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P.O. Box 860, Lonoke, AR 72086

Phone (501) 676-2255 Fax (501) 676-2266

E-Mail: arkrwa@sbcglobal.net

E-Mail: arkrwa@arwa.net

Web page: arkansasruralwater.org

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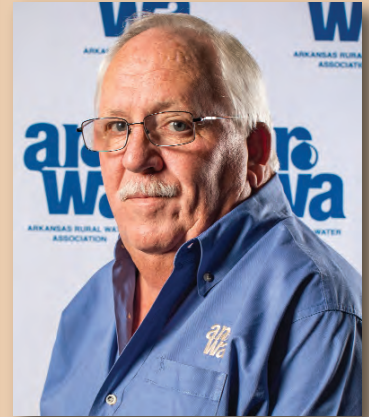
On the cover

Buffalo River in the fall



FROM YOUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DENNIS STERNBERG



Arkansas Rural Water Association Celebrates 41st Annual Technical Conference September 9-12, 2018

I would like to thank everyone who attended and made this year's ARWA Annual Technical Conference a HUGE success in Hot Springs, Arkansas September 9-12, 2018.

This year's conference featured two FULL Exhibit Halls with the latest equipment and supplies on display by all the vendors for two days and five different concurrent sessions with something for everyone, depending on your position with your utility. This was the first year ARWA opened up Exhibit Hall "A & B" for exhibit space, and we had a total of 133 booths with exhibitors displaying their latest products in the water and wastewater industry. Hopefully, everyone had a chance to stop by the booths and visit with each of the exhibitors to discuss their products and how their products or services can assist you in your time of need.

The five different concurrent session speakers were a great asset to this year's conference with all their hard work and time to help educate the attendees on new products, rules, regulations and the law.

Hopefully, everyone attended the Sunday night ARWA Welcome Social held at the Hotel Hot Springs on Sunday, September 9, 2018 from 6:00 pm till 10:00 pm. A Special Thank You goes out to Bob Wright with Crews & Associates who sponsored the drinks for this year's ARWA Welcome Social.

I am hopeful that all who attended the Tuesday luncheon enjoyed the Hot Springs VFW presentation of the flag and the bugler who played taps in "Honor of 9-11-2001" and the Fun City Chorus who sang at the luncheon.

ARWA presented twenty-two scholarships at the Monday luncheon to member system dependents who applied for the Ernie Faucett Scholarship. Crews & Associates, Core & Main, and Aquasure (Risk Services) have been great partners with ARWA supporting this great benefit for member systems. ARWA had over forty applications submitted but could only provide scholarships to a total of twenty-two this year. All scholarships are decided by the luck of the draw.

The Monday night dance was held at the Embassy Suites and was enjoyed based on everyone's comments that attended. ARWA would like to thank Core & Main (HD Supply) for sponsoring the "Billstown Band" and CoBank for sponsoring drinks for those who attended.

I would like to thank David Branscum, State Director of USDA for Arkansas, who attended the conference and spoke at the Monday luncheon updating everyone on USDA funding opportunities for Arkansas utilities.

ARWA membership elected one new board member this year, Mr. Terry House with Grand Prairie Bayou Two PWA replacing Robert Stout.

The ARWA board also appointed two new board members to fill vacant ARWA board positions that became vacant after the deadline. The two new board members are Mr. Michael Goins with Richwoods Water Association, Inc. and Mr. Jackie William Hinchey, Jr.

with Leslie Water & Sewer. Mr. Michael Goins will be replacing Mr. Noble McCord with Fulton County Water who resigned, and Mr. Jackie William Hinchey, Jr. will be replacing Mr. Doug Wasson with Southwest Boone County Water Association who also resigned.

ARWA had a total attendance at this year's conference of 1097 water and wastewater industry personnel. I would like to give a Special Thank You to all the exhibitors who used 133 booths displaying their products at ARWA's 41st Annual Technical Conference.

A Special Thanks to the many companies that donated gifts to the Arkansas Rural Water Association State PAC and to everyone who purchased tickets to win those prizes. This year's Arkansas Rural Water State PAC raffle was a huge success by raising over \$4,000. Thanks to everyone who participated.

The Ladies program was another hit this year. I had lots of compliments on the ladies program, which only can be credited to Carol and Robert McKinnon for all the hard work they put into it. Thank you to both Carol and Robert for all your hard work putting this together for the past several years.

A Special Thank You also goes to National Rural Water Association who provided a \$500 Bass Pro gift card for the ARWA Federal Water PAC raffle. Also, another \$500 Bass Pro gift card was donated by Dennis Sternberg with monies going to the Federal Water PAC. Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets to win the two \$500 Bass Pro gift cards which made this year's event a another great success.

I would like to thank all the systems that competed in the Arkansas Great Water Taste Test at this year's conference. Thank you to the Water Taste Test Judges for participating in this year's water taste test judging. Congratulations goes out to The City Corporation Water & Sewer from Russellville, Arkansas for being selected the BEST Tasting Water for 2018. City Corporation Water & Sewer from Russellville, Arkansas will go on to compete in Washington D.C. at the Great American Water Taste Test at the National Rural Water Association's Water Rally, February 4-6, 2019.

This year's Annual Conference Golf Tournament was held on Sunday, September 9, 2018 at Diamond Head Golf Course in Hot Springs, Arkansas. I want to thank all the sponsors and all the golfers who played. The golfers all appeared to have a great day of golf on a very beautiful golf course.

Again, a Special Thank You to everyone that attended ARWA's 41st Annual Technical Conference this year. Because of your support, it was a huge success, and to the ARWA staff for working to put on another great conference. Thank You!!

So mark your calendars for next year's ARWA's 42nd Annual Technical Conference September 15-18, 2019 to be held at the Hot Springs Convention Center in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Thanks for all your support in the past and for your continued support in the future. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact ARWA at 501-676-2255.

Best Tasting Water in Arkansas City Corporation Water & Sewer



Bryan Hood, Manager of WUDB; Heather Parker-Foster, Environmental Program Coordinator with the Military Department of Arkansas; Linda Flanagan, Arkansas Natural Resources Commission.

Officials at the Arkansas Rural Water Association (ARWA) have found the best-tasting water in Arkansas. On September 11, 2018 the winner of the state-wide competition was announced in an effort to identify the tastiest rural water in the state and, participants hope, in the nation. Small and rural water utilities from around the state submitted samples of their water, straight from the tap. The winner of the event was the **City Corporation Water & Sewer**, whose water sample was chosen by judges as the most appealing. "It tasted clean, pure and refreshing," stated the judges. "Because of the quality of this water, Arkansas has a good chance at the national taste test in Washington, D.C." added Arkansas Rural Water Association CEO, Dennis Sternberg. The competition is part of a Quality On Tap Campaign to emphasize the high quality, standards, and consequently, taste of rural water. Winners of the state taste test will compete in a national contest at Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. on February 4-6, 2019. This event is part of the Rural Water Rally, an annual legislative event for the 49 state affiliates of National Rural Water Association.



Name of Project: Montgomery Mud
Location: Texas
Customer: Schier Construction

Name of Project: James Fork RWD
Location: Arkansas
Customer: James Fork Regional Water District

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Arkansas Rural Water Association's Deputy Director Jeff Ford Accepts Manager's Position at Kimzey Regional Water Distribution District



After thirty-three years, two months and fourteen days of working at Arkansas Rural Water Association as Soil and Water Circuit Rider, Field Representative and for the last twenty years as Deputy Director for ARWA, Mr. Jeff Ford resigned on September 14, 2018 to accept the Manager's position at Kimzey Regional Water Distribution District in Malvern, Arkansas.

ARWA Board of Directors and staff would like to wish Jeff all the best in his new position and know full well he will always be a part of ARWA family as he takes the manager's position at the Kimzey RWDD.



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Phone: 1.800.332.8715

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

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Grants and Loans

By Susan Poe, Wastewater Trainer/Technician

Since the announcement of the increase to Water and Wastewater Funding through USDA Rural Development, there has been a lot of questions on how do we get this money? It's this simple, if you don't apply, you don't receive it. Making the first step towards getting your needed project is, of course, to begin working with a qualified Engineer to get your Preliminary Engineering Report completed for what you want to accomplish. You can receive funding for all kinds of infrastructure improvements, expansions, new water tanks, distribution and collection system improvements, water and wastewater treatment plant upgrades, just to name a few. USDA launched the RD Apply Electronic Application Process recently, and although some people are terrified of the process, don't let it stop you from getting your loan/grant monies you deserve. Interest rates are at an all-time low with grant availability. When applying, there is a possibility qualifying will be based on your project and your community information. Don't ever assume that you won't qualify for a loan/grant because of past experience or what you have heard before you ask your local representative from your funding agency about the possibilities. There is a lot that goes into this calculation that could be a bonus for your community since all are unique. A lot of systems I have been working with this past year have been pleasantly surprised on what they received versus what they perceived was going to happen.

When working with the online application, your system will be a big part of the process which is a plus, so you can track your progress and make sure your loan/grant is not being held up due to lack of information being submitted. In the past, applications were sometimes being held up, because all the pertinent information was not completed, which is not an impossible task. It just takes dedication to completing it and bringing it all together quickly. A lot of systems that I have visited with have chose not to look into



USDA monies, because they were told from outside sources “the process takes too long”, “it can be up to three years just to fill out the application” or “you won’t even qualify for grant monies.” Don’t let these comments deter you from pursuing it. A lot of times, the problem is that the paperwork is just not getting completed properly to proceed.

Arkansas is amongst several other states turning back monies on a regular basis (including grant) that just was never applied for, which is heartbreaking to think that a small system somewhere is in desperate need of a wastewater plant upgrade or new water tank and missed out. That money went away, because no one applied for it. It’s a new funding cycle. I can’t stress enough on revisiting the USDA option as well as all your funding options, since things are changing fast. Hopefully, they are changing for the better. Water and Wastewater is always a priority for your community. Let’s get that money in play to keep it up to standards, and continue to strive to provide “Quality on Tap”. If you need assistance on where to begin, please don’t hesitate to contact our staff at 501-676-2255 as we keep up to date on anything concerning these monies on a regular basis, and we are here to help you move forward.



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McGaha Retires



Donna McGaha retires after serving 10 years with Arkansas Rural Water Association. McGaha's dates of employment with ARWA were May 19, 2008 – September 28, 2018. McGaha stated, "I have enjoyed my time at ARWA. I will be spending my retirement years traveling and enjoying time with family and friends."

*Congratulations on your retirement,
ARWA Board of Directors and Staff*

Jeff Huber will be McGaha's replacement.
(See page 13)

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Systems Readiness for a Disaster

By Chris Harris, ARWA Circuit Rider

All of us have seen the intense news coverage that Hurricane Florence has received recently, due to her wreaking havoc along the eastern coast. This national catastrophe should cause every operator to question their system's readiness for a disaster. In every emergency, minutes matter. It is necessary to take time now to evaluate your current emergency preparedness plan. This plan can make a crucial difference in a desperate time of need. The more information and the more effort we put into emergency preparedness, the quicker and more superior the response will be. There are a few simple steps that you can take now to ensure you are prepared before disaster strikes.

One thing that is often an oversight is accessibility. A couple questions to contemplate are: How easy can pump stations, treatment plants, offices, and any other necessary equipment or facilities be accessed? Could you get large equipment or generators safely through your gates or through access roads? ARWA has the capacity to assist systems with equipment issues, generators, VAC Truck, along with numerous other services. Unfortunately, most of the systems do not realize the height, width, or turning radius of the equipment we bring, and how high and wide to keep limbs and other hazards cleared. Several operators drive in and out of their facilities every day, but never give a second thought to a situation where you would have to get a trailer onto the premises. Keeping good clear access to roads, drive-ways, and gates can be critical in these situations.


Another simple task to implement when preparing an emergency response action plan is to gather and document information on all key electrical components. Knowing things like whether your pumps are single or three phase, the



horse power your pumps are, and knowing the voltage coming into all your facilities, can help you as an operator get a generator or a spare motor or pump much faster. It's also important to know how many pumps are operational in lift stations, how many spares you have in inventory, and making sure this information is included in your documentation. Storing this information in a centralized location is also very helpful. If an ice storm hit your system tomorrow, would you

be able to pick up the phone and communicate what size generator or generators you are going to need or how many feet of wire you were going to need to attach the generator to your MCC or breaker box within minutes? All these things take time to evaluate, time that cannot be spent in an emergency situation.

Another area of emphasis of emergency preparedness is networking. This means getting to know and building relationships with organizations that can assist you during this time of need. Make a point to discuss your needs with your local OEM Coordinators and develop a plan of action if a natural disaster situation should arise. Also, make sure you are an ARWA member. ARWA has several generators ranging from 3kw to 150kw. We also keep a few smaller grinder pumps and various bypass pumps. This is why we keep and maintain equipment to be able to help systems in their time of need. An older man told me once "Son if you have the hammer use it." All ARWA members should take time to visit the ARWA facility and see what tools you have available to utilize. All of that equipment is available to members on a first come first serve basis. So, being prepared and knowing what equipment is required in a moment's notice, can be the difference between an emergency or a disaster.



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 effective January 1, 2015. 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.arkansaruralwater.org

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



ARKANSAS RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION

arwa GOLF arwa

TOURNAMENT

Sunday, September 9, 2018 Arkansas Rural Water Association hosted ARWA's Annual Conference Golf Tournament at Diamond Head Golf course. It was truly a beautiful day for golf as well as being a beautiful golf course to play the ARWA tournament.

I would to say a big thank you to all the players that played in this year's golf tournament and the following golf tournament sponsors **CoBank, G & C Supply, Smith Blair, Inc., Harbor Environmental Services, Inc., Vacuum Truck Sales and Services, LLC, United Rentals Fluid Solutions, Jones Hydro Services, Inc., and Sensus.**

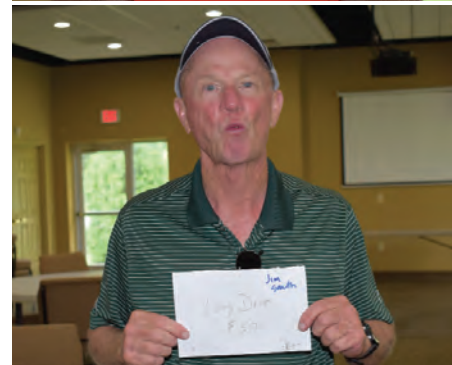
This golf tournament is one of two golf tournaments held each year by ARWA to raise monies for scholarships to be given back to the ARWA membership employees' dependents each year at the ARWA Annual Conference at the Monday luncheon. On Monday, September 10, 2018 at the ARWA Conference noon luncheon, ARWA awarded twenty-two scholarships this year three-\$1,000 and nineteen-\$500 scholarships.

Again, the ARWA Membership who submits for scholarships really appreciates all the golfers and sponsors who support the ARWA scholarship programs.

Pictured are some of the photos from this year's annual conference golf tournament.



NAME	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOTAL
RAYNELL																					65
RESE																					73
FRID, M.																					70
FRID, A.																					71
SMITH																					63
YOUNG																					60
HOLMAN																					
FOED																					70
MIC COED																					
BREAUX																					71
LAETIE																					
STEENBERG																					63
RODEBUSH																					71
BANKS																					
HODGES																					63
HONCE																					3RD
DAVENS, T																					
DAVENS, DA																					1ST
DAVENS, E																					60
THOMALLA																					
PARNELL																					62
STUCKEY																					2ND
MEANS																					
RAYNICK																					74
TYSON																					
BUCKHEAD																					64
SMITH																					
COPFELT																					66
WARDEN																					
PEEPLES																					
CASWELL																					
ASH																					
PUMMAZ																					
TEMPLE																					
NIXON																					
HOWE																					
MOSLEY																					
PREVYSE																					
FREEMAN																					
COMBA																					
GORDON																					
BRYANT																					
JONES																					



New Accountant in the ARWA office



Hello, my name is Jeff Huber, and I am the new accountant with Arkansas Rural Water Association. I have served in many different capacities for fortune 500 companies such as Honeywell, Inc; Service Experts; Trane Company; and Goodyear Tire & Rubber and served on the leadership team as the Operations Manager for Southern Mechanical Services LLC. I come to ARWA from Goodyear Tire & Rubber's Commercial Tire and Service Center in Little Rock where I served as the Office Manager for the past seven (7) years.

I am married to a wonderful and beautiful red-head, Marcia Huber, that is a Budget Analyst for Arkansas Department of Labor. We have been married for twenty-one (21) years and are the proud parents of two (2) young men, JC and Joshua Huber, that are both attending college. JC is enrolled at University of Arkansas of Little Rock majoring in mass communication. Joshua played soccer as the goalkeeper for the Southeastern Community College during his first semester in West Burlington, Iowa, but he is looking to transfer back home to either University of Arkansas of Little Rock or University of Central Arkansas next semester.

I am not only a number's guy but also a licensed soccer coach. I have coached both recreational and high school soccer, and I am also a United States Soccer Federation (USSF) and Arkansas Official Association (AOA) soccer referee. So, don't get me started about soccer unless you have some spare time. As if that isn't enough to keep me busy, I am also an ordained pastor at Victory Apostolic Fellowship in Jacksonville, Arkansas.

I have been here at ARWA for a few months now, and I want to thank everyone for making me feel like I have always been part of the ARWA family. I feel right at home in my new role at ARWA and look forward to working with all of you in my new venture.

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Inc. (REM)"
Rural Water Impact/Municipal Impact
Rycom Instruments
SELTECH, Inc.
ServLine
Shupe and Associates, Inc.
Smith-Blair, Inc.
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Southern Weed & Brush Control, LLC
Stephens, Inc.
SUEZ Advanced Solutions
TankSpekCorp
Tencarva Machinery Company
Tomcat Consultants, LLC/T.A.P.
Company
United Rentals Fluid Solutions
United Systems and Software
USABlueBook
USDA Rural Development
Vacuum Truck Sales and Services, LLC
Vermeer MidSouth
Wachs Utility Products
Water Tech, Inc.
Water Utility Data Base System (WUDB)
Wholesale Pump & Supply, Inc.
Xylem Dewatering Solutions

Thank You!

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for attending Arkansas Rural Water
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Conference giving a record-breaking
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2018 ARWA Conference Cash Winners



2018 EXHIBITOR

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2018

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JAMIE MULLINS
Paron-Owensville PWA

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JIMMY MCDANIEL, JR.
Oil Trough Water System

2018 Kayak Winner



RUSTY LEOPARD
City of Rison

2018 ATTENDEE

**\$100 Cash Evaluation Drawing
Winner**



JOSEPH B. CARTER
Northeast Yell County
Water Association

Congratulations to **Ernie Faucett Scholarship Winners for 2018**



The Scholarship Committee was pleased to announce the Ernie Faucett Scholarship winners at the 2018 ARWA Conference in Hot Springs.

Scholarships are awarded to students who are dependent children or stepchildren of employees of ARWA member water utilities. The funds available to provide these scholarships are earned through donations and your support of Ernie Faucett Scholarship fund raising events throughout the year. Thanks to our supporters and golf participants, we were privileged to be able to provide twenty-two (22) scholarships this year. Nineteen of those

scholarships were in amount of \$500.00, and three (3) were awarded in the amount of \$1000.00. The thousand (\$1,000.00) dollar scholarships were sponsored by **Crews & Associates, Core & Main, and the Aquasure Program from Risk Services Insurance**. This is our way of giving something back to you and your families — and saying “Thank You” for your enduring support.

These scholarship winners were chosen at random from over forty-one (41) applicants that were received from our member systems. The 2018 Ernie Faucett Scholarship winners are as follows:

NAME	SYSTEM	COLLEGE
Destany Ballard	City of Leachville	Arkansas State University
Niya Box	Arkadelphia Water Utilities	Southern Arkansas University
Carlie Burruss	Bradford Water	Arkansas State University
Maci Campbell	Huntsville Water Utilities	Arkansas Tech University
Kyle Canale	Clark County Country Water Facility	Southern Arkansas University Tech
Rebecca Carter	City of Belleville	University of Arkansas - Morrilton
Dylan Cass	Grand Prairie Bayou Two PWA	Arkansas Tech University
Jonathan Hibbard	Yorktown Water	University of Arkansas - Monticello
Benjamin Hunter	Pfeiffer Public Water	Arizona State University
Taylor Malone	Clarendon Waterworks	Phillips County Community College
Michelle McDaniel	Oil Trough Water	University of Arkansas - Batesville
Sydney McFarland	City of Summit	University of Arkansas
Declend McMurry	Arkadelphia Water Utilities	Southern Arkansas University
Hannah Mitchell	Salem Water Users	Henderson State University
William Moren	Sardis Water Association PWA	Southern Arkansas University
Kaitlin Reinhart	Western Greene County Regional Water	Arkansas State University
Sarah Sanford	Independence-Jackson Regional	Arkansas State University
Austin Slater	Hwy 63 Water	Arkansas State University
Shelby Steward	Newport	Arkansas State University
Micaiah Temple	Hot Springs Village	University of Central Arkansas
Haley Ward	Newport	Arkansas State University - Newport
Hanna Williams	Madison County Water Facility Board	University of Arkansas

We are honored and proud to be able to award these scholarships to these students and hope this financial award will help in their educational endeavors.

2018 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



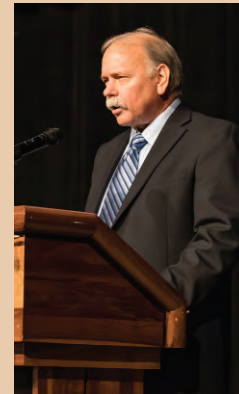
Arkansas Rural Water 2018 Conference



Guest Speaker at Monday Luncheon
David Branscum, USDA
State Director



2018-2019 Board of Directors



ARWA Board President,
Greg Cross



Steve Wear Receiving Plaque of Appreciation for his years of serving as the National Rural Water Director on behalf of ARWA



ARWA would like to give a
Special Thanks
to the Fun City Chorus and the
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)
Hot Springs, AR
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Arkansas Rural Water 2018 Conference



2018 State WaterPac Raffle Winners

American AVK Company	\$25 Gift Card	John Choate	Russellville
American AVK Company	\$25 Home Depot Gift Card	Robert Fortner	Conway
AmeriChemm, LLC.	Scarecrow	Laura Porterfield	Benton
Arkansas Dept. of Labor	Gift Bag	Thomas Sanford	Bradford
Arkansas Dept. of Labor	Gift Bag	Sandra Wright	Rison
ARWA	Arkansas Serving Board	Laura Porterfield	Benton
ARWA	Stealth Cam 3 Pack	James McGriff	Rison
Bertrem Products, Inc.	Quick Access Vault	David Mooneyhan	McDougal
Brad Greer & Associates	Ladderball & Bean Bag Toss	Wayne Hendrix	Marked Tree
City of Flippin C/O Ranger Boats	Cooler Package	Jessica Casey	Harrison
City of Flippin C/O Ranger Boats	Cooler Package	Billy Price	Portia
Consolidated Pipe & Supply	\$100 Lowes Gift Card	Jim Shempert	Marion
Core & Main	Vision Grill	Jeff Ford	Lonoke
Engineering Services, Inc.	\$50 Wal-Mart Gift Card	Gwen Wood	El Dorado
Environmental Products Mid-South	45 qt RTIC Cooler	Bobby Pye	Arkadelphia
G & C Supply Co., Inc.	\$50 Gift Card	James Robertson	Bay
Hawkins, Inc.	Big Game Hang on Tree-stand & Backpack	Paula Newberry	Walcott
Henard Utility Products, Inc.	Yeti Cooler Bag	Steve Wear	Morrilton
ICM, Inc.	\$25 Visa Gift Card	Michael Sims	DeQueen
L & L Municipal Supplies & Tools	\$100 Cash	Kenton Hughes	Ward
Landmark Engineering	Igloo Cool Package	Judy Lloyd	Portia
Shupe and Associates, Inc.	Fishing Pole	Marion Pruss	N.L.R.
Smith-Blair, Inc.	\$100 Gift Card	Danny Wood	El Dorado
WUDB	Deer Feeder	Dalton Ramsey	Harrison

FEDERAL WATER PAC WINNERS

2018 Aquasure Grill Winner



JERRY DAVIS
Sardis Water Association

2018 Federal Water Pac Winner of \$500 Bass Pro Gift Card *donated by National Rural Water Association*



TOM STANFORD
HEBER SPRINGS WATER

2018 Federal Water Pac Winner of \$500 Bass Pro Gift Card *donated by Dennis Sternberg*



JAMIE FLOURNEY
STAMPS WATERWORKS

2018 State WaterPac Raffle Winners



2018 State WaterPac Raffle Winners



*ARWA would like to
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WATER OPERATOR LICENSE EXAMINATIONS DECEMBER 2018 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 of **September 18, 2017**. 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
12/7/2018	10/23/2018	Fayetteville	Fayetteville Operations Center, 2435 S Industrial Dr	9:00 AM
12/7/2018	10/23/2018	Lonoke	ARWA Training Facility, 240 Dee Dee Ln	9:00 AM
12/7/2018	10/23/2018	Nashville	Carter Day Center, 200 Lake Nichols Drive	9:00 AM
12/14/2018	10/30/2018	Camden	AR Environmental Training Academy, 100 Carr Road	9:00 AM
12/14/2018	10/30/2018	Clarksville	CLW (Operations Bld) 710 East Main (Hwy 64 East)	9:00 AM
12/14/2018	10/30/2018	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> >.

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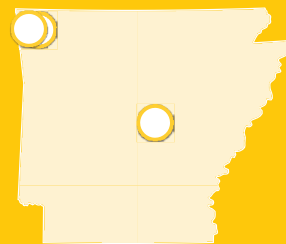
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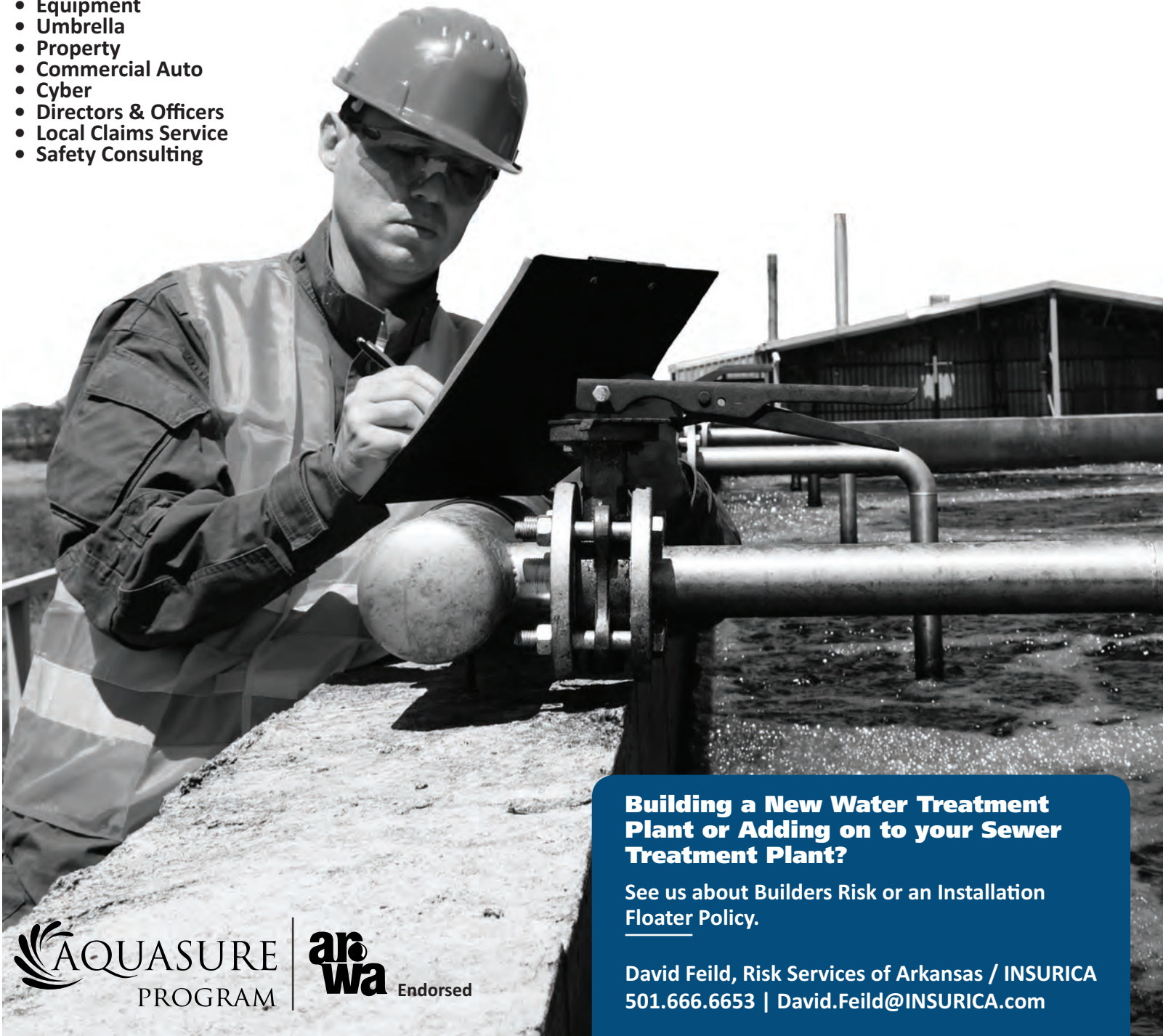
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The Unknown ARWA Membership Benefits

By Tee Easley, Energy Circuit Rider

When I began my career with Arkansas Rural Water in January of 2017, I never knew of all the services they had to offer. Like most everyone else, I thought of ARWA as the place to receive my continuing education and get my mandatory 24 licensing hours. It wasn't until I started rotating my work weeks with different circuit riders that I learned of all the various services we provide. Honestly, before I started at ARWA, I didn't realize there were other employees besides the front lobby lady and Jim, the water training guy. After almost 2 years with ARWA, I now understand why I had never seen any other employees... We're all out traveling the great state of Arkansas assisting the many rural water and waste water utilities.

While traveling throughout the state, I have discovered that many utilities have memberships with ARWA, but are unaware of all the free assistance we can provide. Many managers have voiced that they thought ARWA was just available for training opportunities. Please don't blindly pay for this membership, without taking advantage of everything it has to offer.

Our website has a detailed list of everything we offer. But, if you're like me, you will never take the time to actually go to the website directly. For this reason, I have included a detailed list of the ARWA membership benefits.

On-Site Technical Assistance:

- Leak Detection
- Valve Location
- Master Meter Testing
- Residential Meter Testing
- Pump Troubleshooting
- Flow Testing
- Fire Hydrant Flow Testing
- Treatment Plant Troubleshooting
- Jar Testing Equipment
- In-Line System Pressure Recorders
- Line Location
- RPZ Testing
- Control Valve Troubleshooting
- Pressure Reducers
- Rate Studies
- Regulation Updates
- Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR)
- Wellhead Protection Program Assistance
- Altitude Valve Troubleshooting
- Sewer Smoke Testing
- NPDES Reporting
- Energy Assessments
- Laboratory Assistance



- Attend Meetings with Council or Boards to Explain Problem Areas

Water & Wastewater Training Classes:

- Approved Water Operators Training Classes for Licensed Water Operator
- ABC (Multiple Choice) Training for Treatment Plant Operators (Intro, Intermediate, & Advanced)
- ABC (Multiple Choice) Training for Distribution Plant Operators (INTRO, Intermediate, & Advanced)
- Math Classes for Treatment & Distribution Water Operators (Basic & Advanced)
- Approved Wastewater Certification Training for (Class I, II, & III) Operators
- Math Classes for Wastewater Operator
- Other Specialized Training Classes for Water & Wastewater Operators e.g. Operation & Maintenance Schools)
- Plumbing Inspectors Training

All training classes approved for Water or Wastewater Operators License Requirements

Other Services Provided:

- Vactor Truck
- Sewer Camera
- GPS

Other Support Activities:

- State & Federal Legislative Support
- Insurance Program for Member Systems
- Water Utility Data Base Program (WUDB) For Members
- National Rural Water Association Affinity Programs for Members
- Endorsed by ARWA
- Free Subscription to ARWA's Magazine, ***WATER INSIGHT***
- Free Listing of Associate & Voting Members (Upon Request)
- Discount for Members Advertising in the ***WATER INSIGHT*** Magazine
- Mail-Outs on Upcoming Training Sessions, Conference, and Other Important Information, etc.
- Library of Reference Books for Water & Wastewater Operators for Sale
- Discount for Members Only on Arkansas Rural Water Association's Annual Technical Conference & Exhibition

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Chris Harris Accepts New Position at ARWA

I am honored and humbled to announce that I recently accepted the position of Deputy Director for Arkansas Rural Water Association. I started my career in water and wastewater in 2005 with the City of Marshall. I served as the operator of their surface water treatment plant and activated sludge wastewater plant for nine years. During this part of my career, I frequently called on ARWA for resources, advice, and assistance; now, I am privileged to be the one who can provide help and services to others.

I have been honored with many mentors and spent several years learning from all rural water staff and operators across the state as well. My mission since accepting a position at Arkansas Rural Water has been to serve water and wastewater utilities and operators across the state to the absolute best of my ability. As Deputy Director, my goal remains the same. I will continue to serve and advocate for the water and wastewater utilities and operators across the state. I believe in the purpose and mission of ARWA *to provide Arkansas' Rural*

Water utilities the highest level of Training and Technical Services in order to obtain Quality Water at the lowest possible cost, and I will work diligently to fulfill that vision across the state. I have come to know many of you personally and intend on building upon and maintaining these connections and creating many more new relations in the process.

Jeff Ford left some pretty large shoes to fill, and I don't presume to immediately put them on and run. George Bernard Shaw once wrote "Every person who has mastered a profession is a skeptic concerning it." I don't profess to know everything or contain half of the knowledge that my predecessor possessed. However, I will be careful to uphold the standard of the assistance ARWA gives and make every effort to go beyond what is expected of me. Exceeding our customers' expectations is a point of personal and professional pride for me, and this is a skill I am eager to continue developing in my new role as Deputy Director.



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• Dear Mr. Sternberg,

I work for a large water system in the north central part of the state where the other training group routinely conducts classes. After completing my required coursework, I was able to sit for the examination. I failed and failed badly. Fortunately, one of our other operators had attended classes with ARWA and Jim Philipp, the USEPA Training and Technical Assistance provider for the state. I asked my Superiors if I would be able to take the courses again, only this time with your group. They said, "Yes". After my first class with Jim, I realized all the specific information that had been left out of the other training. Jim Provided his personal number to all students and told us all to call him if needed. That is exactly what I did, numerous times. He is in my favorites now. Jim has the hands-on experience, knowledge, and speaking ability to make the difficult material easier to understand. He encourages all students to ask questions when there is an unclear concept. He takes the time to ensure the material is sensible. I recently attended the exam review class ahead of my treatment IV exam. After the class, I called Jim several times a week, and he answered his phone each time and helped with a math problem or concept I was struggling with. Mr. Philipp was the first person I called when I passed. I think he was as excited about my accomplishment as I was. I want to thank Mr. Philipp and ARWA for employing such awesome people to help the operators of Arkansas. Arkansas Treatment License Class IV proud.

Thank you,
Lisa Pipkin

• To Whom It May Concern:

June 11, 2018

On behalf of the Baxter Marion Rural Water Association #1, we would like to thank you and your representative, Tim Carey, for the prompt response in assisting us with our water problems. Your representative, Mr. Carey, was very helpful in hands-on training of our staff in detecting water leaks and better ways to operate our water system. In addition, he was very patient and thorough in explaining our water operation. He was very professional and forthright. He helped us immensely.

Thank you again
Mike Scrima, Board President
Baxter Marion Rural Water Association #1

• Dear Dennis Sternberg,

June 18, 2018

I hope this letter finds you well, I am writing to let you know of several notable items that deserve recognition. First, I really enjoyed the Wastewater Microbiology class held at your facility on May 16th thru the 17th. Toni Glymph is an amazing instructor and conducted one of the best classes I have ever attended on microbiology and laboratory process control. It is my hope that you continue to bring her back for more classes in the future. I have attended many classes, and I have found that ARWA has some of the best instructors and course material on Water and Wastewater industries. Second, I met Susan Poe while attending the microbiology and laboratory process control class. We spoke in depth on the Wastewater Grade IV exam, and she provided me with some references and study material as I prepare for this test. She also let me know she tutors students taking the exam as well. Susan showed genuine interest in my success and encouraged me to keep in touch. I will be looking into Susan tutoring me the closer I get to taking my Grade IV Wastewater License. Third, I wanted to express my gratitude to Jim Philipp. I attended all but one Water Distribution classes with Jim, and by far, he is one of the best instructors I have had the pleasure of meeting. He is straight forward and forthright in his approach to teaching and preparing his student for success in the exam preparation. To give you an idea, I have a Grade IV Water Treatment License and a Grade III Wastewater License. Water Distribution was completely a new industry for me and I listened to what Jim said and prepared accordingly. I took my exam June 1st in Lonoke and received an 85% passing score. It is my hope to have Jim teach a course in Siloam Springs sometime soon, so others can see why I am bragging and what he has to offer. My special thanks to your team and you for the wonderful job you are doing preparing and educating the future of our industry. The extra time and effort the instructors put into their students is recognized and appreciated. It has been a joy to attend the ARWA

classes, and I have highly recommended your courses to anyone that is preparing for a Water or Wastewater exam.

Sincerely,
Tony Brown, Apprentice Wastewater Superintendent
City of Siloam Springs

• To Whom It May Concern;

July 6, 2018

On July 3, 2018, Circuit Riders Jimmy Ogden and James Barkie came to our system to assist us in finding a leak. We located a 25-30 GPM leak on a 10" line. Being a holiday week, we were short staffed and only had one operator. They did not hesitate to jump in and help. Due to the hot weather we were experiencing, a quick repair was imperative. We repaired the leak and had the system back up quickly. Jimmy Ogden remained on site with us till 9 PM to make sure everything was ok. He then called the next few days to check on us. Arkansas Rural Water has always been ready to assist us when needed. Their training and technical assistance is one of the most important tools a rural water system has. Thank you to everyone at ARWA

Roy Hall
East Johnson County Water

• Dear Dennis Sternberg,

July 23, 2018

I am writing this letter to tell you what an asset Chris Harris has been to the City of Marvell. The City recently had to terminate our water manager and hired another gentleman who was in the process of getting his license. The former manager left the City water department in a huge mess. We received numerous violations resulting from the former water manager not performing his normal duties as a water manager. We were at our wits end and did not know where to turn. Chris Harris came and went through all violations and explained each issue and implemented a plan of action. He helped us get a corrosion control treatment plan and implemented this plan. He stepped us through each process and did not leave until all problems were worked out. His patience and expertise were just what we needed. We applaud you and your staff. Thank you for all the help, and thanks for the wonderful employees who have the knowledge and understanding to address the issues that arise.

Sincerely,
Clark Hall, Mayor
City of Marvell

• Dear Dennis,

July 24, 2018

Just wanted to take a minute to say thanks to ARWA and David Quattlebaum for the work he has done on our Source Water Protection Program. It was a long process, but we are pleased with the outcome. Thanks for all the help ARWA provides to Utilities across the state.

David Coston, General Manager
Malvern Water Works

• Dear Dennis,

July 26, 2018

The City of Rosston and the Rosston Water Department is indebted to Arkansas Rural Water Association for the many facets of assistance that you have provided to our community over the years. We would especially like to thank you for sending Mr. David Quattlebaum to assist us. We were expecting a visit from the Health Department for a Sanitary Survey. Mr. Quattlebaum stopped by and took at least 3 hours out of his day to help us with some of our issues. This type of dedication is difficult to find. With his assistance, we should get through this inspection with fewer problems.

Thank you for all your help,
Vince Biddle, Operator
Lewis Jackson, Mayor
City of Rosston

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Launch Your Safety Program

Any safety idea, no matter how insignificant it may seem to you, may prevent a serious accident.

Safety programs are not only the responsibility of your supervisor or safety manager – everyone must take part to keep the workplace free from hazards. Lots of work goes on behind the scenes to make your job as safe as possible, but there are also some things you can do to take accident prevention into your own hands.

Safety is important because nothing less than the future of your family is at stake. They are counting on you to provide food and shelter, and an on-the-job accident could very easily disable you and leave you without security. Whatever your job status is and whatever your duties include, use these tips to help make our safety program a success.

Work As A Team

Each person in the workplace, from employees to supervisors and management, must work together to achieve our safety goals. With everyone pitching in ideas and suggestions, we can solve problems and get through tough situations.

If you see a co-worker being careless or unsafe, it is your job to speak up. Remember that you have the right to work in a place free from hazards.

Make Safety Suggestions

If you are a seasoned employee, you can use your years of valuable experience to spot potential safety hazards. Or if you are a new employee, you may be able to spot something right away that a long-time pro may have overlooked.

You and your co-workers can get your own safety program off the ground by giving your supervisors or safety leaders ideas on how things can be made safer. Any idea, no matter how small it may seem to you, could prevent a serious accident.

Ask Questions

If you are unsure about any aspect of a safety program, ask. It is better to ask a question if you are hesitant than wait until after a serious accident occurs.

It's easy to make a safety program successful if everyone does their part. Follow these simple guidelines, and you will be one of the keys to keeping our safety program on solid ground.

For more information contact:

David Feild
1501 Mart Drive
Little Rock, AR, 72202
P 501.666.6653
E David.Feild@INSURICA.com

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Arkansas Rural Water Association "From the Ditch to the Desk"

By Roy Richards, Circuit Rider

Arkansas Rural Water Association (ARWA) provides on-site and technical assistance throughout the state with Circuit Riders, Wastewater Technician/Trainers, Source Water Technician, Training Specialists, and other programs. The Circuit Rider program provides water utilities with services such as leak detection, where we go out into the field and assist operators to find and pinpoint leaks by valving and/or using leak detection equipment. This program also provides valve locating, master and residential meter testing, flow testing, water plant troubleshooting, assistance on troubleshooting pumps, altitude valves, pressure regulators, fire hydrants, backflow prevention devices and much more.

The Wastewater Technician/Trainer program provides the wastewater operators technical assistance and training in the field, as well, as in the classroom. Wastewater Technician/Trainers also provide services out in the field such as troubleshooting wastewater plants, lift stations and smoke testing collection systems to help keep down on infiltration to help reduce utility and treatment costs. The Wastewater Technician/Trainers give classes throughout the state for operators



to obtain their renewal hours and give the required training to become licensed wastewater operators through the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ).

The Source Water Technician program is designed to help identify areas that are critical with watershed management and also to educate the public in watershed management issues.

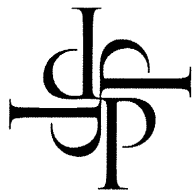
The Training Specialists give training throughout the state each year to water treatment and distribution operators to obtain their renewal hours and give the required training to become licensed water operators through Arkansas Department of Health (ADH). ARWA also has instructors for individuals who wish to become certified in backflow testing and repair.

The ARWA staff does several things that deal with the management and finance side of the business. We provide rate studies to help utilities keep up cost of everyday expenses and to charge a fair rate of service for customers. We help assist managers with Long Range Planning, Emergency Response Planning, and Vulnerability Assessments. In regards to emergency response planning, ARWA has the resources available when a natural disaster strikes, such as generators, a by-pass pump, and an emergency response trailer full of tools that are in need during a disaster.

ARWA also provides fee-based services such as GIS mapping where we will come in and GPS valves, hydrants, meters, manholes or any other infrastructure of interest and then put it on a printed and digital map. We also have a sewer camera and recently purchased a Vactor truck. These are part of our new fee-based services and you need to contact our office for current pricing for the services.

Thanks to funding agencies like USDA Rural Development and Arkansas Natural Resource Commission we are able to provide water/wastewater utilities with a high level of training and assistance at the lowest possible cost.

I wrote this article to ensure that everyone is aware that ARWA is a full-service operation to cover you from the Ditch to the Desk by helping train and give technical assistance to operators, managers, office personnel, mayors, and boards/councils around the state. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at Arkansas Rural Water Association 501-676-2255.



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Slow Cooker Beef Enchilada Dip

Definitely for a crowd!!!

2 pounds ground beef
1 medium onion, halved and thinly sliced
Two 14 oz red enchilada sauce
One 28 oz can pinto beans, drained and rinsed
Two 4 oz cans diced green chilies, undrained
One 8 oz package cream cheese, at room temperature
2 cups grated cheddar cheese
1 cup cilantro leaves (fresh)
Tortilla chips, for serving

In a large skillet over medium high heat, brown the beef until fully cooked. Drain off the excess grease. Place the beef in the slow cooker. Add the onion, then pour over the enchilada sauce. Add the beans next then the green chilies. Stir to combine and cook on low for 4 hours covered. Use a large spoon to skim off and grease that has collected at the top. Add the cream cheese and stir slowly until melted.

Sprinkle the cheddar evenly over all then cover the slow cooker and let the cheese melt about 15 minutes. Sprinkle the cilantro leaves all over the top and serve with chips. Amazing!

Mexican Cornbread

1 cup cornmeal
1 cup milk with ½ tsp baking soda added
½ teaspoon salt
1 cup yellow cream style canned corn
2 eggs
½ cup oil
3 jalapeno peppers, chopped
1 cup grated cheese

Mix all together and bake at 450 degrees in an iron skillet.



Cocoa-Cola Cake

1 cup butter
2 cups flour AP
1 ¾ cup sugar
3 Tablespoons Cocoa
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 eggs
½ cup buttermilk
1 cup Coke
1 ½ cup mini marshmallows
½ cup chopped pecans

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine all ingredients except cola, marshmallows and nuts in a large mixing bowl. Blend at low speed: beat one minute at medium speed. Add cola; blend well by hand. Stir in marshmallows and nuts. Pour batter into a 13 x 9 greased pan. Bake at 350 for 40 to 45 minutes. Cool about 30 minutes and ice with cola icing.

Cola icing

½ cup butter
2 Tablespoon cocoa
1/3 cup cola
4 cups powdered sugar
1 cup chopped pecans
½ teaspoon salt

Combine all ingredients except pecans in small mixer bowl. Beat until smooth. Stir in pecans and ice cake.



Cheeseburger Meat Loaf

2 lb ground meat
1 Tablespoon mustard
1 Tablespoon ketchup
1 egg
1 8oz pkg shredded cheddar cheese
1 can evaporated milk
Cracker crumbs
Onion, salt and pepper to taste
Velveeta cheese (for topping)

Mix all ingredients together and form a loaf. Place in loaf pan and cover with Velveeta chunks and bake at 350 degrees until done. 45 minutes to one hour.



Farmer's Breakfast

6 bacon strips, diced
2 tablespoon diced onion
3 medium potatoes, cooked and cubed
6 eggs, beaten
Salt and pepper to taste
½ cup shredded cheddar cheese

In a skillet, cook bacon until crisp. Remove to paper towel to drain. In pan drippings, sauté onions and potatoes until potatoes are browned, about 5 minutes. Pour eggs in skillet; cook and stir gently until eggs are set and cooked. Season with salt and pepper. Sprinkle with cheese and bacon; let stand for 2 or 3 minutes until cheese melts. Enjoy!

Broccoli Grape Salad

1 bunch broccoli
½ cup red onion, chopped
1 pound bacon
½ cup sunflower seeds
1 cup red grapes, halved

Dressing

1 cup mayo
½ cup sugar or honey
2 Tablespoons red wine vinegar

Mix dressing in blender so all will mix and dissolve. Pour over salad just before serving.

ARWA TRAINING AND EVENTS 2018

ARWA WATER TRAINING SCHEDULE 2018

11/27-29/2018	8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Advanced Treatment	Jim Philipp
12/5/2018	8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Distribution Exam Review	Jim Philipp
12/6/2018	8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Treatment Exam Review	Jim Philipp
12/18/2018	8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Basic Water Math	Jim Philipp
12/20/2018	8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Applied Water Math	Jim Philipp

ARWA WASTEWATER TRAINING SCHEDULE 2018

12/10-14/2018	8:00 am – 5:00 pm	ARWA Training Center	240 Dee Dee Lane-Lonoke	Class III WW	Susan Poe
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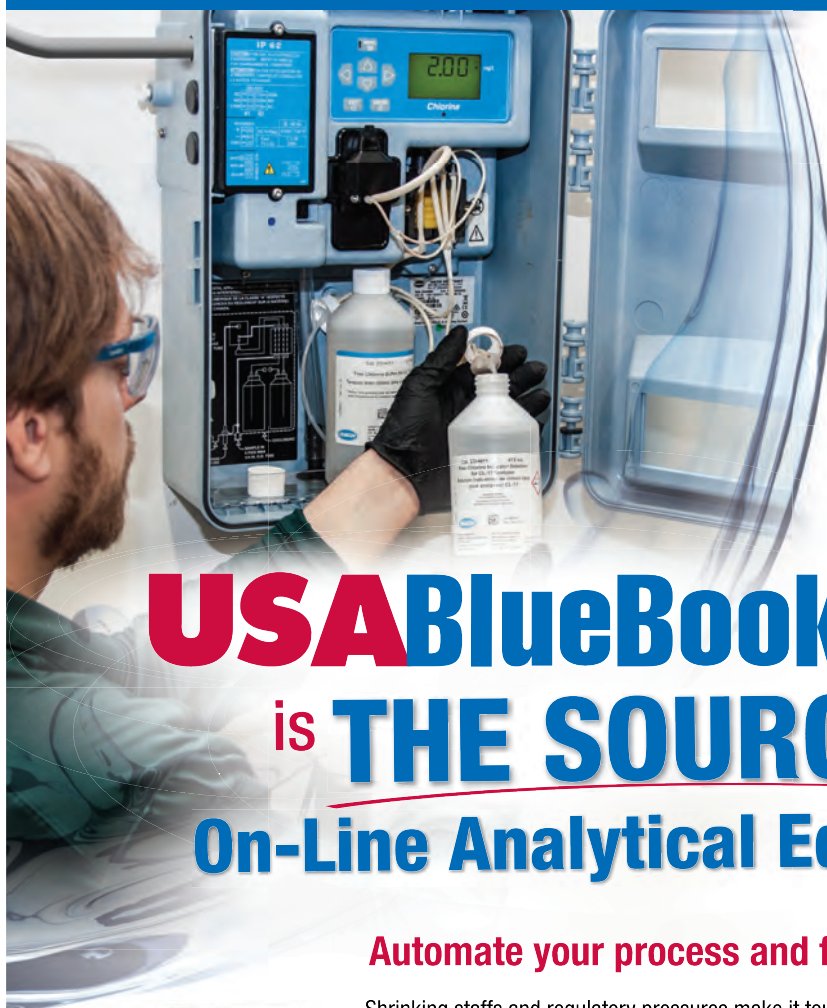
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