Pete Albers, Honorary WWOA Member

40th Annual W.W.O.A. Conference
October 3 - 6, 2006
Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells

HOST:
Baraboo Wastewater Treatment Facility
President’s Message

Greetings WWOA Members:

Here it is, nearly half way through 2006. Later this summer, the WWOA Annual Conference packages will be mailed out.

This year’s event will take place at the Kalahari Conference Center in Lake Delton. We’re all aware of the great facilities the Kalahari has to provide exhibit and meeting space. WWOA Vice President Jim Thalke is the conference chairman this year. Jim and his Technical Committee met at the Kalahari in February to decide on the technical program. This group of talented and professional people gathered together to review with great care the papers submitted for selection and presentation at the conference. Take note of the member names of this year’s committee and you’ll see that they represent all facets of the WWOA. These members have but a short time to review, select, and then arrange the schedule of these informative and important presentations. The result is a complete educational package that makes the conference an event that you don’t want to miss.

There are many tools to aid the committee. Among the most important, are the Annual Conference Evaluations that were provided at last year’s conference. And I bet you thought that Mr. Thalke only utilized the evaluations for walleye entrails and fish wrap. Not so! One of the most startling outcomes of this year’s program is that the Committee received submitted papers that matched well with what our membership is asking for. For example, this year’s program will have technical sessions titled: “Staff Training”, “Industrial Issues”, and “Safety”. Staying cognizant of what types of information and training the association desires is the exact purpose of the evaluations. Incidentally, at the request of the membership we have changed the conference evaluation form to simplify your filling them out. This is another example of the “squeaky wheel gets the grease”. Please make a conscious effort to complete and return the 2006 Conference Evaluation form. Let us know what is working, and what’s not. The WWOA Board of Directors and its many committees that support this conference are always open for suggestions and change. Help make this and future conferences better for all of us. I look forward to seeing you all in October at the Kalahari. Have a safe and productive summer.

Tom Kruzick
PETE ALBERS, WWOA HONORARY MEMBER TRIBUTE

There is no question that Pete Albers has certainly left his mark on the WWOA through a legacy of dedicated service and support.

One of the things that has always impressed me the most about Pete is his long line of former summer interns who have gone on to proudly serve the organization and their respective communities in positions of leadership.

I have known Pete since my very first day working in a WWTP; it was the summer of 1981 at the Village of Kewaskum. I can proudly proclaim that I learned many new, interesting and amazing things over those three summer months working for Pete at the WWTP. Strangely though, I am still trying to find an operator’s manual that explains some of those things I witnessed! Haven’t come across it yet in over 25 years!

One of the true highlights of my 25 year wastewater career to date has been the opportunity to formally present the WWOA Honorary Member Award to Pete at the 2005 Annual Conference in Green Bay. That was indeed a memorable moment.

Timothy A. Nennig

The first WWOA event I attended was a Southeast region meeting at a rural supper club hosted by (as I remember) Saukville. I didn’t really know any of the people there that weren’t from my plant. The meeting was run by a rather bulky, pony-tailed person that looked like the stereotypical biker-type. Throughout the meeting he was kept to tow the mark (or was it just plain being hassled) by a rather follicly-challenged older gentleman in the back of the room. Only later did I get the scoop on Pete and Lamont.

Pete’s legacy to the WWOA is legendary, both for his contributions and for his “institutional memory”. Congratulations on his selection to honorary membership.

Randy Thater

Peter Albers has always epitomized the spirit of the WWOA to me.

Peter, Leo Templeton and I worked on the Golf Committee for quite a few years. In fact, I met Peter along with Leo Templeton and Al Winter at my first WWOA golf outing in Port Washington. Talk about being led astray by a group like this during your first meeting when you are young and impressionable!
In my mind, these gentlemen were the backbone of the WWOA along with several other individuals who have passed from the scene.

Peter has always helped kids starting out in the industry by teaching interns who worked at his plant during the summer. He is always ready to help whenever you need a hand.

We need more people with the dedication and spirit that Peter has brought to our industry.

Thank you, Peter, for being my friend.
Carol Strackbein

I first met Pete on the Annual Operators’ Motorcycle ride along with John Leonhard and LaMont Albers. What a trio! My favorite memory of those first few years of attending that ride was the time our group (probably about 20 bikes) pulled into a little wayside. Some picnickers with small children saw the bikes pull in, panicked, grabbed food, blankets and kids and high-tailed it out of there in about three seconds flat. You know us big bad biker dudes….a threat to society!

Anyways, Pete has been a good friend and mentor with his easy going attitude and willingness to help out. Thank you Pete for being the great guy that you are and for all that you have done for our organization!
Judy Tholen

I wish I could send you some pictures of Pete or some funny story that Pete was involved in. Believe me when I see Pete at a WWOA function there is always a good story to be shared. We all know that Pete has always been a positive force in the Organization. One last thing that Pete has taught me is that there is room for guys like us on the golf course. Congratulations Pete.
Jim Thalke

Pete is definitely worthy of “Honorary Membership”. It is long overdue! Pete has always had the interests of the WWOA in his heart. He is someone I like to call my friend who I always like to talk to when I see him at different WWOA functions. The many things he has done for our organization over the years is immeasurable. And he still is doing things for us.

We just need to keep his feet on the ground while hunting!
Dale Neis

It is truly an honor to see Pete Albers being honored in this manner. I may be an old guy, but Pete and others (such as Leo) led the organization and folks like me. They instilled some basic values that I still find to be great guidelines for all of us following them. They did a good job for their communities. They were also willing to share what they learned with others through WWOA to insure we all do a better job. Perhaps the unique thing about them was their insight that you have to have fun while you share ideas and serve others.

Many may have forgotten that Pete was the leader for the “WWOA Golf Outing”, held every year in Kewaskum. I doubt that many realized that he did this event with the help of a few other friends to insure all of us had a great time. Eventually, the golf outing passed on to Sheboygan. I was happy to serve others like Pete had done, but he and others (Leo Templeton and Carol Strackbein) continued in the
PETE ALBERS, WWOA HONORARY MEMBER TRIBUTE

tradition of service to others in maintaining the event even after I left Sheboygan.

Pete’s impact on me and WWOA also helped build a kind of family. First there’s Dad. Then there was the opportunity to get to know and appreciate LaMont. You know, the “guy with an attitude, a ponytail, and a Harley”. Then there’s the other brother John Leonhard, another guy with a Harley, another great wife, and a love to help others. Finally, I can’t forget the “sister of the group”, Carol Strackbein.

I hope everyone has a chance to understand the insights that guys like Pete had to build our industry. Enjoying what we do, helping others, and equally important is having a good time in the process.

Sue and I wish Pete “nothing but the BEST”.

Dean & Sue Falkner

It’s hard for me to put into words what this man has done for me, a mentor, teacher, a father and a friend. As a family we had to share his time between Lions Club, WWOC, and the Jobs. As we all know, the job takes precedent over all, only professionals in our industry can understand the demands of the job. I was lucky enough that Pete allowed me to participate, which predicated my future at a young age.

This guidance has shaped the organization that it is today. Not to take anything away from other involved members but, there are reasons why the association is so strong, because of the leadership of the past.

I’m proud to be associated with this guy; just being near him makes me look good. I don’t know a more humble, honest or dedicated person. I know the time spent at conference and regional meetings are still important to him. Congratulations on this recognition of life long service, you deserve it.

LaMont Albers

Many of us have known and worked with Pete Albers for over 20 years. He has been an integral part of Applied Technologies for the past six years, during which time his unique combination of technical expertise, warmth, and experience has proven invaluable. Whether inspecting construction sites or visiting clients, he consistently demonstrates professionalism and a commitment to the field of water and wastewater treatment in all that he does. Pete’s optimistic and kind nature always makes him a pleasure to work with, and a real asset to our company!

We should also mention the tremendous support Pete has received over the years from his wife, Joan. She has put up with many “sludge” stories and late night council meetings, at which Pete has “educated” the local elected officials.

Pete is one of the most genuine people you will ever meet. He is extremely deserving of this high recognition from a prestigious organization such as the WWOA.

Jim Smith, Dennis Totzke, Frank Tiefert, Bill Ericson, Kim D’Amato, Applied Technologies, Inc.
AMHERST WASTEWATER LAB GETS TOP HONORS FROM DNR

Amherst Wastewater Treatment Plant Lab Director Lyle Lutz received praise from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources as the plant lab received the title of Registered Laboratory of the Year for its size during a meeting of the Natural Resources Board April 26 in Stevens Point.

The award program, now in its 11th year, honors communities, wastewater laboratories, and the skilled lab workers who have the top facilities in the state. The Amherst lab was honored in the Small Facility category while the Janesville plant was honored in the Large Facility category.

The Amherst lab provides analytical support for the facility’s wastewater treatment plant and analyzes wastewater samples for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and total suspended solids (TSS). The plant was nominated by DNR Regional Certification Officer Camille Johnson and DNR Area Engineer Joe Behlen.

The nomination for Amherst said, in part, “the quality of workmanship stems from the knowledge of its trained staff and the ability to commit the necessary time to ensure testing and reporting accuracy.”

The work at the lab has allowed the facility to produce effluent discharge that is consistent.

“They have been able to make the necessary updates to their lab program when audits had pointed out minor problems…Cleanliness and efficient procedures have added to their ability to excel…any issues that may arise…are resolved in a timely fashion to allow for consistency with regulations and to provide them the background to address similar issues in the future,” Behlen said.

Behlen called Lutz “very thorough and very conscientious.” Johnson also praised the lab. “All quality control parameters were in top shape, with tight control limits, excellent records and a sparkling lab.”

Notice to Advertisers – Clarifier Advertising Increase.

The WWOA Board of Directors approved a Clarifier advertising rate increase effective September 1, 2006. Any advertising contracts that are due for renewal and renewed prior to September 1 will be at the present rate structure. All renewals and invoices sent out after September 1, 2006 will be at the new rate structure.
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY’S MESSAGE...THANK YOU!

Dear Members, Board of Directors Both Present and Past, Friends and Relatives:

As many of you know on March 23, 2006, my beloved wife of 29 years and the mother of my two sons, Carol, passed away unexpectedly at home at the age of 53. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the outpouring of caring, sympathy and understanding. Though it will not take away the deep hurt, pain and loneliness that we are feeling, it is comforting to know that she touched the lives of so many people.

Again our deepest thanks,

Richard, Chad and Christopher McKee

WWOA SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

WWOA normally awards two annual $1000 Scholarships to children or grandchildren of WWOA members who are college students. The students must be enrolled in water or wastewater related degree programs.

This year we are offering a third scholarship: The Stephen Miller memorial scholarship. This $500 scholarship was donated by the Walworth County Metropolitan Sewerage District.

In addition, WWOA offers Tuition Aid to members to encourage continued education. Members can receive up to $150 to pay for a class related to water or wastewater.

To find out more about the scholarships or tuition aid, go to our website at: www.wwoa.org and click on Member Benefits. To apply for a scholarship or tuition aid, download the form from the website, or contact Dan Tomaro at: (608) 770-5144.

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IN MEMORY OF CAROL MCKEE

Carol was one of the most wonderful people I have ever known. I had the pleasure of working with both Carol and Richard for many years. Her smile and greeting welcomed me and all the other Board members to each meeting. I looked forward to seeing and visiting with Carol every time. She was a great friend to me and all the other Board members. Her dedication to our organization and partnership with Richard was evident to everyone that saw them together. I believe she truly enjoyed her role in the WWOA not only as a partner with Richard, but as the person that took care of all the minute details that comes with running a successful organization. One of Carol’s traits that I really admired was her enthusiasm for everything. Whether she was telling you something WWOA related or family related, she always had that sparkle in her eye and laughter in her voice. Truly she was an inspiration for the rest of us to enjoy whatever task is at hand.

Judy Tholen

I believe Carol’s dedicated, hands-on involvement with organizational activities was best reflected by the smooth running, day-to-day operation of the WWOA and particularly the well-orchestrated Annual Conference. Together with Richard they formed an incredible duo working on the membership’s behalf.

Carol was a very caring and compassionate individual. I still remember the warm welcome and attention she gave to my wife Holly and our three children during the 2004 Annual Conference in the Dells. That was the conference where I assumed the President’s position within the organization. Carol went out of her way to make sure my family not only enjoyed their stay at the event but also felt like a part of the group.

Timothy A. Nennig

I’m sure that few of the WWOA members realize how much work and passion that Carol put into the organization. She always wished to remain out of the spotlight; so many people didn’t know her. That makes me very sad, as they missed the opportunity to know a wonderful person; one of the kindest I’ve ever known. If there is one word to describe Carol, it was Giving. She always gave; always helped out, always made a person feel welcome. She did this without ever expecting anything in return. I miss her greatly.

Kay Marshall

I have often wondered just how many members fully understood and appreciated the amount of effort that Carol contributed to this organization of ours over the past number of years. Most of our members’ exposure to Carol was likely limited to the handful of days she spent helping Richard at the Annual Conference each year. However, there was so much more effort beyond what members observed at the annual event.

Randy Thater
When I first came to Wisconsin nearly eight years ago and became a member of WWOA, I remember Carol as a very welcoming and friendly individual; it was at the Abby in Lake Geneva and it was just what a new member from Michigan needed. As I got to know Rich and Carol over the years, I came to admire them greatly for the team work that they demonstrated with commitment towards each other, the organization, and how they seemed to desire to stay out of the spot light yet being a very important and critical part of the operation of WWOA.

Our WWOA Historical meetings will not be the same without Carol. Her enthusiasm towards the WWOA and remembrances of past members played a fitting role. Since there are no words to express our sympathy for Rich and his family, we ought to continue the traditions at historical and continue the enthusiasm and energy that Carol brought to us.

**Tom Asmus**

I’ve been fortunate to enjoy many years of service to WWOA and hopefully helped support the staff that insured the success of the organization. I was fortunate to work on the Board with Ward Holtz as Executive Secretary. Ward and his wife were always supportive of the group.

Rich and Carol added a whole new perspective in supporting WWOA and helped to insure that the organization moved forward. I hope I don’t offend anyone, but there’s nothing like a wife’s support of a husband to insure that things are done in an orderly and proper fashion. Rich had always focused on trying to make sure that everything worked well. A point often overlooked by the membership was that Carol was always there to help insure that none of our expectations were ever overlooked.

I was fortunate to know and work with Rich and Carol. I saw the devotion Carol had to their family as well as here unrelenting desire to help Rich keep WWOA moving forward. No one ever demanded that Carol do any follow-up on any given issue, but she did anyway. Likewise, some people may have failed to appreciate the benefit of having Rich and Carol around to record issues. The bottom line is, there’s nothing as strong as a couple working together to serve others.

Carol will be missed by many, including my family. I can only extend my sympathy to Rich and his family for the loss of a wonderful lady…..Carol.

Sue and I will miss her smile and the excitement she created in helping to make any challenge FUN!

Best wishes to Rich and his sons.

**Dean & Sue Falkner**

What can I say about Carol McKee other than she was a ray of sunshine to everyone who was involved with the WWOA.

Carol was always there with a ready smile if you wanted information or needed assistance to complete a task.

She always put everyone’s wants and needs before her own.

She was a dear friend and someone I will always miss.
The only consolation I have is the knowledge that she is still watching over us and telling us to “be happy”.

Carol, God Bless and keep you until we meet again.

Carol Strackbein

I was amazed at what Carol McKee actually did for the WWOA. She was the person behind the scenes that did much for the organization and prep for the annual conference. Not only that, but was a major player in doing the daily tasks to keep WWOA running efficiently and effectively. She will be missed beyond comprehension. But most of all, she will be missed as the loving, caring person she was.

Dale Neis
Past President WWOA

Carol McKee – Where does one start? My first thoughts are around the old and familiar saying, “Behind every good man, stands a woman who is better”. This describes Carol’s role with WWOA to the letter.

I knew Richard & Carol from the day Rich became the new Executive Secretary for WWOA. In the beginning she was quiet and behind the scenes, but we all quickly realized that she supported Rich and his work with WWOA with a quiet and determined dedication. Her sensitivity to the needs of the organization and membership was keenly acute and intuitive.

Over time, Carol became my primary contact when it came to Clarifier advertising. She was a quick learner and soon had advertisers supplying contracts and ad revisions the way she wanted them! She handled questions and complaints with charm and poise and was instrumental in promoting and growing the advertising base for the Clarifier.

Lastly was Carol’s unending ability to be an optimist. She always found the good and positive in every challenge and problem. The smile and cheerful attitude never waned, even when the registration line was around the corner.

Dan Busch
ENERGENECS RECEIVES ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Wisconsin Rural Water Association (WRWA) recently held its Annual Technical Conference in eastern Wisconsin. Nearly 1,100 water systems and industry personnel met for four days exchanging ideas and technology through technical sessions and exhibits.

Energenecs, Inc. received the Association’s prestigious 2006 Associate Member of the Year award. Energenecs – with headquarters in Cedarburg, WI. - is a leading professional water/wastewater systems engineering firm and systems integrator serving Illinois, Wisconsin, and UP Michigan. Its founders include Maryann and Don Voigt of Port Washington, Wisconsin.

This award is presented to the Associate or Corporate member that has shown the highest level of support to the mission of WRWA - by participating and assisting in Rural Water programs and activities. WRWA has over 170 Associate members.

Wisconsin Rural Water Association (WRWA) is a non-profit organization of rural and small water and wastewater systems. Its mission: To assist water/wastewater systems improve and preserve the quality and quantity of water resources in the State of Wisconsin”. WRWA is the largest utility association in Wisconsin.

2006 Management Seminar
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Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, March 20, 2006
Country Springs Hotel, Stevens Point, WI

Vice President Thalke called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM on Monday, March 20, 2006, due to the absence of President Kruzick. President Kruzick arrived at 11:30 AM. All Board members were present.

Also present were Chris Helgestad - North Central Region, Kevin Freber - Southern District, Ron Austreng and Jeff Mayou - Lake Michigan Region.

The minutes from the December 1 & 2, 2005 Board meeting were reviewed. Marshall made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Bartel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

McKee presented the Financial Statement for Board review and approval. McKee stated that as of March 10, 2006 the WWOA had $114,392.09 in revenue and $96,719.04 in expenditures with excess revenue over expenditures totaling $17,673.05. Carlson made a motion to approve the Financial Statement as presented. Bond seconded the motion. Motion carried.

McKee presented vouchers 56-115 for Board approval. Thater made a motion to approve vouchers as presented. Tomaro seconded the motion. Motion carried.

McKee explained the addition of the 2005 Annual Conference income and expense summary. Total revenue over expenditures from the 2005 Annual Conference was $17,277.01. McKee also highlighted the Spouses Program and reminded the Board that the Spouses Program should stand alone and pay for itself due to the WWOA tax exempt status. The Spouses Program can not be considered part of the Technical Sessions because it holds no educational value for operators.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PERMANENT ARRANGEMENTS – McKee reporting for Committee Chair Leonhard. McKee informed the Board that the Committee will be meeting with the Kalahari in April of 2006 to negotiate food and drink prices. McKee also informed the Board the Committee may want to consider moving the 2008 Conference from the Kalahari due to the frequency of conferences there in the past. McKee has a proposal from Green Bay for the 2008 Annual Conference. The Kalahari has allowed 18 months to break the contract for the 2008 Annual Conference.

McKee also explained that the staff at the Kalahari continues to be hard to deal with. They are not willing to negotiate food and drink prices, and the communication has continued to be poor.
opinion of the Board was to evaluate returning to a four (4) year rotation for annual conference locations. The Board suggested the possibility of moving the 2008 Annual Conference to Green Bay to realign the four (4) year rotation.

**TECHNICAL PROGRAM – Committee Chair**

Thalke informed the Board that the Technical Committee met on February 9, 2006 to discuss the technical agenda for the Annual Conference. Thirty-eight (38) presentations were chosen from a total of seventy-five (75) submittals. Presenters of submittals selected should get their bio and abstract information back to Thalke by April 15, 2006. New this year, the presenters will be submitting a CD of their presentation by September 21, 2006 to McKee so they can be preloaded on WWOA laptop computers.

The Board reviewed potential Keynote Speakers under consideration. David Seebach’s “Wonders of Magic” has been contracted for the banquet entertainment. Dan Thompson, Executive Director of the League of Municipalities, has been asked to speak at the Farewell Breakfast. Thalke presented the Board with a flyer from Tom Steinbach to be included with mailing that would advertise the Walk-and-Stretch event. The Walk-and-Stretch will be held early on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday during the annual conference.

Thalke passed around a sign-up sheet for moderators at the Annual Conference.

McKee reminded the Board that all printing needs should be print ready and submitted to him by May 1, 2006.

McKee commented there needs to be a decision made on the lapel pins. Decision needs to be made by September 1, 2006.

**LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS – Committee Chair**

Hantzsch reported the treatment plant tours will be held on Thursday at 1:30 pm and will take approximately two and half hours. Tours will begin at the Baraboo WWTP and will conclude at the Ho-Chunk WWTP. The Board then discussed busing options. The Board agreed that the best option would be to have one bus stop at the Ho-Chunk WWTP first, and the second bus stopping at the Baraboo WWTP.
first. This will decrease the volume of people at both sites at any one time.

**SPOUSE PROGRAM** – Hantzsch reported for Committee Chair Zimmer. The Board was presented with Zimmer’s report. She is proposing a two-day program. A continental breakfast will be provided both days at the hotel. Gift bags will be offered on the first day (bag, wine and cheese curds). The cost is approximately $13.50 per gift bag. At the Kalahari there will be a scrap booking activity for those that choose to attend. After this activity, there will be a walk around lunch available in the exhibit area. Following lunch, spouse’s program participants will take a bus to Circus World Museum in Baraboo. Total cost will be approximately $37 per person for the first day of activities. The second day they will be taking a bus to the HH Bennett Studio in Wisconsin Dells. Lunch will be held at the River Walk Pub. From there the Upper Dells Boat Tour will be picking them up and taking them on a boat ride. Total cost for the two days including the hospitality room will be $75.

After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to cut back on the hospitality room to reduce cost.

**GOLF OUTING** – Hantzch reported for Committee Chair Zimmer. Trappers Turn and Cold Water Canyon golf courses in Wisconsin Dells were contacted. Trappers Turn was priced at about $75 per person. Cold Water Canyon will be about $50 per person. Cold Water Canyon was chosen to host the Annual Conference golf outing. This price will include eighteen holes, one-half golf cart, boxed lunch, two drink tickets, and appetizers.

**EXHIBIT COMMITTEE** – McKee reported for Committee Chair Strackbein. Strackbein stated in her report there will be room for 120-130 8’x10’ booths. Also stated in the report, the Committee planned on giving $500 to the scholarship fund; however, McKee noted that they may not have the $500 to give.

**MANUFACTURES AND CONSULTANTS** - McKee reported for Committee Chair Strackbein. Strackbein stated in her report that the manufacturers and consultants are having difficulty keeping their Committee escrow up. McKee suggested discussing with Strackbein and the Committee the option of increasing the sponsorship fee or eliminating a drink ticket for the social hour. Consensus of the Board was to suggest asking the Committee to adjust the Booth registration fees.

**OPERATORS COMPETITION** – Committee Chair Bartel asked the Board and Regional Officers for input regarding reducing competitors from four (4) to three (3) per team. Bartel reminded the Board and Regional Officers that the Committee was close to not having the Operators Competition last year (2005). The Board discussed the matter and agreed that if there were less than three teams competing, the WWOA would not sponsor the competition.

Bartel suggested to the Board offering three (3) fifty dollar gift certificates to be given away in a drawing to generate more interest in the Operators Competition. Bond made a motion to approve gift certificates of $50.00 each for drawing among the competitors as presented. Thater seconded the motion. Motion carried.
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<td>BEARINGS</td>
<td>FLOW METERS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MISC PARTS</td>
<td>CHEM FEED SYSTEMS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MECHANICAL FINE SCREENS

| WASTE TECH INC | HUBER | HYCOR |

CORROSION RESTORATION LIFT STATIONS & CLARIFIERS

| SANDBLAST     | PRIME/PAINT & REBUILD CLARIFIER SLUDGE COLLECTOR DRIVE UNITS |

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE PROGRAMS WWTP EQUIPMENT & LIFT STATIONS

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS ARE DESIGNED TO MEET YOUR SPECIFIC NEEDS.
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OTHERS – McKee reminded the Committee Chairs that they need to get their 2006/07 budget numbers to him by the first week in April 2006. Carlson presented a report to the Board outlining BOD201 operator training. There are six different sites throughout the state where seminars will be held. There was a grant from the DNR obtained for these seminars in the amount of $3,500. This makes the fee for members $20 and $30 for non-members.

Bartel made a motion to accept the Committee Reports as presented. Bond seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

MAIL LIST POLICY – Kruzick presented the Board with the new mail list policy. A discussion ensued. McKee reported that the WI DNR would like access to the WWOA mailing list. The new mail list policy will be sub chapter 32A of the WWOA policy manual. Kruzick noted an error in mail list policy that was subsequently corrected. Thalke made a motion to accept the Mail List Policy as presented. Nennig seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD CRITERIA – Kruzick presented the Board with a report that reflected changes discussed at the December 2005 Board Meeting. Kruzick instructed the Board to review the report for further discussion and possible action at the April Board Meeting. Two $1,000 scholarships will be awarded for those pursuing a Bachelors or Associates degree in a wastewater related field.

McKee reported that he had received a check from the Walworth County Metropolitan Sewage District. They have given $500 to the WWOA in a memorial scholarship for Stephen Miller. News of the available scholarship will be reported in the Clarifier and on the WWOA website. If it is not given away this year, it is earmarked as a scholarship to be given away in the future.

NEW BUSINESS – Nennig requested that the Board approve dedicating part of the June 2006 Clarifier issue to the WWOA’s most recent Honorary Member recipient, Pete Albers. Pete Alber’s picture will be placed on the front cover of the June issue. Nennig motioned to accept the dedication as presented. Marshall seconded the motion. Motion carried.
Discussion ensued on ideas to encourage Annual Conference attendees to return Conference evaluation survey sheets. Kruzick proposed evaluating the survey sheet for possible modifications that would make the form easier to complete yet still provide useful information. Nennig stated that efforts should also be made to streamline the form to reduce or eliminate much of the “personal” comments aimed specifically at individuals. Nennig claimed that those types of comments serve little if any productive use for conference evaluation or planning. The Board agreed with these proposals. Necessary revisions will be made on the survey sheet. The Board will revisit this issue in April.

Board discussed placing a link to NR149 on WWOA website.

Marshall suggested to the Board that they should consider establishing a rookie of the year award. This award would be presented to new operators. Kruzick directed Marshall to put ideas together and the Board will review these ideas at the next Board meeting in April.

President Kruzick thanked the Regional Officers for attending the meeting.

There being no further business, Carlson made a motion to adjourn. Bond seconded the motion. Motion carried.

President Kruzick adjourned the meeting at 2:45 PM on March 20, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard D. McKee
Executive Secretary
Aaaaaah, hot summer temperatures! What we all have been waiting for after a long Wisconsin winter. Even the bacteria in your plant are happy….or are they? It feels really good to be warm again but at some plants, the bacteria aren’t enjoying themselves…..they can’t breathe well enough to enjoy it. It’s pretty simple, really. The warmer the water, the less oxygen it holds and at some plants, as wastewater warms throughout the spring and summer, reduced oxygen in the aeration basin can cause stress (and impaired treatment) at a time of year when we should all be happily enjoying warmer temperatures, including your plant’s bacteria.

Here’s how wastewater temperatures and the amount of oxygen it can hold are related:

O2 Solubility Table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Temperature (°C)</th>
<th>Dissolved Oxygen mg/L</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>14.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>12.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>11.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>10.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Keeping Challenges at Bay

High bedrock. High groundwater. High-density, small residential lots. The challenges posed by installing sanitary sewers in Dyckesville were great. But local residents’ commitment to protecting the waters of Green Bay from failing septic systems was greater. Foth & Van Dyke worked closely with the Dyckesville Sanitary District to overcome difficult site conditions during sewer construction, and continues to be a valuable partner in protecting water quality in the bay region. If you need a partner who can find a way to keep challenges at bay, contact Foth & Van Dyke.

Dyckesville Sanitary District President Dick Charles (left) with Foth & Van Dyke’s Dennis Steigenberger
So what does this practically mean for your plant? It means that as temperatures climb and the heat of the summer sets in, you need to be attentive to the oxygen needs of your plant. Your bugs are very actively consuming oxygen at the same time oxygen solubility in water is decreasing. This may mean changing sheaves or turning on another blower to meet those oxygen needs.

Speaking of oxygen demand, a good and energy efficient way to provide oxygen is by using variable frequency drives (VFD’s) paced off of dissolved oxygen probes in the aeration basins. VFD’s allow blower speed adjustments based on the actual oxygen demand in the aeration tanks. As energy costs continue to increase, this type of important process control should and will become much more common at activated sludge plants. You may want to look into this now as an energy and cost-saving improvement for your WWTP.

Blower operation is essential for the efficient operation of activated sludge and aerated lagoon processes. Oil for gears and bearings should be changed and the filters cleaned about every 1,400 hours of operation under normal service (CSU-Sacramento Training Manual) or as specified by your O&M Manual. All blower valving should be checked as per your O&M manual including your pressure relief valve. Air intake piping should be checked of any obstructions and filters cleaned as required. Read and follow your O&M Manual for all recommended preventative maintenance tasks.

The oxygen we breathe comes passively from the air around us. When it’s hot and muggy, our breathing may labor, especially if exerting ourselves. Your bugs depend upon you for the air they breathe as they exert themselves to remove BOD and other pollutants. Make sure they get that air through well-maintained and operating blowers providing the right amount of oxygen to them. Then we can all enjoy the summer. O2ver and out.

How long can you wait to reduce cost?

A. I need to take action now
B. When I hear of competition for my job
C. It’s too late, we are being privatized
D. I am not concerned, I plan to retire soon

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"The system has been real good for us and has saved us a lot of money. We'd certainly recommend them to anyone."

Greg Paul, WWTF Superintendent
La Crosse, WI

"This system cut the work the staff does here by 75% and everybody has access to the data without any duplication entries and less errors. A user friendly system, too, with very little instruction needed."

John Leonhard, WWTF Operations Manager
Fond du Lac, WI

"We can utilize our employees’ time much better and save substantial money on maintenance with the alarms and doing things when we should instead of waiting for something to go bad."

Kurt Damrow, Wastewater Supervisor
Park Falls, WI

"It’s a big money saver. You can take a tour of our system any time from a laptop."

Joe Morrissey, Director of Public Works
Village of Black Creek, WI

"They are fantastic; very easy to work with. The system has saved us money. It’s a very user friendly system. They’re flexible and very responsive. I would certainly recommend them and their system."

Wayne Fields, Chief of Water Operations
Broomfield, Colorado

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- The technical knowledge and experience of the analysts.
- The high ethical standards of all lab staff.
- The high level of intellectual curiosity of the analysts and lab staff.
- The absolute commitment to producing the best data possible.
- The strong support lab management provides the analytical staff to continuously research, refine and improve all elements of the lab operation.

The Janesville Utility Laboratory earned its award under the Large Registered Facility category.

The Village of Amherst Wastewater Treatment Plant Laboratory received the 2006 Small Registered Facility award. This year marks the 11th consecutive year that DNR has presented these awards.

The City of Janesville’s Wastewater Utility Laboratory was recognized recently by the Department of Natural Resources as the Laboratory of the Year for 2006.

DNR annually honors Wisconsin’s best registered laboratories for their outstanding commitment to producing high quality data and protecting the environment.

The award, with its commemorative plaque, was presented to laboratory staff, including WWTP Superintendent Dennis Egge, on Wednesday, April 26, by DNR Secretary Scott Hassett during the state Natural Resources Board monthly meeting at Stevens Point.

“I’ve had the pleasure of working with Dennis Egge and his laboratory staff since first auditing their facility in 2002. I was even more impressed by the laboratory after completing my second audit of the facility this past April,” said DNR laboratory auditor Greg Pils, who nominated the Janesville utility, 123 E. Delavan Dr., for the award.

Mr. Pils listed five “broad qualities that truly separate the Janesville Utility Laboratory from most of its peers.”
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MOBILE 414-573-6743

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City of Burlington Retains Applied Technologies for Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements

The City of Burlington, Wisconsin has retained Applied Technologies, Inc. (ATI) to provide engineering design services for its wastewater treatment facilities. The City began investigating wastewater treatment alternatives because the current plant is approaching its capacity.

Existing treatment units will be expanded to provide additional treatment capacity. The new construction will be phased over several years, so that additional capacity can be built as it is needed. Drawings and specifications for the first phase will be completed by the end of the year, and construction of the new facilities is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2007.

Applied Technologies, headquartered in Brookfield, Wisconsin with offices in Lake Villa and Oak Brook, Illinois, is a multidisciplinary engineering and architectural firm specializing in municipal and industrial water/wastewater management. For more information, visit www.ati-ae.com.

Enactment of Henry VIII's Oath for Commissioners of Sewers
Grey's Inn London - 1622

Ye shall swear that you, to your cunning, wit and power shall truly and indifferently execute the authority given you by this Commission of Sewers, without any favor, corruption, dread of malice to be borne to any manner of person or persons.

And as the case shall require, ye shall consent and endeavor yourself for your part to the best of your knowledge to the making of such wholesome, just, equal and indifferent laws or ordinances as shall be made and devised by the most discreet and indifferent number of your fellows being in Commission with you for the due redress, reformation and amendment of all and every such things as are contained and specified in said Commission.

The same laws and ordinances to your cunning wit and power, ye shall cause, to be met to due execution without favor, need, dread, or malice of affection as God so help you and all Saints.

I want a laboratory that causes me no anxiety, saves me money, has superior client service and has a great reputation based on continuous performance.

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You can save money, save time and lower your stress level, by using Northern Lake Service for the analysis of your wastewater, biosolids and drinking water. We’ve been providing reliable service to water and wastewater plants for over 30 years. You’ll be happy with our level of service.

Call Andy or Tracy in our Client Services Department for more information or a quotation for your testing requirements.

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Email: salesnls@northernlakeservice.com
WWOA Board of Directors Nomination Form

Complete the following information and submit it; along with a photo of you, to the attention of the WWOA Executive Secretary at the address listed below. If more room is needed for your responses, please attach additional sheets as necessary.

Board of Directors position you are seeking nomination for: __________________________

Name: __________________________________________
Home Address: __________________________________
Occupation: _____________________________________
Years Experience: _________________________________
Employer: _______________________________________
Education: _______________________________________

WWOA Organizational Involvement:

Date Joined: __________________________
Board Positions Served & When: __________________________
Committees Served On & When: __________________________
Regional Affiliation: __________________________
Regional Positions Served: __________________________

1. What do you see as the future of the WWOA? __________________________

2. How do you feel this could best be accomplished? __________________________

3. Other qualifications or experience for WWOA office? __________________________

4. Other comments you wish to share: __________________________

Committees you are interested in becoming involved with:

____ Promotional Items  ____ Scholarship & Tuition Aid  ____ Publicity
____ Government Affairs  ____ Permanent Arrangements  ____ Annual Awards
____ Membership / Directory  ____ Web Site; wwoa.org  ____ Career Development
____ Regional Coordinator  ____ Operator Training  ____ Liaison (CSWEA)
____ Operators Competition  ____ Biosolids Liaison  ____ Historical
____ Clarifier  ____ Resolutions & Bylaws  ____ Permanent Program

Mail completed materials to: Richard D. McKee
WWOA Executive Secretary
416 Herman Street
Arena, WI 53503

Revised: 02/02/2004
Nitrogen Application Rates for Municipal Biosolids and Industrial Wastewater

By Richard Wolkowski, Carrie Laboski and Larry Bundy

Department of Soil Science

University of Wisconsin-Madison

The University of Wisconsin-Extension corn nitrogen guidelines were modified last February to reflect the impact of fertilizer and corn price variability. The actual change in recommended N is relatively small compared to the previous approach. This modification should have a minimal effect on N rate selection for biosolids and wastewater application.

Recommended N rates for corn in Wisconsin are established using the soil yield potential approach. Yield potential is a reflection of potential of growing degree day accumulation, with the low and medium potential soils roughly north of US Highway 10. Some soils in the southern part of the state also may fall into the low or medium yield potential because of shallow soil depth, low water holding capacity, or imperfect drainage. Application rates were developed when fertilizer was relatively inexpensive and corn prices were reasonable, resulting in a rate of 120 lb N/acre for low and medium yield potential soils and 160 lb N/acre for high and very high yield potential soils assuming the soil organic matter content was between 2 and 10%. A soil test that follows UWEX procedures, along with the soil series name for the field are needed to obtain a valid N recommendation.

Fertilizer prices have nearly doubled in the last two years and corn prices have been stagnant. This has resulted in an economic condition where farmers must make a choice – Is it better to grow the most bushels per acre or should they strive to earn the most dollars per acre? The University of Wisconsin along with Iowa, Minnesota, and Illinois has developed the Maximum Return to Nitrogen (MRTN) approach for corn N rate guidelines. The MRTN approach is most applicable where purchased N fertilizer is used, but can be used to guide manure or other organic material application rates. The MRTN approach considers the N:corn price ratio. Higher rates of N can be profitably applied when this ratio is low, for example $0.15/lb N for fertilizer and $3.00/bu corn (N:corn price = 0.05). Currently N fertilizer may cost up to $0.40/lb N and corn at times has been about $2.00/bu (N:corn price = 0.20). The MRTN sets a range for N application rate, such that lower rates could be used in situations where N may have been carried over from the previous year due to drought. The higher rates should be used for no-till corn where some N may become immobilized as residue decomposes. It is hoped that the MRTN approach will provide farmers greater flexibility to fine-tune their N management based on economic factors and site-specific field conditions. More information on the MRTN approach can be found at http://www.soils.wisc.edu/extension.

How do these guidelines affect the selection of the N rate for biosolids or other wastewater applications? As previously stated the MRTN approach is most appropriate where purchased N fertilizer is used. If N sources are provided at no or low cost then there are
fewer economic considerations, and managers should select a rate that falls in the 0.05 N:corn price range. Using this price ratio the MRTN rate for a high yield potential soil would be 165 lb N/acre and could range between 135 and 190 lb N/acre. Recognize that the MRTN is the total N applied, including starter. Additionally a soybean N credit is no longer given in the MRTN system. Different MRTN rates are provided for continuous corn and first year corn after soybean. The MRTN rate guidelines are shown in Tables 1. Forage legume credits (alfalfa, red clover, etc.) have not changed and should be subtracted from the selected MRTN rate as they have been in the past.

In summary, the MRTN approach provides N rate guidelines for corn production that consider both economic and agronomic factors. Where waste materials are applied based on the N application rate the use of the MRTN for a 0.05 price ratio is suggested. MRTN rates on average may be slightly less than those recommended previously, but the system offers flexibility to the farm manager who can adjust rates depending on expected fertilizer costs, corn price, and field conditions or management. Furthermore, the lower rates would be expected to increase N recovery, reducing potential off-site N movement. Biosolids and wastewater application rates should not be significantly altered from previous N management practices using the MRTN approach. Attention must still be given to P management, as the MRTN approach will not reduce the loading of P commonly found with many materials applied to meet crop N need.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soil and Previous Crop</th>
<th>N:Corn Price Ratio ($/lb N/$/bu)</th>
<th>0.05</th>
<th>0.10</th>
<th>0.15</th>
<th>0.20</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MRTN</td>
<td>Range</td>
<td>MRTN</td>
<td>Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High/Very High</td>
<td>Total N to Apply (lb N/acre)</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn, Forage Legume, Vegetable, Green Manure</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>135-190</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>120-155</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soybean, Sm. Grain</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>110-160</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>100-130</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium/Low</td>
<td></td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn, Forage Legume, Vegetable, Green Manure</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>100-140</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>90-120</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soybean, Sm. Grain</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>75-110</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>45-70</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irrigated Sands and Loamy Sands</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Crops</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>200-230</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>190-220</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Irrigated Sands and Loamy Sands</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Crops</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>100-140</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>90-120</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Rate is the N rate that provides the maximum return to N (MRTN).
2 Range is the range of profitable N rates that provide an economic return to N within $1/acre of the MRTN.
3 These rates are for total N applied including N in starter fertilizer and N used for herbicide applications.
4 Subtract N credits for forage legumes, leguminous vegetables, green manures, and animal manures. Do not subtract N credits for leguminous vegetables on sands and loamy sands.
5 Subtract N credits for animal manures and second year forage legumes.
**WWOA - LAKE MICHIGAN DISTRICT**  
**2006 OPERATORS COMPETITION TEAM**

Lake Michigan District is looking for interested operators, maintenance personnel, lab personnel, or anyone else who is a member of the WWOA and works within the Lake Michigan District, to join the 2006 Operators Competition Team. The Operators Competition will take place during the WWOA State Conference at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells Oct 3-6, 2006. It is requested that each participant set aside dedicated time to meet with other team members for practices in preparation for the competition. All practices are scheduled around your work schedule so that all team members are able to attend practice. The competition is a great way to meet new people in your district and share your talents and knowledge with others.

Last year’s competition involved four events - Laboratory (BOD analysis), Safety (confined space recovery), Maintenance (portable pump prep for operation), and Process control (operational question and answer).

What do you get from joining the competition?

- Experience working with wastewater personnel from other facilities
- Knowledge in fields that may not be within your daily routine
- Opportunity to show others your expertise
- A fun filled day at the convention
- A team T-Shirt and Polo shirt

If interested, please contact any of the LMD representatives for more information:

**Ron Austreng, LMD Chair**  
Village of Hortonville  
(920) 779-4086  
hrtnvldpw@charteinternet.net

**Jeff Mayou, LMD Vice Chair**  
City of Marinette  
(715) 732-5184  
jmayou@marinette.wi.us

**Dawn Jandrey, LMD Secretary**  
Heart of the Valley MSD  
(920) 766-5731  
dawn.jandrey@hvmsd.org

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**LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD IN THE ENGINEERING/CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**

Michael F. Davy was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award in the Engineering/Construction Industry at the April 7 UW Construction Club Banquet at the Monona Terrace in Madison. This award recognizes individuals who have had an impact on the construction industry and have shown an interest in developing students. The event is considered “the Academy Awards of Construction” and is sponsored by the Construction Engineering and Management Program of the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Mike is President of Davy Engineering Co. of La Crosse.
Energenecs can show you how!

Control your costs by controlling your energy usage with ESP, the new Energenecs Sensory Processor. Use ESP to:

- Monitor the energy usage of each of your pumps
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- Use accurate capacity and flow data to control your energy consumption
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*Performance through technology!*

Put The Control Back Into Your Control Panel
What is a Plant Historian and Why Should I Want One?
By Ray Grosch

What is a plant historian? Is it an old timer who has been working at the plant forever, or is it a history major you hired to write a history about your plant? I suppose it could be either. When speaking in IT terms it is neither. A Historian is the name given to a software application that serves as an archival point for a history of plant operations. It is commonly used with both automatic and manual data acquisition.

Why would you want a historian at your plant? There are many good reasons to save a history of your facility operation including CYA.

History has value. Without a clear picture of where we have come from, it is difficult to know where we are going. There are many famous quotes on this issue such as “those who do not study history are condemned to repeat it”, John Thorn.

Many of our wastewater facilities have historical archives which document plant performance. However the information is located in isolated locations. Influent and effluent data can be found on monthly DMR regulatory report files. Detailed flow and instrument data may be archived on chart paper or on electronic media. Lab test data and QC information is located in a file cabinet in the lab. Maintenance information if kept may be on a card system or on a computer in the maintenance office. Records for truck waste and septage receiving may be kept by a clerk for billing purposes. Process problems may have been recorded in a facility logbook, but the solutions which took time to develop may not have.

At some older facilities long term employees can give an excellent verbal history of the facility. However employees move on and eventually retire. History is lost and becomes difficult to find and very expensive to reconstruct when data is dispersed.
A plant historian can manage both manually data and automatically collected data. With automatic data acquisition hourly summary data makes diurnal variable data available for troubleshooting and engineering analysis.

Without a clear understanding of plant history operators are susceptible to repeat the mistakes of the past. A plant historian is a powerful tool needed for professional management of all wastewater facilities.

Contact IntelliSys for additional information on Plant Historian database solutions. (800 347-9977) or rgrosch@intellisys-is.com

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**EDITOR’S CORRECTION**

In the North Central Regional WWOA Meeting Minutes on page 24 of the April Clarifier, the picture caption read “New Huber Step Screen” and should have read “Vulcan Step Screen.”
North Central Regional WWOA Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2006, Antigo, Wisconsin

The North Central Region of WWOA held its spring meeting on Thursday, April 20, 2006. The meeting took place at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Antigo. The City of Antigo hosted the meeting. Jim Krueger of Infrastructure Alternatives organized the meeting. There were 51 people in attendance.

Krueger introduced Antigo Mayor Mike Matousek, who welcomed attendees to the area.

Ken Bloom introduced the first speaker of the morning, Tim Vick of Lang and Associates. Vick discussed electrical safety, safety standards, displayed protective equipment, and discussed how to create an electrical safety program.

Dan Sexton, Roberts Pump and Process, discussed various types and styles of pumps, pump characteristics, pump applications, and how to match the pump to the application to provide the most efficient and effective pumping system.

Ken Ligman, Becher – Hoppe, did an excellent presentation on Collection System O&M and CMOM. He discussed what a CMOM was, identified the various elements of a CMOM, listed various measures to measure the effectiveness of a program, presented collection system maintenance data from various sources, and presented ideas on how operators could get their own collection system O&M program started.

Joe Cantwell, WI Focus on Energy, presented information on the Focus on Energy program, projects the program has funded, treatment facility processes with the highest potential for energy savings, and results from some completed projects.

Eric Donaldson, DNR, gave the DNR update, discussing often missed items on DMR’s and noting the eCMAR’s would soon be available.

Business Meeting
1. Ken Bloom called the business meeting to order. Bloom led the group in a round of applause for the speakers and for Jim Krueger and his staff’s work in organizing the meeting.

2. The minutes of the January regional meeting were accepted as printed in the April Clarifier.

3. The treasurer’s report was read and accepted. Bloom noted that the North Central Region had a balance of $910.24 in its escrow account with the State WWOA.

4. Bloom reminded all that the 2006 WWOA Annual Conference is being held at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells, October 3-6.

5. Bloom asked that operators to take part in the Operator Competition Team this year. The Region has had three willing participants, but needs a fourth to complete the team.

6. Bloom recognized Dan Dvorak, Village of Edgar, as the recipient of the 2005 North Central Region Operator of the Year. He reminded all that the Region was seeking Operator of the...
Year nominations. He requested nomination be forwarded to any of the Steering Committee members by July 1.

7. The Steering Committee has not met since the January meeting. Bloom requested that anyone interested in serving on the Steering Committee get their nominations to the Steering Committee by July 15. The seats held by Rich Boden and Ron Dickrell are up for election this year. Ballots for the two seats will be sent out with the fall meeting notice early in August. Votes will be counted and the results will be announced at the fall meeting. All North Central Region members are encouraged to vote and return their ballots, regardless of whether they attend the fall meeting.

8. The Region is looking for communities to volunteer to host upcoming meetings. The Steering Committee will help organize the meeting, arrange for speakers and etc, if local hosts don’t want to. It’s a great way to show off your community and facility.

9. Bloom asked non-members to consider joining the WWOA and get access to all the benefits of the organization for only $40 every two years.

10. The Village of Milladore will be hosting the fall meeting on September 13th.

11. Bloom opened the floor for other business. Being none, the meeting was adjourned and lunch was served.

Steve Ohm, DNR, presented a refresher on the eCMAR program. He started with an overview of how to log on to get to the eCMAR, then discussed filling out the various sections, and finished with a recap of steps to complete the submission of the report.

The program concluded with tours of either the Antigo Water Department or the Wastewater Treatment Facility following the meeting.

Submitted by,
Rich Boden, NCR Secretary
Lake Michigan District Meeting
March 9, 2006
By Dawn Jandrey

On March 9, 2006 LMD held its first meeting of the year in Hilbert. The meeting was originally scheduled for February 16, 2006 but had to be postponed at the last minute due to a snowstorm. We had an excellent turn out with 103 gathering at the Hilbert Community Center. Thank you again to those who helped spread the word of the February cancellation. We were glad to see that most of you were able to adjust your schedules and attend the March 9 meeting.

Ron Austreng, LMD Chairperson, called the meeting to order. Ron thanked Robert E. Lee & Associates for providing the break refreshments, Charlie Fochs for hosting the meeting, and a special thank you to the speakers and LMD members for their cooperation on the rescheduling of the meeting.

After a review of the minutes from the November 2005 meeting and the Treasurer’s report, there was a motion to accept both items as presented. Ron then presented Kevin Skogman with a plaque in recognition of his services as LMD Vice Chair/Chairperson for 2004/2005. Ron also introduced Jeff Mayou who is taking the position of Vice Chair.

Ron reminded everyone that nominations are being accepted for the Operator of the Year Award and the LMD is also looking for participants for the Operators Competition. The WWOA State Conference will be held in Wisconsin Dells on October 3 – 6. Other available awards include Koby Crabtree, George...
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Bernauer, and the Service Award; nomination forms are available on the WWOA website.

Ron noted that the next LMD meeting will be held on May 17 in Port Washington. This is a joint meeting with the Southeast District. Tentatively the August meeting will be held in Egg Harbor and the November meeting will be in Oconto. Anyone interested in hosting a meeting for 2007 should contact one of the LMD officers.

Ron asked for input regarding the purchase of a digital camera. A motion was made and seconded to approve the purchase of a digital camera for the Lake Michigan District.

Some upcoming dates of future meetings include the 24th Annual Spring Biosolids Symposium on March 21 in Stevens Point; Advanced BOD Training Session on April 25 at the GBMSD - sponsored by the State Lab of Hygiene; the 19th Annual Collection System Seminar on June 8 in Watertown; and the Annual WWOA Golf Outing on June 19 in New London.

After adjourning the business meeting, Ron introduced Alfred Fochs, Village President, who welcomed the group to Hilbert. Next, Ken Boville, Hilbert WWTP Operator, entertained the group with a juggling act, incorporating his juggling techniques with the wastewater treatment field. It was a great way to start the day – thanks Ken!

The first speaker was Jeff Smith, National Sales Manager for Aero-Mod Inc. Jeff spoke on the topic of “Operator Friendly Dewatering Solutions for Small Communities”. He addressed three main areas: 1) operator friendliness and what contributes to a dewatering solution being “operator friendly”, 2) what constitutes a “solution” within the realm of dewatering technologies, and 3) what fits the “small community” definition.

An operator friendly dewatering solution should have the following characteristics: it should be correctly sized for the application, require minimal maintenance, utilize simple and “friendly” control systems, made of long-life materials, and have a basic level of automation.
Secondly, Jeff referred to the need to provide a dewatering “solution” and not a dewatering “problem” when designing & implementing a system. In order to be a “solution”, a dewatering system should fit the operator’s needs and schedule, it should be an integrated package, be sized correctly so that it handles the needs of the community, and should have a simple design so that maintenance is not burdensome.

Lastly, Jeff said the definition of a small community is arbitrary. Aero-Mod provides dewatering solutions for communities that fall within a plant size of 3 mgd and below. Aero-Mod manufactures dewatering systems that are appropriate for “small communities” and they focus solely on this niche.

The next speaker was Kay Marshall, Wastewater Operations Specialist at SEH Inc., and current WWOA President-Elect. Kay’s topic was called Nitrification/De-nitrification: What Is It and How Does It Work? She spoke on the Nitrification/De-nitrification processes as they relate to wastewater treatment; the sources, forms of nitrogen, the nitrogen cycle, troubleshooting nitrification problems, laboratory testing, and treatment modes to remove it. Kay also spoke on the draft changes to NR149, the laboratory certification code. The new revision was just completed. Copies of a MEG Alert were distributed which included details on the March and April Public Hearings by DNR for those rules. Public comments are being accepted until April 14, 2006.

Next up, Jack Saltes from the DNR provided a status report and update on eCMAR, the electronic compliance maintenance annual reporting system. But first he shared some tips on computer maintenance. Everybody survived the first year of electronic CMAR reporting. There were a few problems, but the DNR is working to fix those. Next year, eCMAR’s are required for “satellite” collection systems. These are the towns, villages and cities that have sanitary sewer systems connected to a regional treatment plant. Training sessions for collection system owners and operators are in the works.

The delicious odors emanating from the adjacent room forced Jack to stay on schedule for a lunch break. A buffet prepared and catered by the Hearthstone Restaurant in Hilbert satisfied the hearty appetites of the group.

After lunch, Jack continued with more discussion about collections system O & M, and development of a “Capacity, Management, Operation and Maintenance” (CMOM) program. Of particular interest, Jack provided a list of recommended references among several colorful handouts.
Ron concluded the meeting by again thanking Charlie Fuchs and Robert E. Lee for hosting this meeting. Before attendees left to tour the Hilbert WWTP, Dean Zanon of Robert E. Lee gave a plant introduction and overview. The meeting adjourned and DNR credit slips were distributed.

WWOA BOARD OF DIRECTOR POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The WWOA Nominations Committee wishes to announce that there will be several positions on the WWOA Board of Directors open for election this coming fall at the 40th Annual Conference in Wisconsin Dells. This election takes place at the WWOA’s annual business meeting held during the Annual Conference.

As is the case each year, the Board positions of President Elect and Vice President will be up for election by the general membership. In addition, there will be two (2) Director positions to be filled at the time of this year’s election. The Director positions are for 2-year terms; whereas the President Elect and Vice President positions are elected for a term of one year.

Persons interested in seeking nomination to the WWOA Board of Directors must be an active or life member and currently in good standing within the organization. Interested members must submit a completed WWOA Nomination Form; along with a “head and shoulders” photo, sending the information...
to the attention of WWOA Executive Secretary Richard D. McKee. Nomination forms are available in the Clarifier and online at WWOA Web Site.

Persons who are considering serving the organization on the Board of Directors are encouraged to contact Nominations Committee Chairperson Tim Nennig or any of the current Board members for more information relative to the Board positions. Board member contact information can be located online at WWOA Web Site or on the back cover of every Clarifier issue.

\[ \text{NWWOA Spring Meeting} \\
\text{Rice Lake, WI} \\
\text{Turtleback Golf & Conference Center} \\
\text{April 7, 2006} \]

Chairman Mike LaRose opened the meeting. Mike went over some house keeping items and then introduced the general manager of the Rice Lake Utilities, Scott Reimer. Scott welcomed the group to Rice Lake and went on to tell the group that as wastewater operators, we are major impact players in the economic development of our communities. Without good wastewater treatment in a community, development would either be slowed down or maybe not even happen. This could mean a loss of potential jobs and tax base, so be proud of what you do and keep up the good work.

Chairman LaRose introduced the first presenter of the day, Gary Wesselschmidt from Huber Technologies. Gary discussed the importance of optimizing the headworks of your treatment facility. Gary’s main focus will be on the pros and cons of screening and grit washing. Some problems with screening are odor and esthetics. Due to the nature of the operation, this will always be an area of concern. Screen has evolved over the years to a point where the openings are as small as a 1/4 inch. This down sizing of screen openings has allowed the removal of more unsuitable material but still allows the organic to pass through. Finer screening has allowed some plants to do away with primary clarifiers, grinders, and comminutors. The screening portion of the treatment plant is only 5% of the total plant cost but does 25% of the treatment. Gary said his company welcomed competitive technology because it helps everyone stay current with the changing technology and aids in research and development of new trends. Gary briefly discussed the several different types of screens and how they operate along with the best application for the screen. Some screen types Gary touched on were bar screens, Perforated plate screen, step screen, drum screen, membrane screen, micro strainers and vertical screen. Gary showed photos of all these different screen installations in Wisconsin.
It was mentioned that a drum screen works very well in a septage basin. Finally Gary briefly discussed grit washing. Grit washing will remove organic material back into the flow, reduce odor and reduce volume in the Dumpster. Volume reduction means lower tipping fees at the local landfill. Grit washing and compacting will pay for itself quickly in reduced cost at the landfill.

Chairman LaRose introduced the next presenter, Roccy Raymond of S.E.H. who took us on a narrative ride and power point presentation through the process of building the new Frederick WWTP. Going unsaid the old plant was not meeting the discharge limits and was worn out. The new plant needed a new road to the facility so blasting the rock out of the way was necessary. However blasting the rock 100 feet in the air was a little much. No serious damage so on with the project. The blasted rock was crushed and used a riprap around the lagoons. This project involved directional drilling and incorporated duel discharge. The most interesting challenge was incorporating nitrogen removal. The project was mostly funded by a rural development Grant but due to the experimental treatment concept they would not fund the project unless the village certified to cover the cost if things did not work out. The project was completed and went on line 8-31-05. For further updates on how things are working with the new plant, call Ken Hacket at Frederick or call Roccy Raymond, Roccy is not shy so ask away.

The next presenter was Todd Schultz from Energenecs. Mr. Electrical safety himself. Todd’s topic was getting the most out of your service rep. When Todd or any other electrical troubleshooter is called to a facility to do electrical troubleshooting or installation, it would be a good idea for the operator have a to do list for him and prioritize the issues. Also as the service tech is doing his thing, pay attention what he is doing so that in the future this same event will not occur again. Learn how to use your voltmeter and use it safely. The number one thing to remember said Todd, if you are uncomfortable working in electrical panels, than leave it to the trained tech. Todd showed how to use your voltmeter to check Amps, Check fuses, and voltage. Todd also gave a few useful hints on removing inline check valves at lift stations and valve pits. Todd also went through 5 different senarios to troubleshoot a lift station control system.
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The next presentation was on SCADA which was presented by Brian Akason and GIS presented by Jon Sshwichtenberg. Brian discussed the past control system at the City of Chetek and then went into detail on the new SCADA system that was installed on the water system in Chetek. As part of the new system, the city also changed out the well meters with magnetic flow meters for better accuracy. Jon implemented a GIS system for the City of Chetek. When doing a GIS mapping system it is imperative to meet with all department heads to see what kind of information is needed or would be nice to have. That will allow a broader base in which to spread the cost over. A current aerial photo of the city is a big plus and the county typically does it every 5 years. Dan Knapp City of Chetek DPW superintendent made a cameo appearance to show how all the information is used in the city of Chetek. The sewer televising information is also incorporated in the mapping system and all the information is used to plan Future City project or identify areas of concern.

The next presenter was non other than Don Voigt from Energenecs whose presentation was on international technology coming to town. Don’s observation is that W & WW equipment originated from Europe where as SCADA and computer technology comes from the United States. In the engineering field today, Don said that China will graduate 250,000 students, US will graduate 50,000 students and India will graduate 125,000 students. It appears we are missing the boat. Over in Europe the thought pattern is very different about everything.
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Some examples are:

- There is more attention focused to detail in design
- They take extreme pride in their design
- Due to space, everything is smaller and designed to fit and work in a smaller foot print
- Because of the cost of energy, the designs are very energy efficient
- They believe in quick and better not cheaper
- They think life cycle cost
- Companies think long term, tradition- employee retention
- Non risk takers-solid design
- If nutrient removal is needed, they do not think of chemical addition for fear of adding to the environmental degradation
- Grit washing is big in Europe and all equipment is made of stainless steel for longevity
- In activated sludge plant to move RAS or WAS they use progressive cavity, and screw type pumps to minimize flock shear.
- For the health of the operators, all equipment that generates a mist is enclosed
- And finally, there is no land application of sludges, it is all landfilled or incinerated
- And finally again, all operators wear a jump suit to protect them, which Don had one of those on for show and tell.

The next presenter was Kay Marshall, president elect of the WWOA. Kay gave an update on the state of WWOA and when the next WWOA conference is. It will be at the Kalahari in Wisconsin dells the first week of October. All awards nominations are due August 1, for the conference presentations.

The next presenter was Pete Prusak of the Cumberland area DNR. Pete had a few points of information to pass along.

- Looking for operators to participate in a group to develop guidelines to handle hazardous waste contamination
- Any by-pass will require a permit, request them if needed, hopefully you will not need any.
- Sludge sites, undated soil test, you can use farmers date if current
- Electronic DMR reporting by doing the report this way it will save big dollars for the DNR, get on board with this
- CMAR is required by all permittees
- Ammonia limits will be implemented on Ponds and lagoons now.

Chairman LaRose called the business meeting to order. LaRose discussed the mailing list and the importance of the address updates. LaRose thanked Energenecs and S.E.H for sponsoring the meeting. LaRose talked about the importance of Preregistration for the meetings. The treasure report was presented by Mike Romso NWWOA has $3113.43 in the checking account and $1096 in Escrow. The secretary’s report was accepted as printed in the clarifier. No old business or new business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectful submitted by,

Wally H. Thom
SNAP Plus Training & Discussion on Nitrogen Issues
Wednesday, June 21, 2006
9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Basement Computer Training Room
WI Dept of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection
2811 Agriculture Dr., Madison, WI  53718
(See directions below)

There is no fee for this class.

All farms that apply manure or commercial fertilizer will be required to implement a phosphorus based nutrient management plan under the provisions of ATCP 50 and NR 151 by January 1, 2008. The UW Soil Science Department and DATCP have developed a software program (SNAP Plus) to help agronomists and farmers meet the Phosphorus based regulations. SNAP Plus will determine application rates, and calculate both the P Index (runoff model) number and the rotational Phosphorus balance. If your treatment facility land applies sludge you should know what farmers are using to deal with phosphorus regulations.

A number of wastewater treatment plants around the state are beginning to play with the program for their own applications, so the Dept of Ag is willing to offer a class to operators interested in leaning the SNAP Plus program from the framers perspective. This class will be given by a department of agricultural trainer just like the farmers and agronomists receive.

The program can be downloaded at no cost from www.snapplus.net.

In addition, Richard P. Wolkowski from the University of Wisconsin Soils Program will be speaking in the afternoon about nitrogen issues including the new soil test nitrogen recommendations. He will also be available for other questions as well.

Lunch is on your own with several nearby options available.

If you would like to attend, please contact Kevin Erb at:
Phone: 920-391-4652
Fax: 920-391-4617
E-mail: Kevin.erb@ces.uwex.edu

There will not be a separate mailing on this class. Space is limited so pre-register if you plan on attending. There is no fee for this class.

Directions to DATCP (2811 Agriculture Dr.): From the Beltline Hwy in Madison (Hwy12/18) exit on Hwy 51. Go north about 1 mile to Pflaum Road. Head east (right) for about 3/4 mile to Agriculture Drive. The Prairie Oak State Office Building is at the top of the hill.
HELP with eCMAR’s

By Julia Riley, Wastewater Specialist, and
Jack Saltes, Wastewater Operations Engineer,
Department of Natural Resources

Need help completing your electronic Compliance Maintenance Annual Reports (eCMAR’s)? There are several ways you can get it.

HELP ON THE DNR/eCMAR INFORMATIONAL WEB SITE

The newly revised DNR/eCMAR informational web site includes several new helpful features relating to completing the eCMAR. Go to:

http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/ww/cmar.html

- **Helpful Hints Index** - The “Helpful Hints Index” link on the eCMAR homepage under “The eCMAR form” takes you to a list of eCMAR topics. These eCMAR topical listings take you directly to that subject in the web site. The “Helpful Hints Index” makes it very easy to find specific information quickly.

- **Instructions for Sections of the Form** - There is a new web page called “Instructions for eCMAR Form Sections.” All the information on the “Help” button of each eCMAR form section can be printed out from this web page before you start work on your eCMAR. You can print out and read the instructions for each section before you access your eCMAR on the Wisconsin Access Management System (WAMS). The instructions will help you gather any information you may need for the eCMAR before you start completing the form.

- **Completing the Form** - A new web page called “Completing the Form” provides detailed instructions on how to complete the eCMAR form. You can print out this web page and have it with you when you complete the eCMAR form. The instructions include how to use different buttons such as, “Verify Data” button, or “Calculation” button on the eCMAR sections.

- **CMAR Requirements for Satellite Collection Systems** - This new web page summarizes the requirements which apply to Satellite Collection Systems.

- **Submitting eCMAR Forms/Resolutions** - “Submitting eCMAR Forms/Resolutions” explains how to electronically submit the eCMAR form. It also contains a link, “resolution”, to a full description of what is required in the governing body’s resolution and Owners Statement of Review and Response. A model resolution that can be downloaded and printed out is also included on the web site. The model resolution is provided only as an example, and municipalities should consult with their own attorneys for proper formatting.

- **Computer Messages/Problems** - Use the Helpful Hints Index link to access information on how to fix computer problems.

- **Error Messages** - Use the Helpful Hints Index link to access information on what error messages mean and how to fix them.

“HELP” BUTTONS ON THE eCMAR FORM

Each section of the eCMAR form has a “Help” button. When you click on the “Help” button, you access a set of instructions to help you complete that section of the form. (See above for how to print out “Help” button instructions from the eCAMAR web site.)
“CONTACT US” BUTTONS ON THE eCMAR FORM

If the “Help” button doesn’t give you the information you need to solve your problem, use the “Contact Us” button in the eCMAR form. Clicking on the “Contact Us” button and filling out the feedback form generates an e-mail which the Department can direct to the DNR staff who specialize in the specific problem you are having.

TELEPHONE

Please use the telephone as a last resort. “Phone tag” can be frustrating; especially during a time when eCMAR use is heavy and we are responding to numerous calls. Staff may not be able to return your call immediately. If you choose to phone, it is helpful if you are on the computer while you are calling to ensure the instructions you receive over the phone correct your problem.

CALL GAIL MILLS AT 608-266-1387 IF YOU HAVE THESE TYPES OF PROBLEMS:

- “Page cannot be found” message when you try to access your eCMAR. Suggestion: Try clicking the “Refresh” button on your toolbar, close down, open up, try again. If that doesn’t work, give the Department a call.

- “502” Bad gateway error message. This is a programming problem.

CALL YOUR LOCAL DNR REPRESENTATIVE, USUALLY THE BASIN ENGINEER, FOR THESE PROBLEMS:

- You will not have your eCMAR finished by the due date and you need an extension on the deadline to submit your eCMAR.

- There is incorrect data or missing data in the pre-populated sections of your eCMAR form. The DNR Basin Engineer will make the decision if a section or data needs to be altered, removed, or added.
WASTEWATER SECURITY UPDATES
By Julia Riley, Wastewater Specialist, Department of Natural Resources

Evaluating Decontamination Wastewaters for Discharge to a Sanitary Sewer

Many hospitals in Wisconsin are developing Wastewater Management Plans for decontamination wastewater from portable hospital decontamination tents. These hospitals are contacting wastewater treatment facilities to determine if decontamination wastewater can be discharged into the sanitary sewer.

Decontamination wastewater should be contained until the specific contaminants can be identified. The Hospital Decontamination Wastewater Management Technical Work Group developed these recommendations in determining if decontamination wastewater can be discharged to the sanitary sewer:

- Identify the type of contaminant(s) by asking the patients, workplace or responders at the accident site.
- Determine the conformance of discharged contaminants with the POTW’s sewer use ordinance.
- Identify other sources of industrial chemical discharges which may be present in the sewer lines which could mix with the decontaminated wastewater in the sewer system that would create gases or corrosives (e.g. Cyanide and acids)
- Consider the location of the hospital or point of discharge of decontamination water in relation to the POTW for dilution and mixing considerations.
- Identify potential toxic compounds which could result from the mixing of multiple contamination substances in the decontamination wastewater.

Clothes worn by contaminated patients contain most of the contamination residues. These clothes are removed and discarded during decontamination. Therefore, most decontamination wastewaters contain low levels of contaminants.

The decision to allow the discharge of decontamination wastewater to the sanitary sewer should be made on a case-by-case basis. If possible, toxic compounds such as mercury, PCB’s, and DDT, should be identified in advance as contaminants that are not allowed to be discharged into the sanitary sewer.

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The final recommendations of the Hospital Decontamination Wastewater Management Technical Work Group are expected to be completed by June 2006. The contact for information on the technical work group’s recommendations is: Julia Riley, 608-264-9244; julia.riley@dnr.state.wi.us.

**Avian Flu Decontamination Disinfectants**

US EPA announced a new web site: [http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheet/avian.htm](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheet/avian.htm) that lists 100 antimicrobial disinfectant products approved to disinfect poultry farms and other facilities against Avian (Bird) flu. Avian influenza is an infection that occurs naturally in birds caused by influenza (flu) viruses. Infections with these viruses can occur in humans, but the risk to human health from avian influenza is generally low. For more information on avian flu see the Wisconsin’s Department of Health and Family Services web site: [http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/avian/](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/avian/)

For poultry productions that become infected, farmers will be advised to disinfect all transport vehicles coming onto the farm or leaving the farm. The disinfection process will involve the use of disinfectant soap, water, and chlorine solution. Most of the approved disinfectants are available in liquid or spray form, and can be purchased at retail establishments.

All vehicle surfaces, particularly tires, should be decontaminated. People walking on infected grounds will also need to be decontaminated prior to leaving infected sites. Those persons performing decontamination should wear hazardous materials protective gear; boots, overhead protection, gloves, etc.

POTW’s may wish to contact large poultry producers who discharge to their sanitary sewers to discuss which decontamination agents will be used in the event of an avian flu infection and the plan for disposal of decontamination wastewaters.

**The 54th Civil Support Team’s Mobile Lab**

The 54th Civil Support Team (CST) is Wisconsin’s full time response team for emergencies or terrorist events that involve weapons of mass destruction or toxic industrial chemicals. Assigned by the US military to the State of Wisconsin, the 54th CST may be called to assist in determining the types of contaminants present in decontamination wastewater.
The local Incident Commander would request the 54th CST through Wisconsin Emergency Management. Stationed in Madison, WI, the 54th CST is able to deploy within 90 minutes, and travel to assist local first-responders in determining the nature of an attack or event. They provide initial advice on what the contaminant agent may be, and assist first responders in the detection assessment process.

Chemical analysis performed on suspected contaminants can usually be performed within four hours of environmental sample preparation. Some examples of situations where the 54th CST may be called in are:

- Testing for known or suspected use of chemical, biological or radiological weapons.
- Multiple people presenting with unexplained radiological, chemical, or biological symptoms.
- When local hazmat teams are overwhelmed or otherwise unable to assist in obtaining environmental samples for investigation of suspicious hazardous materials exposures.

See the web link below for a webcast on the capabilities of the 54th CST unit. The presentation takes about 50 minutes to watch.
http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/webcast/index.htm

1. Click on link
2. Click on “view catalog of our webcasts”
3. Click on “2006 events” in upper left hand side of screen
4. Go to page 4
5. Click on “View: Civil Support Team”

### 2006 Wastewater Security Workshops and Webcasts

The Water Environment Federation (WEF), in cooperation with US EPA, is sponsoring seven “no-cost” 3-day workshops in various locations across the U.S. on security and emergency response planning. The 3-day workshop will consist of one day of vulnerability assessment training, and two days of emergency response training, including table top exercises. The vulnerability self-assessment tool (VSAT) and EPA’s Emergency Response Planning CD on table top exercises will be integrated into the training.

As a follow-up to the training, WEF will provide webcasts to all attendees as a “refresher” course and as an opportunity to ask follow-up questions.

POTW’s treating 2.5 MGD or more are invited to attend and will be eligible for travel reimbursement. Other interested parties may attend on a space available basis, but are not eligible for travel reimbursement.

### Workshop locations and dates are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Type/Location</th>
<th>2006 date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Denver, CO</td>
<td>June 27-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td>July 11-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
<td>August 1-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Follow-up Webcast</td>
<td>September 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Providence, RI</td>
<td>September 19-21</td>
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<td>Dallas, TX</td>
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<td>Kansas City, MO</td>
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To register for the workshop and receive information about travel scholarships, visit the WEF website at http://www.wef.org/watersecurity, or contact Matt Jones, WEF: mjones@wef.org, or by telephone at (703) 684-2400, ext. 7090.

### Gulf Coast Sewer Systems Decimated by Katrina

Hurricane Katrina caused an estimated $1.2 billion in damage to municipal sewers systems across Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. At least 118 wastewater utilities serving 1.8 million people were damaged by Katrina. Approximately 51% of the cost damage was related to treatment plants and 49% to collection systems.

Displaced utility users have also caused an estimated $163 million in lost revenues from wastewater treatment services. Many utilities were unable to bill customers for 3 or more months because of flood damage to electronic and paper records. Although New Orleans lost 80% of its population, the city reported that it expected to lose only 70% of its utility revenue in 2006.

New Orleans reported about 5,000 miles of cracked sewage collection pipes in a new report compiled by the Water Environment Federation (WEF). James Clark, a Los Angeles-based consultant who investigated New Orleans’ sewage treatment infrastructure for the WEF report commented, “We can’t even rebuild the communities that were destroyed without the proper infrastructure. If you can’t get rid of the wastewater, it creates a human waste nightmare.”

Flood waters 20 feet deep engulfed the only wastewater treatment plant on the east side of New Orleans, and repair costs are estimated at $600 million. All but one of
New Orleans’ 65 lift stations were damaged by flooding. Only 38 lift stations have been repaired. Although initially following Katrina’s hit the City of New Orleans dumped raw sewage directly into the Mississippi River, they began wastewater treatment in January of 2006. Sewage treatment was not expected to be restored until the summer of 2006. New Orleans was fortunate to have an operations center for water and sewage that was not damaged by the flood.

In the first week after Katrina’s impact, many utility employees’ homes were uninhabitable. Some employees had to be rescued. Utility districts provided emergency housing, medical aid, food, water, and sanitation for displaced employees. For four months after the storm, the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans provided temporary housing to utility workers at its Algiers Water Treatment plant. Some utilities continued paying absentee employees’ salaries and extended medical benefits for months until employees could return to work.

See WEF’s website: http://wef.org/Home, to view the full 25 page report and accompanying photographs, “Assessment of Reconstruction Costs and Debt Management for Wastewater Utilities Affected by Hurricane Katrina.”

Sewage Now Generating Electricity - Micro-turbines Added to Sheboygan Wastewater Treatment Plant

The city’s Wastewater Treatment Plant now has 10 micro-turbines that use methane gas created by digesting wastewater solids to generate electricity and heat, cutting the plant’s electric and natural gas bills by 40 percent and earning renewable energy and emissions credits, according to Dale Doerr, the city’s wastewater superintendent.

The micro-turbines can put out enough power to run 150 homes, according to Alliant Energy. The state Energy Independence Act requires utilities to spend 1.2 percent of their annual operating revenues on renewable energy programs. The energy act also calls for 10 percent of the electricity consumed in Wisconsin to be generated by renewable resources by 2015.

The installment is the second-largest of its kind in the United States, said Mark Meyer, commissioner with the Wisconsin Public Service Commission. The Sheboygan micro-turbines are the first renewable energy source installed in the state since the passage of the energy act, and if successful could pave the way for other large wastewater facilities to implement similar systems, Meyer said.
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