2019	8/4/2019	Hot Springs	ARWA Conference, HS Convention Center	9:00 AM
12/6/2019	10/22/2019	Fayetteville	Fayetteville Operations Center, 2435 S Industrial Dr	9:00 AM
12/6/2019	10/22/2019	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility, 240 Dee Dee Ln	9:00 AM
12/6/2019	10/22/2019	Nashville	Carter Day Center, 200 Lake Nichols Drive	9:00 AM
12/13/2019	10/29/2019	Camden	AR Environmental Training Academy, 100 Carr Road	9:00 AM
12/13/2019	10/29/2019	Clarksville	CLW (Operations Bld) 710 East Main (Hwy 64 East)	9:00 AM
12/13/2019	10/29/2019	Jonesboro	Jonesboro CWL Office Training Rm, 400 E Monroe	9:00 AM

The above exam session information is subject to change. You should confirm this information just prior to the scheduled examination period. Also, the latest exam schedule information can be viewed on the Internet at: < http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/eng/autoupdates/oper/operexam.htm >.



LETTERS AND EMAILS

• Dear Mr. Sternberg,

My name is Aaron Williams. I am writing you this letter to express my gratitude for one of your instructors at ARWA. Last year, I took several training classes with Jim Philipp. During these classes, I was shocked by how much he had to go over in such little time. He was very precise and patient with myself as well as others who attended. Jim always answered my questions without any hesitation. I do not think I have ever met an instructor so passionate about his classes and his job. I'm proud to say with his help, I passed my D-2 license and I could not have done it without him. Thank you again, Sir!

Aaron Williams Hardin Water

Mr. Sternberg

December 10, 2018

We would like to take this opportunity to thank your organization for the help you provide to Associations like ours. Anytime Ladd Water Users has asked you for help, you have always been there to see our needs. Hopefully, funding will continue to be available for your organization as small systems like ours greatly depend on the services provided by ARWA. Recently we had a customer question the operation of their meter. We would like to thank your Circuit Rider, Terry Fortenberry, for preforming a test of the meters flow and functionality. It is assistance like this that your organization provides that helps our Association assure the best service possible to our customers. Thank you once again for your help.

Sincerely, Mark Haynes, Manager Ladd Water Users Assoc., Inc.

Dear Sir,
 December 19, 2018

Just wanted to reach out with some positive reinforcement. Thanks so much to Jim Philipps. I passed my D-4 on the first try with an 88%. It is a real art to take the wealth of information that he has accumulated over the years and be able to share it with someone that had no idea what it took to turn on a faucet and get safe clean drinking water as recently as this past March. He is a real asset. His review class was interesting and he kept everyone engaged. Please make sure he knows how much I appreciate his patience and willingness to share!

Sincerely, Tom Sumners, Water Operator City Corporation

Dear Mr. Sternberg,

December 30, 2018

My name is Alfred Tennison. I have worked for Central Arkansas Water (CAW) for just over 1-1/2 years as a Facilities Operator. I am a degreed Chemist by training and previously worked for an environmental chemistry lab for many years. Prior to my career with CAW, I had no experience with or in the drinking water industry. I took my required classes for the Treatment-IV and Distribution-IV tests between late 2017 and early 2018. I didn't get around to sitting for the exams until November of 2018. I passed the T-IV and D-IV tests in the same week, first attempt, making a 94% on both exams! I attribute my success in large part to Mr. Jim Philipp. I took the majority of my classes in Lonoke with Jim. His handout materials and exam quizzes are spot on when it comes to making sure you know what is covered on the exams!!! All I did for test prep was go back and review the questions I had missed months earlier on Jim's handout quizzes, a couple days before the tests. I also appreciated the relaxed, laid back style with which Jim covers the material. It's a real-life conversation with students, not some stuffy college lecture. People feel free to jump in with questions at any time. Jim's style is perfect for the audience that attends his courses. I have also attended two classes taught through Southern Arkansas University Tech. Those two classes were taught a little more like a college lecture. I got the feeling that style of instruction was not ideal for a majority of the students present. I certainly found Jim's classes much more enjoyable and informative! Most of all, I appreciate Jim's passion!!! You can tell his heart is really in what he does! I have no doubt he has made the difference for many students in being able to pass the needed exam(s) to further their job potential and career path. That, in turn, makes for stronger water utility industry in the state of Arkansas. I sincerely appreciate the programs offered thru the Arkansas Rural Water Association (ARWA). ARWA is a tremendous resource for the drinking water industry in Arkansas! Thank you for what your organization does and thank you for providing excellent employees like him to carry out your mission!

Sincerely, Alfred Tennison, Facilities Operator Central Arkansas Water

• Dear Dennis, January 23, 2019

I would like to take a minute and thank ARWA for all you do with the water systems in the state. Especially a big THANKS to David Quattlebaum for updating our Vulnerability Assessment and Emergency Response Plan. He

changed his plans to take care of me, just in time for our Sanitary Survey. Thank you, David! Also, a shout out to Shelby Townsley. We had several Wastewater issues arise the past year and Shelby always takes time to get us the right answers to our questions. Thank you, Shelby. ARWA has top notch people and again thank you for all you do.

Sincerely, Jeff Ward, Superintendent Greenbrier Water

• To Whom it may Concern,

February 8, 2019

My name is Glen Taylor. I am with the City of Taylor, Arkansas water department. I have my D1, T1 and WW 2 license. I wanted to let you know that you have the best teachers out there. I took one of my classes from another option because I was trying to get the earliest availability. After taking it, I waited until you offered the class to take it again because your instructors are not just sending students through a class. They truly care about the students, their understanding, and the water systems they serve as well. Jim Philipps and Susan Poe have been my main instructors on water and wastewater. They are great teachers and they truly care. Another thing I wanted you to know is, no matter when I have a problem or question and call, they have always been there for me and for our water system. So, thank you Arkansas Rural Water for all you do and for having the best instructors and teachers in the market.

Sincerely, Glen Taylor City of Taylor

· Dear Mr. Sternberg,

February 20, 2019

On behalf of the City of Charleston, I would like to thank you for the assistance that Arkansas Rural Water Association provides to small systems sch as ours. We especially want to thank Terry Fortenberry, Jimmy Ogden, and Shelby Townsley for the diligent and hard work they preformed during the cleaning and closed-circuit television video inspection of segments of our sewer collection system in January of this year. The data gathered was summarized in clear and concise reports and forwarded to us quickly. We look forward to working with ARWA in the future.

Sincerely Tabitha Hester, Mayor City of Charleston

Dennis,

February 22, 2019

Attached is a thank you letter from the Mayor. Steve and I also want to thank you and Arkansas Rural Water for all you do. We need to have some flow rate and/or analysis done in our sewer collection system. Is that something ARWA can assist us with? Please have someone contact either Steve or I about this.

Thank you again, Tonya Talkington Steve Forst Charleston Waterworks

Good evening

February 25, 2019

I wanted to say a big thank you to Susan Poe for the Wastewater 1 class that I attended on January 15th through the 17th. Her knowledge and ability to teach is amazing. I was able to pass the test due to the study hand and the math worksheets. Again, I wanted to say thank you to all of your staff also.

Darren Fields, Assistant Water Superintendent City of Mulberry

Dear Dennis,

March 5, 2019

We want to thank Tim Carey for the rate study he did for us as well as his presentation to our Board of Directors. As usual, he was very professional and thorough. He was well received by our Directors. We appreciate your staff and their commitment to the water industry.

Sincerely,
David Ball, Manager
Buffalo Island Regional Water Distribution District

Good morning,

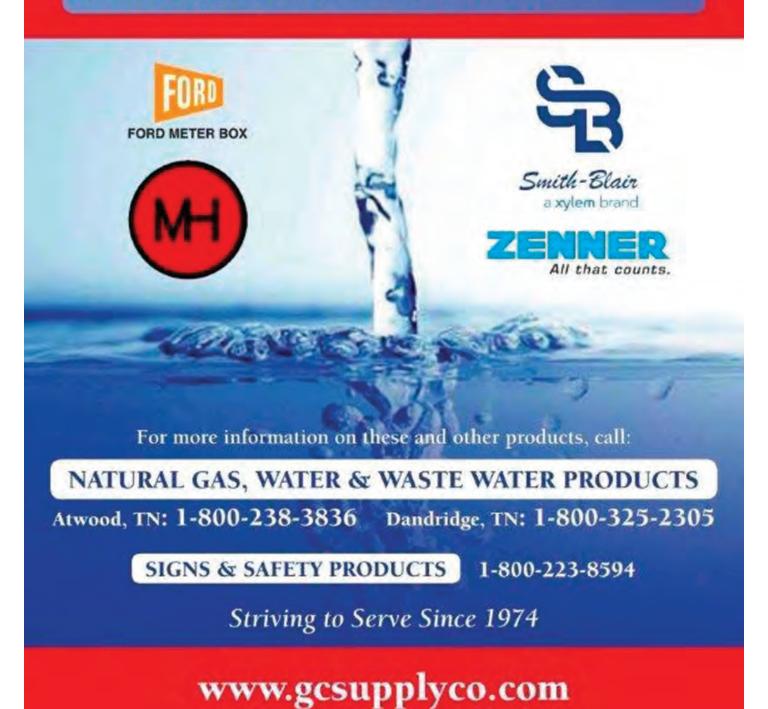
March 25, 2019

I would like to express sincere thanks to Mr. David Quattlebaum for stopping by and taking the time to train and help me set up the program for emergency response. He was very professional as he explained the program and explained in depth, as he took me step by step in doing so. Again thanks.

Dell Quarles, Mayor City of Rosston



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ARWA TRAINING AND EVENTS 2019

BACKFLOW TESTER CERTIFICATION CLASSES IN 2019

7/22-26/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Terry Fortenberry
10/7-11/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Terry Fortenberry

BACKFLOW TESTER RE-CERTIFICATION CLASSES IN 2019

7/16/2019	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Terry Fortenberry
10/1/2019	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Terry Fortenberry

BACKFLOW REPAIR CLASSES IN 2019

5/21-23/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Terry Fortenberry
8/13-15/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Terry Fortenberry
11/5-7/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Terry Fortenberry

ARWA WATER TRAINING SCHEDULE 2019

5/7-8/2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Community Center	100 Woodland Trail-Bono	Water License Renewal	Susan Poe
5/7-9/2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Advanced Treatment	Jim Philipp
5/21-23/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Operations Center	710 E. Main-Clarksville	Advanced Distribution	Jim Philipp
5/30/2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Water Exam Refresher	Chris Harris
6/4-6/2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Siloam Springs Library	205 E. Jefferson-Siloam Springs	Basic Distribution	Jim Philipp
6/11-12/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Water License Renewal	Susan Poe
6/18/2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Community Center	100 Woodland Trail-Bono	Basic Water Math	Jim Philipp
6/20/2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Community Center	100 Woodland Trail-Bono	Applied Water Math	Jim Philipp
7/9-11/2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Siloam Springs Library	205 E. Jefferson-Siloam Springs	Intermediate Distribution	Jim Philipp
7/23-25/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Community Center	100 Woodland Trail-Bono	Basic Treatment	Jim Philipp
8/6/2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Basic Water Math	Jim Philipp
8/8/2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Applied Water Math	Jim Philipp
8/20-21/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Charles R Newton Center	170 Dillard Drive-Midway	Water License Renewal	Susan Poe
8/28/2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Water Exam Refresher	Jim Philipp
9/24-26/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Basic Distribution	Jim Philipp
10/22-24/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Community Center	100 Woodland Trail-Bono	Intermediate Treatment	Jim Philipp
11/5-7/2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Intermediate Distribution	Jim Philipp
11/19-21/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Advanced Treatment	Jim Philipp
11/26/2019 8:00 am - 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Water Exam Refresher	Jim Philipp
12/3-5/2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Advanced Distribution	Jim Philipp

ARWA WASTEWATER TRAINING SCHEDULE 2019

5/8-9/2019	8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Community Center	100 Woodland Trail-Bono	WW License Renewal	Susan Poe
5/20-23/20	19 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Northwest Tech. Institute	709 S. Old Missouri Rd-Springdale	Class II WW	Susan Poe
6/12-13/20	19 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	WW License Renewal	Susan Poe
7/8-12/201	9 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Class III WW	Susan Poe
8/21-22/20	19 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Charles R Newton Center	170 Dillard Dr-Midway	WW License Renewal	Susan Poe
9/16-18/20	19 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	H.S. Convention Center	134 Convention Blvd-Hot Springs	Class I WW	Susan Poe
10/21-24/2	2019 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Class II WW	Susan Poe
12/9-13/20	19 8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Class III WW	Susan Poe

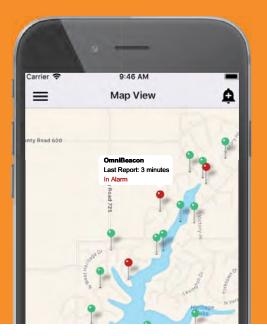
EVENTS

5/29/2019	7:45 am - until	Hurricane Creek Golf Course	4300 Hurricane Drive-Bryant	Jack Lambert Memorial Golf Tournament
6/12/2019	7:30 am - 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	ARWA Operator EXPO
9/15-18/2019		Hot Springs Convention Ctr.	134 Convention Blvd-Hot Springs	42 nd Annual Technical Conference

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Are You Prepared?

By Jimmy Ogden, Circuit Rider

re you prepared for the next disaster? Every system will at some point experience a disaster. It might be local, or it could be widespread. In Arkansas, tornadoes, flooding, or ice storms are probably our biggest threat. Being prepared may be a little tougher than you think. When ARWA traveled to Florida in the wake of Hurricane Michael to assist with disaster relief, most of the standby generators located in the damaged area were either damaged

or destroyed. ARWA responded with generators to help get water and wastewater systems operational.

Now the concerns with connecting generators in the wake of a disaster is first and foremost safety. As you can imagine, when dealing with damaged areas, the risk of injury is everywhere. Make sure the power utility is disconnected by a disconnect switch or physically if needed. When disaster strikes and your utility needs generators, the more information you have, the better we can assist you. Information will be needed such as power demand, horsepower of pumps, amps, volts, and 3 phase or single phase. Most of the stations ARWA hooked to in Florida were protected by phase moni-



tors. The phase monitors primary jobs are motor protection from premature failure and damage due to voltage unbalance, high and low voltages, phase loss, phase reversal, faulty power, incorrect sequencing and/or rapid short cycling. These are very useful when connecting generators to prevent phase reversal. Also, everything is going to have to be prioritized. What is the biggest need at the time?

Another thing to keep in mind is uniformity with parts and connections. Are all the connections from bypass fittings to generator connections the same? Do you know what is at each station? Keep in mind the 10 minute trip to the shop to get another fitting may take 2 hours now if the parts are even available and not damaged or destroyed.

An assessment of your system ahead of time can save hours, if not days of downtime, in a disaster. All of this information can be collected ahead of time and be part of your emergency response plan. This information can be used in your daily operations also. The more information you have about your system, the faster you can recover from leaks to disasters.



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RURAL COOKING

Farmers Breakfast

6 strips bacon, diced

2 tablespoon onion diced

3 medium potatoes, cooked and cubed

6 large eggs, beaten

½ cup shredded cheddar cheese

In a cast iron skillet cook bacon till crisp and remove from pan on paper towel. In bacon drippings add the onion and potatoes sauté till potatoes are slightly browned, about 5 minutes. Push potatoes and onions to the sides of the skillet leaving a circle in center of the skillet. Pour beaten eggs in center of the skillet and stir gently until eggs are set and desired doneness. Combine eggs with potatoes and onion. Take off heat.

Season with salt and pepper and sprinkle with cheese and bacon. Let set a few minutes until the cheese melts then enjoy this hearty farmers breakfast.

Homemade Spaghetti Sauce

I pound ground beef

1 pound mild Italian sausage

1 onion chopped

1/3 cup green pepper chopped, add more if desired

4 cloves garlic chopped

1 28oz can crushed tomatoes

2 15 oz cans tomato sauce

3 tablespoons brown sugar

3 teaspoons oregano

3 teaspoons basil

1 ½ teaspoon marjoram

Brown ground beef and sausage in skillet. Add onion and green peppers. Cook until onions and peppers are soft. Drain grease from meat and put in pan



for making sauce. Add tomatoes and tomato sauce and remaining ingredients. Simmer on low for 20 minutes. Add to cooked spaghetti noodles.

KFC Copycat Fried Chicken

One cut-up chicken

1 ½ cup buttermilk

1 egg, beaten

2 cups all purpose flour

2/3 tablespoon salt

½ tablespoon ground thyme

½ tablespoon basil

1/3 tablespoon oregano

1 tablespoon celery salt

1 tablespoon black pepper

1 tablespoon dried mustard

3 tablespoon paprika

2 tablespoon garlic salt

2 tablespoon white pepper

2 teaspoons Accent Seasoning

Combine buttermilk and egg in bowl and add chicken. Let soak in the refrigerator for 30 minutes. Take out and put on a raised cookie rack To allow the buttermilk to drain off. In a bowl combine the flour and all Spices and mix well. Heat your oil to 350 degrees. Coat each piece of chicken, shaking off excess flour mixture and add to your oil for frying.

Amazing Cream of Mushroom Soup

4 tablespoons butter

1 tablespoon oil

2 onions diced

4 cloves garlic diced

1 ½ pounds mushrooms cleaned and sliced

4 teaspoons chopped fresh thyme ½ cup Marsala wine (any dry red or white will work)

6 tablespoons AP flour

4 cups chicken broth or stock

1 to 2 teaspoon salt

½ to 1 teaspoon pepper

2 beef bouillon cubes, crumbled

1 cup heavy cream

Add butter and oil to pan and cook onions till translucent then add garlic. Cook a minute then add the mushrooms. Cook the mushrooms to desired doneness.I like a little texture to my mushrooms. Add the fresh thyme and wine. Then add the flour and stir while the flour cooks a minute or two. Add the chicken broth or stock and stir to mix all together. Season with salt, pepper, and bouillon cube and stir till will mixed. Cook on low till it begins to thicken slightly and add the cream.

Mashed Potato Cakes

2 large Idaho potatoes, 2 pounds total weight

3 to 4 ounces cream cheese

2 tablespoons sour cream

2 scallions, very finely chopped

2 teaspoons lemon zest

1 egg, lightly beaten

Salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil

1 tablespoon butter

Directions

Peel and dice potatoes and add to a large pot. Cover with water and salt the water. Bring to boil over medium heat, and cook until tender. Drain the potatoes and return to hot pot to dry. Transfer potatoes to a bowl. Soften cream cheese in a microwavable bowl and microwave the cream cheese for 20 seconds on high. Add to the potatoes along with sour cream, scallions, zest, egg, salt and pepper, to taste. Mash potatoes to combine mixture.

Heat the oil and butter in nonstick skillet over medium heat. Drop 2-inch mounds of potatoes into skillet and gently press down to flatten a bit. Crisp potatoes until deeply golden on each side, about 7 to 8 minutes total. Mixture makes 8 golden cakes





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