

# MICHIGAN water works

WINTER 2024

NEWS

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The Michigan Water Works News is a quarterly publication of the Michigan Section, American Water Works Association.

**The deadline for submitting articles for Spring 2024 issue is January 26, 2024.**

Material may be submitted through the website at [www.mi-water.org/publications](http://www.mi-water.org/publications).

**Editor:**

Kelly Gleason, [kelly.gleason@lbwl.com](mailto:kelly.gleason@lbwl.com)  
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WINTER 2024



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# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Kelly Gleason, Editor

**W**elcome to the winter issue of *Michigan Water Works News*! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and had time to be with family and celebrate.

Since our last issue, fall was just beginning, and new leadership was taking their place. In true Michigan fashion we experienced decent weather into November. I recall seeing a notice that one of the local golf courses would be open for a couple of days in December – for those of us who are diehard fans.

One of my favorite training opportunities I always look forward to is

the Lab Practices Seminar. It is always a great day of information and networking. I was unable to attend this year, but I heard it was top-notch. Kudos to the Lab Practices Committee for putting on a great event. See what you missed on page 42. For additional training opportunities, see the calendar on page 57.

Is there content you'd like to see covered in *Water Works News*? Please send me pictures, stories, and updates to [kelly.gleason@lbwl.com](mailto:kelly.gleason@lbwl.com) with the subject line *Water Works News* or through the MI-AWWA website at [www.mi-water.org/publications](http://www.mi-water.org/publications). I would love to hear from you. 💧

## Publishing Schedule:

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**Winter 2025** – Copy due to Editor November 8, 2024, published January 2024.

**“ONE OF MY FAVORITE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES I ALWAYS LOOK FORWARD TO IS THE LAB PRACTICES SEMINAR. IT IS ALWAYS A GREAT DAY OF INFORMATION AND NETWORKING; KUDOS TO THE LAB PRACTICES COMMITTEE FOR PUTTING ON A GREAT EVENT.”**





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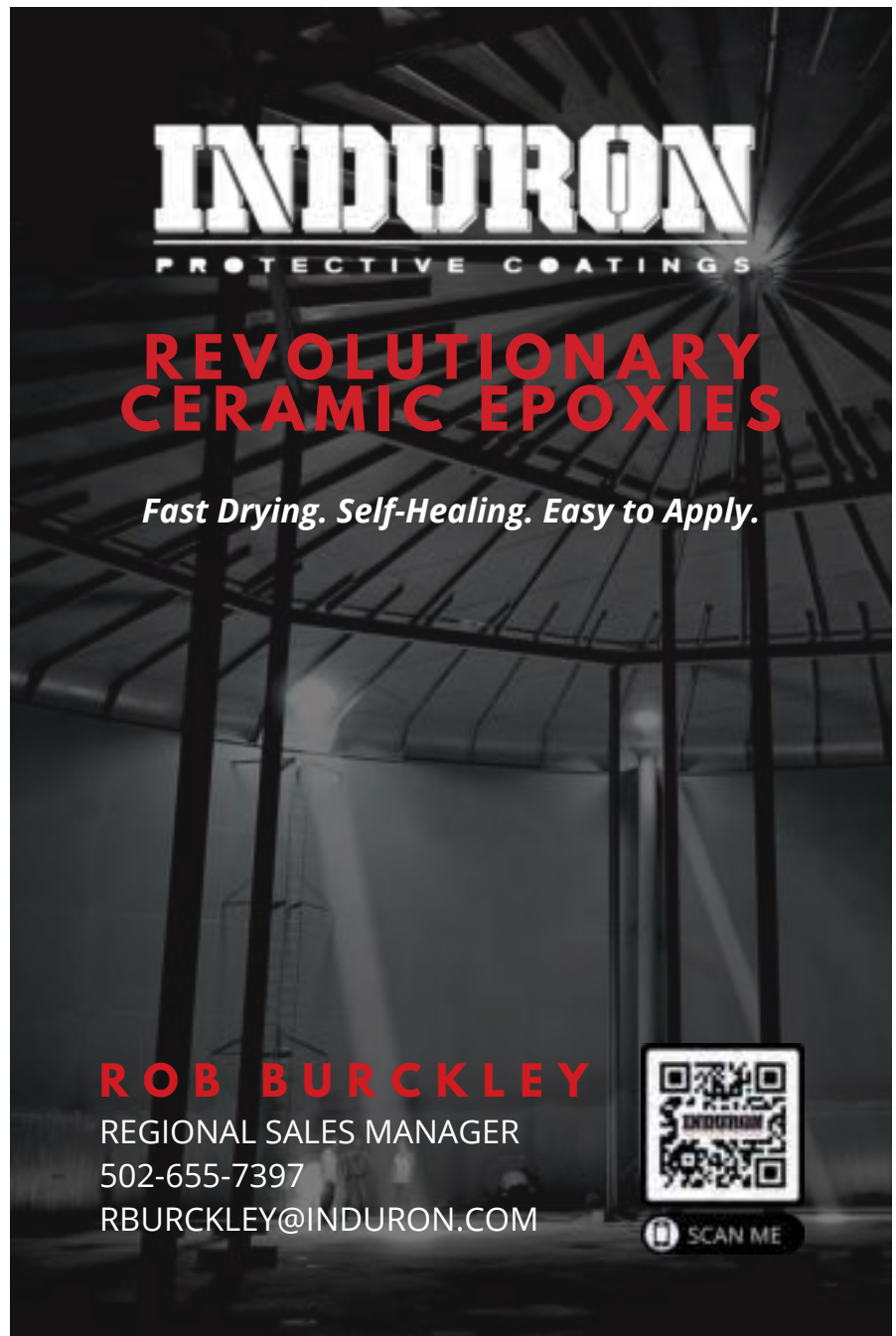
Gary Wozniak, Chair

*A portion of this article was given as my acceptance speech at the Annual Conference and Exhibits in Port Huron on September 14, 2023.*

**D**evastating fires play an important part in Michigan's history. Cities and villages were devastated by uncontrolled fires. People lost their homes, businesses, and their lives. The Peshtigo fire in 1871 swept into Menominee County, MI. Holland, Port Huron, and Manistee all had fires that same day. The Great Thumb fire in 1881 burned over half of the Thumb region. Many towns were not rebuilt after the fires, which is why several towns in the Thumb area appear on a Michigan map but are little more than a road intersection with a few buildings.

Municipal water systems were developed in Michigan towns and cities during the early twentieth century with fire protection in mind. Mendon, MI, constructed its municipal water system after a fire ravaged the town in 1917. City planners knew to protect our society and preserve the quality of life. Fire protection was necessary, and with that came a robust water system.

As water supply engineers, we design fire flows and work with local fire departments to protect property. However, I witnessed an event unfold during my career in June of 2003 that my engineering experience could not prepare me for. It started when a young man named Terrance Shurn was speeding his motorcycle along I-94 in Berrien County and was chased by the police into Benton Harbor. He crashed and died while evading a non-violent traffic stop. Within a day, a riot ensued, and 25 homes were burning in a city with a population of 10,000. Working for the state DEQ at the time, I called the water superintendent the following morning to see how the water plant was keeping up with the emergency. I was told the Benton Harbor




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SCAN ME





Fire Department tried to respond but was repelled with bricks and had to stand down. I was quite disappointed because, as a water guy, things like elevated storage and high service pump capacity are made for such an event. But what does this situation have to do with the water supply?

It impressed on me that the quality of life we obtain through water supply was denied to Benton Harbor that night due to societal reasons beyond my understanding, certainly beyond engineering controls or the application of the *Safe Drinking Water Act*. Broken infrastructure may not look like we think it should, yet the results are the same: denial of safe water.

Our mission at the Michigan Section AWWA is to improve lives through the effective management of our most vital resource. Safe water affects many aspects of our society: health, cleanliness, and property protection. I believe the converse is also true – that political aspects of our society affect our water supply. It is a relationship that takes many forms, from simply paying our water bill to being politically active, voting, consciously protecting source water, and funding infrastructure maintenance.

Everyone in the water sector has witnessed the biggest infrastructure spending bill in our nation's history. Our state lawmakers are also leading the nation with an attempt at water affordability with new legislation. As we undertake infrastructure improvements, replace the 4-inch main, install second river crossings, and close the dead-end main with loops, remember that the physical infrastructure is only part of the solution. Relationship dynamics between the ratepayers, police and fire departments, and city commissioners are just as important. Investing in these relationships along with a robust water supply will ensure quality of life for our Michigan residents. 💧







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# YEAR OF STRATEGIC PLANS

Christine Spitzley, Director

*"The best way to predict your future is to create it."* – Peter Drucker

**2**024 is the "Year of the Strategic Plans." Both AWWA and MI-AWWA will be working to complete their strategic plans in the coming months. Strategic planning is not a topic that generally stirs much excitement. Yet almost every government, company, and organization have some version of a strategic plan. A search of "strategic planning definitions" returned over three million results.

According to Indeed, "Strategic planning is a process used by organizations to identify their goals, the strategies necessary to accomplish those goals, and the internal performance management system used to monitor and evaluate progress. Most organizations use a strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) analysis or gap analysis to identify the underlying factors driving their current performance. This, in turn, provides information regarding the most high-leverage strategies to create change." A good strategic plan requires a great deal of thought, asking hard questions, and a willingness to change direction if necessary.

AWWA's 2025 Strategic Plan shares its vision, mission, core principles, and goals in an unexpectedly brief two pages. This short document provides concise, measurable direction to an organization representing 50,000 members. To view the Strategic Plan, visit [www.awwa.org/portals/0/awwa/executive/about/2025\\_strategic\\_plan.pdf](http://www.awwa.org/portals/0/awwa/executive/about/2025_strategic_plan.pdf).

To prepare for the next five years, AWWA kicked off the update to its' 2030 Strategic Plan in September 2023.



**AWWA STRATEGIC PLAN  
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I have had the opportunity to be part of the Association's Strategic Planning Committee, learning first-hand how much information, research, debate, and thought goes into creating a two-page plan. The Association's first step was to prepare a detailed SWOT analysis. This was followed by an intense two-day meeting at AWWA Headquarters in Denver, CO, where the committee developed the content of the 2030 Strategic Plan. A draft plan was created, reviewed, and then shared with the AWWA Board at the Board's January 2024 workshop. The Board's feedback and input are being considered as the Plan is refined. The final draft will be presented to the Board at ACE in June 2024 for consideration for adoption.

In July 2020, the Board approved the Michigan Section 2020-2023 Strategic Plan. The plan was created using input from members across Michigan and various other stakeholder groups. It contains seven focus areas: professional development, public trust, advocacy, innovation, workforce, funding, and section operations. The Strategic Plan serves as the organization's collective roadmap. To optimize the work of the Section, the Strategic Plan is regularly reviewed to make sure we are still on track and heading in a direction that best meets and supports the needs of our membership.

As the Michigan Director, I am leading the update for the 2024-2027 Michigan Strategic Plan. If strategic planning and guiding the future of the Michigan Section are things you are interested in, I hope you will seriously consider participating in this process. Please reach out to me or [info@miwater.org](mailto:info@miwater.org) for more information on how to get involved. 💧



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The Michigan AWWA Strategic Plan can be found at [www.mi-water.org/about-us](http://www.mi-water.org/about-us).

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## LOOKING AHEAD

Bonnifer Ballard, Executive Director

*"There are far better things ahead than any we leave behind."* – C.S. Lewis

**T**he past four years have been surreal. A global pandemic led to the proliferation of virtual meetings, supply chain issues, and a backlog of work that threatens to drown our workforce. More people are retiring while fewer are joining the sector. Even the way professional development is delivered has changed. How do we adapt to this 'new normal'?

The reality is that all of these changes were already headed our way. The pandemic just accelerated them, and now they're hitting all at once. The challenges we face require us to think differently about how we get our work done. You may need to source materials from a neighboring community instead



of a vendor. You might want to consider hiring for potential instead of experience. You will want to consider new stakeholders that you might not have traditionally engaged to get the work done.

Change is never easy. And all of this change all at once is particularly hard. Here are a few things I've learned that might make it easier for you as you navigate all of this change.

**Stay Open** – Changes have been thrust upon you. Stay open to these changes. Allow yourself the opportunity to learn something new.

**Ask Questions** – Hopefully, leadership is keeping lines of communication open. But don't be afraid to ask questions. It is easier for us to navigate change when we understand the 'why' of decisions.

**Explore** – Explore ways that you might bring something new or different to your position in light of these changes. Having a curious mindset can be very helpful in viewing change as a positive instead of a negative.

**Collaborate** – Check in with your coworkers. See how they're coping with the change. Be careful not to get caught in a negative venting session. That's not productive. You want to look for people finding constructive ways to cope with the change. Or, if you have some productive ways that work for you, share those with your colleagues. Spread positivity about the change.

**Manage Stress** – Change is stressful. Make sure you have some reliable coping strategies both at work and outside of the workplace.

These aren't magic answers, but hopefully, they give you some ideas for approaching all the changes coming at us. The world keeps spinning, and you all keep the water running. How we keep the water running just might look a little different than it did in the past. And that's okay. 💧



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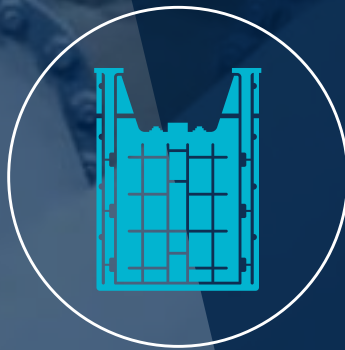
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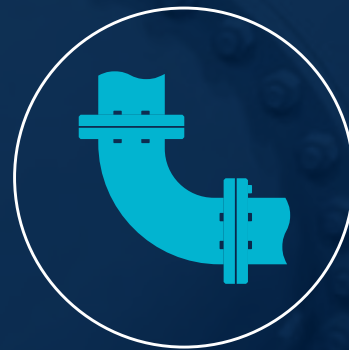
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### Schedule at a Glance

<b>Tuesday, February 6</b> Expo Floor Hours 9:30 – 4 pm				<b>Wednesday, February 7</b> Expo Floor Hours 8:30 – 2 pm			
	<b>TECHNICAL A</b> 0.3 Technical CEC	<b>TECHNICAL B</b> 0.3 Technical CEC	<b>MANAGERIAL</b> 0.3 Managerial CEC		<b>TECHNICAL A</b> 0.3 Technical CEC	<b>TECHNICAL B</b> 0.3 Technical CEC	<b>MANAGERIAL</b> 0.3 Managerial CEC
	<b>North</b> REGISTRATION Opens 7:15 North PROGRAM Begins 7:45	<b>South</b> REGISTRATION Opens 8:15 South PROGRAM Begins 8:45	<b>East</b> REGISTRATION Opens 7:45 East PROGRAM Begins 8:15		<b>North</b> REGISTRATION Opens 7:15 North PROGRAM Begins 7:45	<b>South</b> REGISTRATION Opens 8:15 South PROGRAM Begins 8:45	<b>East</b> REGISTRATION Opens 7:45 East PROGRAM Begins 8:15
	7:45am – 8:00am Announcements and Welcome from MI-AWWA and MWEA	8:45am – 9:00am Announcements and Welcome from MI-AWWA and MWEA	8:15am – 8:30am Announcements and Welcome from MI-AWWA and MWEA		7:45am – 8:00am Announcements and Welcome from MI-AWWA and MWEA	8:45am – 9:00am Announcements and Welcome from MI-AWWA and MWEA	8:15am – 8:30am Announcements and Welcome from MI-AWWA and MWEA
45 min.	8:00am – 8:45am “Backflow Prevention and New Changes to Michigan Law In Regard To Certified Testers” Paul Patterson, Hydro Corp	9:00am – 9:45am “Infrequent Excavation Personnel at Greater Risk of Trench Cave-in Incidents” James McRay, Arcosa Shoring Products	8:30am – 9:15am “Legislative Update” Mike Compagnoni, Midwest Strategy Group	45 min.	8:00am – 8:45am “MISS DIG 811 2024 Overview and Updates” Paul Harding, MISS DIG	9:00am – 9:45am “How to Bring a Proactive Approach to your Plant with Vibration Analysis” Jason Spettel, HECO	8:30am – 9:15am “Water Affordability Legislation” Stephanie Chang, Michigan State Senator
45 min.	8:45am – 9:30am “Quality in the Laboratory” Amy Vail, EGLE	9:45am – 10:30am “Backflow Prevention and New Changes to Michigan Law In Regard To Certified Testers” Paul Patterson, Hydro Corp	9:15am-10:00am “Planning for the Future – Starts with Managing Your Assets Today” Wayne Pratt, Xylem	45 min.	8:45am – 9:30am “EGLE Operator Certification Program Updates & Paths to Operator Certification” Koren Carpenter, EGLE and Alyssa Sarver, EGLE	9:45am – 10:30am “MISS DIG 811 2024 Overview and Updates” Paul Harding, MISS DIG	9:15am-10:00am “Empowering Water Management: Leveraging Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Optimal Asset Management” Bill Fritz, City of Rochester Hills
15 min.	Break			15 min.	Break		
45 min.	9:45am – 10:30am “Lead and Copper Rule Update/ PFAS and Emerging Contaminants Update” Jeni Bolt, EGLE and Stephanie Kammer, EGLE	10:45am – 11:30am “Quality in the Laboratory” Amy Vail, EGLE	10:15am – 11:00am “Including All Voices and Improving Your Utility” Barb Martin, American Water Works Association	45 min.	9:45am – 10:30am “Condition Assessment Tools to Assist in Capital Planning” Jeff Cunningham, M.E. Simpson Co.	10:45am – 11:30am “EGLE Operator Certification Program Updates & Paths to Operator Certification” Koren Carpenter, EGLE and Sarah Marshall, EGLE	10:15am – 11:00am “Cyber Security” Brandon Smith, Michigan State Police
45 min.	10:30am – 11:15am “Infrequent Excavation Personnel at Greater Risk of Trench Cave-in Incidents” James McRay, Arcosa Shoring Products	11:30am – 12:15pm “Lead and Copper Rule Update/ PFAS and Emerging Contaminants Update” Jeni Bolt, EGLE and Stephanie Kammer, EGLE	11:00am – 11:45am “Overview of Funding and Finance Options for Water and Wastewater Utilities” Speaker Pending	45 min.	10:30am – 11:15am “How to Bring a Proactive Approach to your Plant with Vibration Analysis” Jason Spettel, HECO	11:30am – 12:15pm “Condition Assessment Tools to Assist in Capital Planning” Jeff Cunningham, M.E. Simpson Co.	11:00am – 11:45am “Conscientious Communication with Community” Samarhia Giffel, City of Grand Rapids
	11:15 am – 4:00pm ADJOURN to EXPO HALL for LUNCH and EXHIBITS	12:15 pm – 4:00pm ADJOURN to EXPO HALL for LUNCH and EXHIBITS	11:45am – 4:00pm ADJOURN to EXPO HALL for LUNCH and EXHIBITS		11:15 am – 2:00pm ADJOURN to EXPO HALL for LUNCH and EXHIBITS	12:15 pm – 2:00pm ADJOURN to EXPO HALL for LUNCH and EXHIBITS	11:45am – 2:00pm ADJOURN to EXPO HALL for LUNCH and EXHIBITS



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*\*Note: Technical Agenda is the same in both rooms, attendees MUST select which start time / track upon registering. Speakers, topics, and times may be subject to change*

### Operator Days

There will be three training sessions. One operator session with two different start times and one leadership session offered each day.

Training registration includes your selected training session, lunch, and entry to the exhibit hall.

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## & OPERATOR DAYS



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There are two free-to-participate games anyone attending can join while walking the exhibit hall for a chance to win one of several prizes. Stop by the games table at the main entrance to the exhibit hall for specific instructions.

- Tuesday's Scavenger Hunt
- Wednesday's Poker Run

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### Joint Expo Mixer

Tuesday attendees can join us for happy hour at the Lansing Brewing Company from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Tuesday, February 6, 2024. Enjoy a drink, some nibbles, and more networking with colleagues and exhibitors.

### Registration

REGISTRATION TYPE	UP TO JANUARY 22, 2024	AFTER JANUARY 22, 2024
<b>1-Day Conference Attendee</b> Includes your selected training session, lunch, and entry to the exhibit hall on the day you select only.	\$160	\$185
<b>2-Day Conference Attendee</b> Includes your selected training session, lunch, and entry to the exhibit hall on both days.	\$300	\$325
<b>Exhibit Hall Pass Only</b> Includes entry to the exhibit hall only on both days.	Complimentary	\$10

Register at [www.jointexpo.org](http://www.jointexpo.org).

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You might have noticed a slight name change. For years, we have offered a 2-day training option where operators can earn up to 0.6 CECs in DW and WW. We have updated the name to reflect this practice.



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# 150 YEARS

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**On July 20, 2023**, the City of Grand Rapids Water System celebrated 150 years of delivering essential water services to its community. This historic moment was acknowledged with a special proclamation presented by Mayor Rosalynn Bliss, celebrating the Water System and the dedicated individuals who ensure that high-quality drinking water is delivered to the community every day.

Now, let's take a journey back in time to explore the origins of the City of Grand Rapids Water System!

The city's early water sources came from large, natural springs on the city's hillsides. It was said that people could dig a few feet into the ground to find fresh water. As the city grew, natural springs became unsustainable to meet the water demand. To address this problem, a group of private investors established the Grand Rapids Hydraulic Company (GRHC) in 1848. However, after various disastrous fires and poor water quality, city officials began to discuss a water system owned by the city. This led to a vote on July 20, 1873, where 96% of voters said yes to investing \$250,000 (equivalent to \$6.3 million today) to establish a municipal water system.

The vision shown by those leaders and residents in 1873 paved the way for a secure water supply for the city. The GRHC was eventually dissolved by the Michigan State Supreme Court in 1908, granting the city control over all GRHC assets. As the city grew, it embarked on a series of transformative steps in its water management.

In 1912, the city started pumping water from the Grand River and built its first filtration plant along Monroe Avenue.

The Monroe Plant underwent various expansions during the 1920s and 1930s. Ten years later, the city constructed a pipeline connecting Lake Michigan to the Monroe Plant. In 1962, the city built the Lake Michigan Filtration Plant (LMFP) at its current location along Lake Michigan. These two plants jointly served the city and its surrounding communities for several decades. In 1992, the city achieved a significant milestone with the expansion of the LMFP, increasing its pumping capacity to 135 million gallons per day – this marked the decommissioning of the Monroe Plant.

Today, the City of Grand Rapids Water System is a testament to progress, employing just over 116 dedicated employees. What was once a community reliant on springs and creeks has transformed into a resilient system that pumps water from Lake Michigan and delivers it to its community through a network of 1,300 miles of water mains, supported by 16 storage tanks, and 11 pumping stations. The decision made by voters 150 years ago has rippled over time, impacting the lives of over 325,000 people every single day.



To learn more about the history of the City of Grand Rapids Water System, visit [www.grandrapidsmi.gov/government/departments/water-system/150-years-of-the-grand-rapids-water-system](http://www.grandrapidsmi.gov/government/departments/water-system/150-years-of-the-grand-rapids-water-system) or scan the QR code. 💧





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# WHAT EVERY OPERATOR MUST KNOW

## PROCESS SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN (PSM)

Balvinder Sehgal

The Process Safety Management Plan (PSM) is defined as the proactive identification, assessment, and reduction/avoidance of chemical releases that occur as a result of failures in processes, procedures, and equipment. The plan provides guidelines that assist facilities in preventing highly hazardous chemicals (HHCs) from being mismanaged/released.

The PSM is a regulation originally developed by the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and applies to companies dealing with highly toxic and reactive chemicals. Such chemicals (if released at or above a specified threshold quantity) could result in a catastrophic event.

OSHA has provided a detailed list of such highly toxic and reactive chemicals. Facilities using or storing such chemicals must adhere to OSHA's PSM standards. Chlorine is one of the chemicals identified as an HHC. Facilities that use/store more than 1,500 pounds of chlorine are subject to the PSM regulations. Since a majority of the water treatment plants use liquid chlorine for the disinfection process, they must strictly adhere to the PSM guidelines.

The PSM plan outlines the following information:

- How facilities should handle chlorine processing.
- The operation and maintenance process.
- Employee training (e.g., response to releases, how to properly conduct investigations, etc.).

The goal of these policies is to decrease the overall risk to employees by reducing the chance of a chlorine release and minimizing the impact of releases that may occur.

The PSM guidelines enable employers to administer safety programs within their facilities effectively. Such programs are performance-based and lay out key safety protocols for managing HHCs. One of the key elements of the PSM is the Process Hazard Analysis (PHA). The PHA is an effort to identify the potential hazards associated with the processing and handling of HHCs. It provides information that assists in making decisions for reducing unwanted releases. The PHA must be performed by a team with expertise in engineering and process operations. Furthermore, the team must include at least one employee who has expertise and knowledge of the overall process being evaluated. Employees/their representatives must be consulted on the development of the PHA.


Operators must follow the PSM regulations carefully and are responsible for maintaining plant safety at all times. They must have access to the plan and be familiar with all the sections relating to their specific job roles/responsibilities. They must follow key sections of the plan, including the operating/



maintenance procedures and the safe work practices. Each employee (including contractors) operating/maintaining certain processes must receive and understand the required PSM training and should never make changes to the chemicals, technology, equipment, or procedures without following the change management procedures. Furthermore, all employees must be informed of (and trained in) the proposed changes prior to implementing the updated process.

Lastly, employees must understand the different types of incidents and accidents that could occur and should report such events to their supervisor immediately.

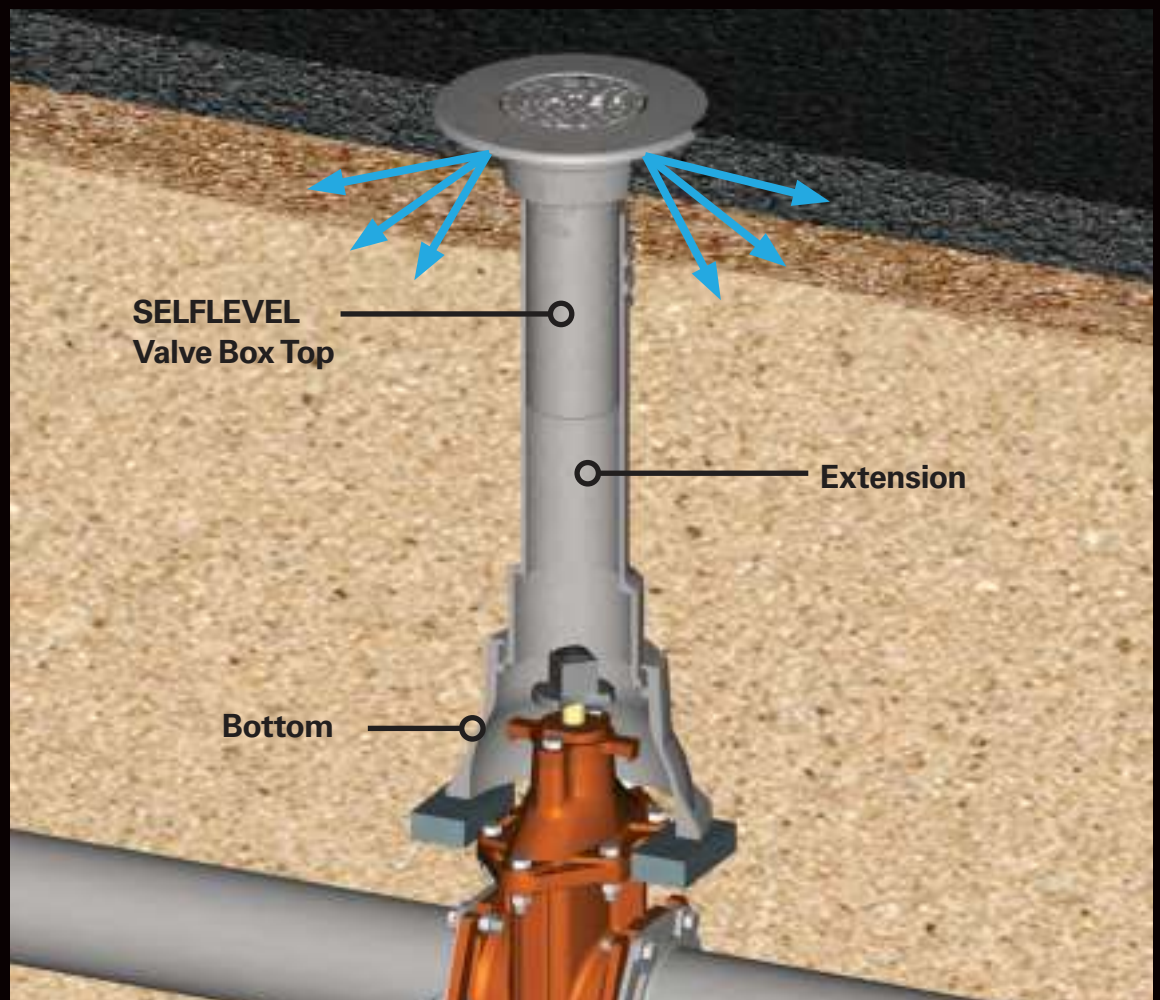
Please refer to the following links for further information:

- **Process Safety Management:** [www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/osh3132.pdf](http://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/osh3132.pdf)
- **OSHA's PSM Standard List of Highly Hazardous Chemicals:** [www.njwec.org/PDF/Programs/PSM\\_Chemical\\_Thresholds.pdf](http://www.njwec.org/PDF/Programs/PSM_Chemical_Thresholds.pdf) 



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# Above the Bridge

## Running on the Power of Water

Stacey Kukkonen,  
Communications Coordinator

**D**avid Bal has been the guy in charge of the water department in the City of Norway in the Upper Peninsula since 1987; the same year the well field went into place.

"I never touched them until ten years later, but now I'm the guy in charge of all of that," Bal, the Water Department's Supervisor, said.

Be it rain or shine, sleet or snow – for which there is plenty in the UP – Bal is found heading out to the booster station,



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located just outside of town. The station itself is something to see, situated down a two-track road and secured behind a locked gate.

"I come out here once daily, every morning, and weekends, too," he said. "We make sure everything looks good. If there's trouble, I get those alarms, but we still come out."

Drinking water supplied to the City of Norway comes from three groundwater production wells located just outside a rural area in Vulcan, along with a pumphouse onsite where all three wells deliver water. The supply then converges to a single 14-inch transmission main into the distribution system, Bal said.


"We're fortunate for the wells and where we're at," Bal said. "We can push over a million gallons a day if we have to."

Although he is set to retire soon, Bal said he hopes the city plans to expand the water storage and distribution system. Specifically, he said the system will need new piping and upgrades soon.

"This is capable of handling that," Bal said of the current distribution system. "But it's 35 years old."

The City of Norway differs from many other places in Michigan because water is converted to energy used by residents and surrounding areas generated right in town. According to the City of Norway's website, "Better yet, we produce the energy without fossil fuels. Through an environmentally responsible process, Norway's energy comes from one of the most natural resources: the power of water." 💧









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## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS: MI-ACE 2024

MI-ACE is planned for September 2024 in Grand Rapids. Abstracts are now being accepted. The Program Planning Committee is particularly interested in abstracts that cover new and innovative approaches to solving problems, presentations celebrating the 50th anniversary of the *Safe Drinking Water Act*, and emerging issues. All topic ideas are welcome.

Please visit the Section's conference webpage to submit your presentation idea at [www.mi-water.org/mi-ace](http://www.mi-water.org/mi-ace). 





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## 2024 BEST TASTING WATER IN MICHIGAN COMPETITION

This is a call to action! For years, you have been saying that you make the best water in the 'Great Lakes State!' Well, it's time to prove it. The Best Tasting Water Regional Competitions will be held at the Michigan Section of the AWWA 2024 Spring Regional Water Seminars (formerly 'Regional Meetings'). Winners of the five regions (Livonia, Kalamazoo, Gaylord, Mt. Pleasant, and the UP) will compete for Best Tasting

Water in Michigan at the MI-AWWA Annual Conference and Exhibits in Grand Rapids (September 2024). The state competition winner will represent the Section at AWWA ACE 2025 in Denver, CO.

Competing is super easy. Grab a quart mason jar, fill it with water from the distribution system (the plant tap is a wonderful place to grab your entry), and bring the unrefrigerated water to

the registration/check-in desk at your Regional Water Seminar. A group of independent judges will score yours against the other entrants, with the regional winner announced that day. It's as easy as that!

So, let's get those mason jars ready and prepare to show off your best homebrew. You can't win if you don't play! See you at your Spring Regional Water Seminar! 💧

## INTRODUCING REGIONAL WATER SEMINARS

Geared toward operators, these regional one-day seminars will be held semi-annually and provide an opportunity for timely content while offering continuing education credits. Regional Water Seminars will be held in Livonia, Grand Rapids, and Gaylord areas. These seminars are an evolution of our long-standing Regional Meetings (read more in the sidebar).

As usual, programming for these seminars is developed by water professionals for water professionals. If you are interested in joining the Planning Committee or in presenting at these regional seminars, please reach out to Rebecca Chesnut at [rebecca@mi-water.org](mailto:rebecca@mi-water.org). 💧



### REGIONAL WATER SEMINARS

## Save the Date for the Upcoming Spring Regional Water Seminars in 2024!

April 16 – Livonia

April 17 – Gaylord

April 18 – Grand Rapids

### We can't wait to see you there!

For more information and updates, please visit [www.mi-water.org/events](http://www.mi-water.org/events).

#### Regional Meetings to Regional Water Seminars

If you have been around MI-AWWA for a while, you would know that Regional Meetings have been semi-annual one-day seminars held in the spring and the fall in four locations. These 'meetings' were always about helping to bring timely and local content to operators across the state. We received feedback late last year that Regional Meetings sounded like a meeting. Why would anyone want to pay to go to another meeting? So, we've rebranded Regional Meetings to Regional Water Seminars.

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# READY TO LEAD?

## Nominations Open for the Michigan Section Board of Trustees

**Nominations are due by March 29, 2024.**

The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for terms beginning in September 2024 (in conjunction with the Annual Business Meeting) for the following positions:

**Trustee:** Two each for a three-year term.

**Chair-Elect:** Three-year term (one as Chair-Elect, one as Chair, and one as Past Chair).

**Director:** Three-year term (serves on the MI-AWWA Board beginning September 2024 and the AWWA Board starting June 2025).

Self and peer nominations are both encouraged. Please also note that the bylaws of the Section indicate that we should strive to have the following:

- At least one Board member from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan; and
- At least one Board member either from the area of the Lower Peninsula north of Town Line Fifteen or from any district, area, or community in the Lower Peninsula maintaining water service to a population under 10,000 persons at the most recent Federal Census.

The representation of the Board of Directors members is intended to reflect the diverse membership of the Section, including, but not limited to, geographical locations, membership categories, utility size, gender, and ethnic origins.

Any member in good standing of the Section, including a multi-section member, is eligible to hold elective office in the Section.

Interested members are encouraged to contact Nominations Committee Chair Christine Spitzley at [info@mi-water.org](mailto:info@mi-water.org).





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By now, you have seen the new website. Highlighted here are the Member Compass and your individual profile.

Remember to log in.



The Member Compass is your personal page. You can view your history, look at the CECs you earned from MI-AWWA, pay invoices, and update your profile.



If you are a member, you will have access to the Member Directory.



Your current title and employer, along with your involvement in MI-AWWA, will be listed.






## ONE AWWA OPERATOR SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE



Did you know that AWWA, together with the Michigan Section, offers the One AWWA Operator Scholarship? This scholarship provides funds for either college courses or continuing education and professional development classes.

Money is left on the table every year. Water professionals from across Michigan and the country have donated to make these funds available to help advance the career of someone willing to roll up their sleeves. If you are an operator thinking about the next step in your professional development, check out the details and then apply at [www.awwa.org/water-equation/one-awwa-operator-scholarship](http://www.awwa.org/water-equation/one-awwa-operator-scholarship). 



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## IS THIS THING ON? WELCOME TO THE CURRENT

Stacey Kukkonen, Communications Coordinator

In the final stretch of MI-ACE 2023 in early September, Jaime Fleming and Matt Lane sat across from each other in a quiet room, tapping gently on their mics and adjusting their headsets.

"Where do we want to begin?"

Fleming asked Lane into the mic.

The response was a mix of nervousness and unwavering enthusiasm, as the canvas of water in Michigan is vast and rich with stories to tell. Fleming and Lane were approached by the Michigan Section's Communication Council to lend their voices and expertise to a new podcast planned to feature water topics and happenings at the Section, which will serve as a vehicle to deliver these stories.

The Council has spent months honing its podcasting prowess, securing equipment, crafting ideas, designing, and breathing life into the show – aptly named *The Current* – with Fleming and Lane at the helm. *The Current* covers a range of topics important to Michigan's water sector, from affordability to infrastructure and policy updates. The first episode features Board Chair Gary Wozniak and Executive Director Bonnifer Ballard.

Fleming, of the City of Wyoming, who said she loves podcasts almost as much as reading, was a natural choice when picking hosts for *The Current*.

"They're my go-to when I wish I could be reading but can't – so during my commute, while I'm doing chores, shopping, etc.," she said. "I was given a chance to mix my love of podcasts with my love of all things water. Of course, I said yes!"

Fleming is also on the Board of Trustees at the Section, has held roles ranging from council seats to Board Chair, and has been awarded with several Section awards. She's joined on air with Lane of the Great Lakes Water Authority.

"The first episode was so much fun to record once I got past the initial intimidation factor," she said. "We had smart and fun guests and were in the midst of the magic of conference week. So much fun."





Lane was also an easy choice to ask to co-host *The Current*, as he has worked in communications, has experience in government, and has his own podcast about fatherhood.

"I said 'yes' to hosting because I want to do whatever I can to help communicate the importance of what the people working in the water sector do," Lane said. "I am a public servant. I have spent over a decade in local government and have seen first-hand that water and wastewater services are often taken for granted."

Communications Council Chair Samarhia Giffel said future topics featured on *The Current* include the much-anticipated Water 2050 topic and today's drinking water status in Michigan.

"Our new podcast helps to keep our members and their partners up to date on current events with the Section and in the water industry," Giffel said. "We have two dynamic hosts that will take you on a journey – up, down, across, and horizontally – around Michigan and our Great Lakes. Our Section has worked hard to bring you this new, fun media outlet."

Curtis Burris-White of GLWA is lending his multimedia talent to develop *The Current*, including everything from sound mixing to design. The podcast jingle was recorded and donated by MI-AWWA member Colin McCorkle and his band, making the show entirely member-run.

"This is a great way to keep MI-AWWA members informed, engaged, and entertained about the complexities of Michigan's water sector, both in the facilities and the boardrooms," Burris-White said. "I hope people get a high-level understanding of the water sector's challenges and have an enjoyable experience as they listen."

Seated at a round table at MI-ACE and joined by Wozniak and Ballard, the group instantly fell into a natural rhythm of conversation, with dialogue meandering seamlessly from the intricacies of microplastics to the complexities of water legislation.

"It was an honor and a privilege to sit down with Gary and Bonnifer to talk



about their vision for the podcast and to hear their in-progress reflections of the 2023 Annual Conference," Lane said after the recording. "That conversation sparked quite a few ideas that I think will help propel the podcast forward as we produce content and build momentum."

Lane expressed his enthusiasm for embarking on this project alongside Fleming, sharing that the dynamic duo has been crafting an exhilarating lineup of episodes in anticipation.

"I think her expertise and insight into the industry will be such a huge benefit to everyone listening, and I look forward to working with her on upcoming episodes," he said.

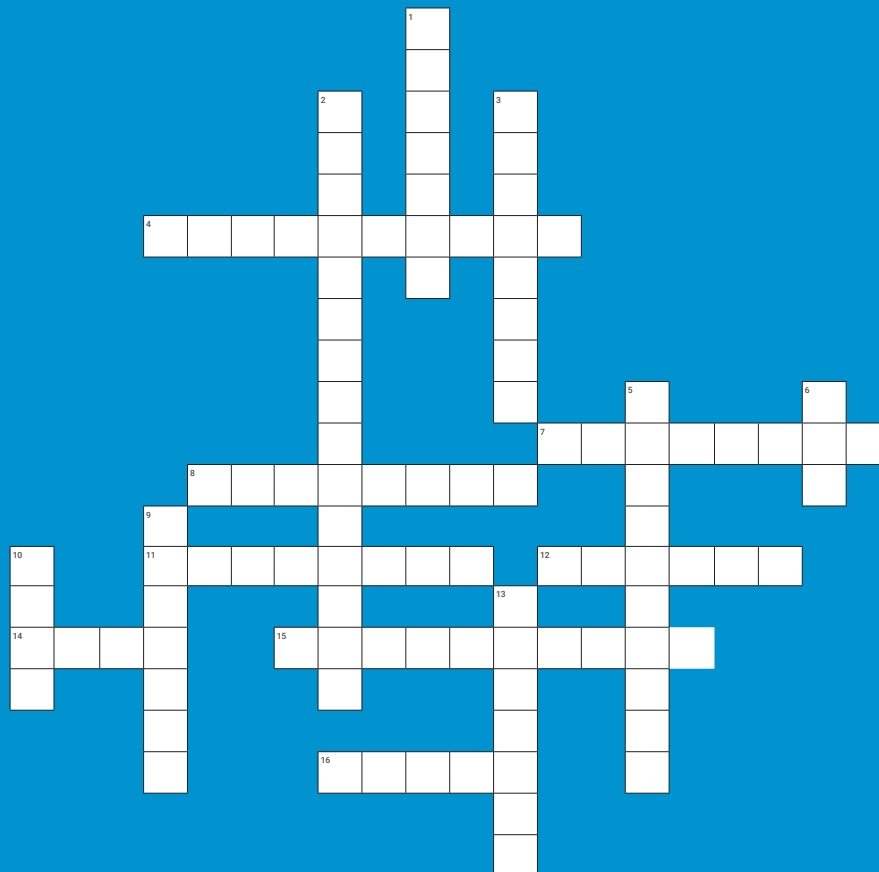
Fleming echoed his sentiments: "We have so many interesting, smart, and passionate people working in water, and the podcast feels like a great way to share their voices. The possibilities are endless."

You can find MI-AWWA's *The Current* on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, Google Podcast, Amazon Music, and Buzzsprout.

Do you have an impactful idea or topic? We can't wait to feature you on our podcast to showcase your member's talents, highlight your work, and celebrate your accomplishments. Send your ideas to [stacey@mi-water.org](mailto:stacey@mi-water.org). 💧



## CROSSWORD: ALL ABOUT SDWA



### ACROSS

4. Type of treatment that removes particles from water through a porous medium
7. Material used to line drinking water pipes to prevent corrosion
8. Process of adding a chemical to water to disinfect it
11. Common method of water treatment that uses chemicals to remove impurities
12. Contaminant that can cause a rotten egg smell in water
14. Maximum contaminant level for lead in drinking water
15. Municipalities must develop and implement a \_\_\_\_\_ plan
16. System for monitoring and controlling the quality of drinking water

### DOWN

1. Public water system responsible for compliance
2. Type of contaminants regulated by the *Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act*
3. Chemical added to water to reduce tooth decay
5. Substance added to water to adjust its acidity or alkalinity
6. Primary federal agency overseeing drinking water standards
9. Water quality parameter measured in pH
10. Agency responsible for enforcing the *Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act*
13. Drinking water standards are set to protect public health and \_\_\_\_\_

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## ASSET & INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT (AIM) COMMITTEE

The Asset & Infrastructure Management (AIM) Committee held its last meeting on September 27, 2023, where a presentation was given by Eric Synstebly (Kennedy Jenks) and Steve Dutschke (GLWA) surrounding the topic of Reliability Centered Maintenance (RCM). As always, the Committee provided updates from EGLE, WAMC, and any other relevant legislative information as it pertains to asset management.

The Committee is always searching for others in the water industry who are willing to share their expertise and experiences

related to asset management. Please reach out to Ashley Jacqmain, Tyler DeNooyer, or Brian Richey if you're interested in joining the Committee or would like to present/share at one of their upcoming meetings.

Contact information is listed below:

Ashely Jacqmain – [ajacqmain@hazenandsawyer.com](mailto:ajacqmain@hazenandsawyer.com)

Tyler DeNooyer – [tdenooyer@preinnewhof.com](mailto:tdenooyer@preinnewhof.com)

Brian Richey – [brichey@hollandbpw.com](mailto:brichey@hollandbpw.com) 



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## LAB PRACTICES COMMITTEE

Dan Sroka, Committee Past Chair

Greetings from the Lab Practices Committee – thank you to all of our attendees, speakers, vendors, volunteers, and MI-AWWA/MWEA staff who made our 2023 Lab Practices Committee Seminar a SUCCESS! This year's seminar had a new record for in-person attendees and vendors since pre-COVID-19. We had a strong lineup of many talented speakers with valuable information, great food, and great friends.

Congratulations to Jack Hughes and Doug Engelsman, who stepped forward in the succession of our leadership. Jack Hughes (MI-AWWA) is now the Chair of our joint committee, and Doug Engelsman (MWEA) is the new Vice-Chair. This year, the Committee created a new Past Chair

position to support the new leadership, so I will be there to help in any way I can. I want to thank our committee members and staff who supported me as the Chair for my term. I had a great time and plan to for years down the road in this committee.

Join the Committee to excel in your professional growth and give yourself a resource for networking and troubleshooting with your peers. Please reach out to Jack Hughes, Doug Engelsman, Dan Sroka, or MI-AWWA staff if you are interested in being part of the solution. We look forward to seeing each of you at the Joint Expo and Operator Days event in February! 💧



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## TRAINING NEEDS RESULTS

The Education & Training Council conducted a training needs assessment. Here are some highlights:

- The most popular modality is in person.
- Most respondents say they learn best with some combination of hands-on as well as other delivery of content.
- Travel may be limited for some to less than 75 miles from their home or office.

The five training topics identified were:

1. Safe Drinking Water Act Compliance
2. Operations and Maintenance
3. Water Quality
4. Cross Connections
5. Management and Supervision

We will be continuing to explore how to offer you better learning experiences. Look for ETC volunteers at Joint Expo & Operator Days. Answer their survey questions for a chance to win a gift card! 💧



Thank you to all who participated in this important survey. More than 50 people won a gift card for participating. Thank you for helping us to improve our training program!

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## 2023 BEST TASTING WATER COMPETITION WINNER – MARQUETTE TOWNSHIP

While the competition was hard, the water was not. A full slate of regional champions brought their finest dihydrogen monoxide to the Blue Water Convention Center. The City of Ann Arbor, Mancelona Area Water and Sewer Authority, East Lansing Meridian Water, City of Kalamazoo (Central), and Marquette Township brought a mason jar of their best home-grown water, determined to be the best. They all had survived, advanced out of their regional competitions in the spring, and arrived in Port Huron, dreaming of being the 'Best in the Mitten.' Who would prevail? What System would be crowned 2023's Best Tasting Water in Michigan? Time would only tell.

An assiduous panel of judges brought to bear their discriminating palates. The competition ebbed and flowed,

constantly in flux. Judges poured over the details of aroma, appearance, and taste. Never has an outcome been more fluid. In the end, one round of samples was all it would take to determine the champion.

The best-tasting water can be found north of the bridge in Marquette Township. They will represent the Section well at AWWA ACE in Anaheim, CA, in June 2024.

Congratulations to the artisans who pour themselves into every single drop of **2023's Best Tasting Water in Michigan – Marquette Township!**

I am already looking forward to our 2024 competition, so plan to bring your mason jars to your Spring Regional Water Seminar. 💧





## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Members who joined September 1, 2023, to November 30, 2023.

**Marwa Abouraya**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Ahmed Alhassan**, Detroit Water & Sewerage Department  
**Annie Andary**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Terrence Anderson**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Christopher Andrews**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Benjamin Badalamente**, Boll Filter Corporation  
**Lauren Baker**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Desiree Barrett**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Sonya Beaver**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Kimberly Bennett**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Dana Bierer**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Lloyd Bowman**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Antonio Brown**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Donell Brown**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Michelle Burt**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Gladys Cannon**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Doretta Catchings**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Cindy Cezat**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Sandy Chen**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Joe Ciurlino**, Solberg Knowles & Associates  
**Tina Clinkscapes**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Judith Cook**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Precious Daniels**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Marguerite Davenport**, City of Marshall  
**Sharon Davis-Beavers**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Derek Decan**, City of Wyoming Utilities Department  
**Constance Delling**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Andrew Denuyl**, City of Wyoming Utilities Department  
**Daniel Dewindt**, Trout Creek Condo Association  
**William Diamond**, City of Utica  
**Eric Diaz**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Liza Downer**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Francine Duncan-Martin**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Jennifer Eddy**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Dan Edwards**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Pamela Fladger**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Winston Flennoy**, Detroit Water & Sewerage Department  
**Jace Fritzler**, Cornwell Engineering Group  
**Diondre Garner**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Karen Gerow**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Tina Gillery**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Yolanda Hamilton**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Nadine Hampton**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Jennifer Harding**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Dwaynna Hargrove**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Monica Herrick**, City of St. Joseph  
**Derek Hibner**  
**Katrina Ingram**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
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**Dianne Johnson**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Scott Juryn**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
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**Gregory Monson**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Gerald Moore**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
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**Jacqueline Morgan**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**James Motta**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**John Nagle**, Hubbell Roth and Clark Inc.  
**Kareem Norris**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Addarryl Norwood**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Josh Prusakiewicz**, HDR  
**Breina Pugh**, Lansing Board of Water & Light  
**Mahfuz Rahman**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Clifford Robinson**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Michael Rodriquez**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Curtis Rogers**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Kari Rosol**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Paul Rush**  
**Marwan Salahuddin**, Detroit Water & Sewerage Department  
**Joan Salwasser**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
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**Brandon Schempf**, Kennedy Industries  
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**Kathy Smith-Roy**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Jeremiah Spencer**, City of Jackson  
**Donna Spiller**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Andrew Swift**, City of Wyoming Utilities Department  
**Lavon Tagger**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Eric Talbot**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Kendra Taylor**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
**Aldrina Thomas**, Great Lakes Water Authority  
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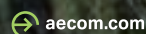
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# KNOW YOUR WATER – LEAD EDUCATION TOOLKIT

Statewide Drinking Water Advisory Council

The Statewide Drinking Water Advisory Council (SDWAC) was created following the revisions to the *Michigan Lead and Copper Rule*. The responsibilities of the SDWAC include educating the public about the risks of lead in drinking water and supporting the 36 local Water Supply Advisory Councils (WSAC) in Michigan that represent public water supplies serving more than 50,000 people.

The SDWAC recently launched a public education toolkit, 'Know Your Water,' to help people understand the sources and risks of lead in drinking water and how to reduce those risks. The toolkit was designed with significant public input and includes a wide variety of materials suitable for use by water supplies, community partner organizations, WSACs, and local health departments. It has over 50 items, including social media materials, flyers, posters, graphics and videos, bill stuffers, door hangers, magnets, FAQs, and more. Many of the materials can be personalized with the water supply's (or organization's) information. Check the toolkit at [www.michigan.gov/knowyourwater](http://www.michigan.gov/knowyourwater). 



## How does lead get into your home tap water?

Lead can be found in a wide variety of products in your home, including older paint, faucets and plumbing materials. You cannot see, taste or smell lead in your water.

Lead in tap water can cause health problems in people of all ages. Young children and pregnant people are most at risk.

Faucets, fixtures, pipes, fittings and valves sold before 2014 may be a source of lead.

**Tip!** Boiling water does NOT reduce lead. Water will evaporate during boiling, leaving the same amount of lead in less water.

**Tip!** Use a water filter certified to reduce lead, such as a faucet-mounted filter or a water filter pitcher.



Learn more at  
[Michigan.gov/KnowYourWater](http://Michigan.gov/KnowYourWater)  
**Know your water.**

Information provided by the Michigan Statewide Drinking Water Advisory Council.



Lead can get into our bodies when swallowed from drinking water, paint chips, or dust or inhaling dust from the air.

Service lines made of lead – the pipes that bring water into your home – could be a source of lead.

In-home pipes made of galvanized iron, lead or copper with lead solder can corrode and decay, which may result in lead entering your water, causing increased lead levels.



## NEW TERMS ON THE 2024 EGLE MONITORING SCHEDULE

At the beginning of every year, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) mails out an annual monitoring schedule to all Community Water Supplies (CWS). This schedule details the specific monitoring requirements for all compliance sampling needed in the year. The sample type, frequency, and due date are all listed on the schedule and are grouped by facility. A facility is a location where the sampling takes place; typically, this is either in the distribution system or at an entry point. Each facility has an identity associated with it, which is referred to as 'Facility ID' on the monitoring schedule and was previously referred to as a Site Code. Every facility is required to have at least one sampling point code tied to it, which is referred to as the 'Sampling Point ID.'

For the majority of Facility IDs, the Sampling Point ID will match it exactly. For example:

1. A Facility ID of TP100 has a Sampling Point ID of TP100.
2. A Facility ID of CH001 has a Sampling Point ID of CH001.

But in some cases, primarily related to Disinfection Byproduct monitoring, the Facility ID will *NOT* match the Sampling Point ID. For example:

1. A Facility ID of DIST has a Sampling Point ID of DBP1.
2. A Facility ID of DIST has two Sampling Point IDs of DBP1 and DBP2.

These terms are important so that EGLE and the CWS can better track and retain incoming sample data. In the future, placeholders for these terms will be added to the EGLE Drinking Water Laboratory sample analysis request form and potentially others to accommodate the ability to transfer data electronically from the lab to EGLE. Accurate data collection is integral to EGLE's transition to electronic reporting.

Beginning in 2024, the provided annual monitoring schedule will include a list of Facility IDs and related Sampling Point IDs. If there are questions on terms used, sample location, or the monitoring schedule, further assistance can be provided by the respective EGLE district office. 💧



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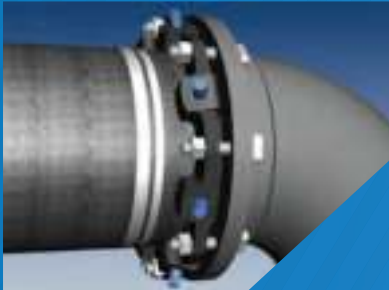




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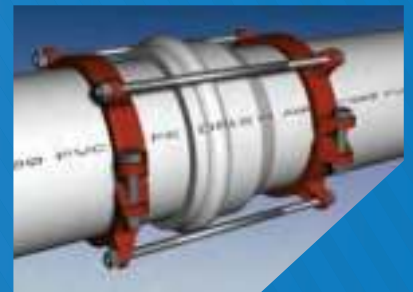
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## START EARNING YOUR CERTIFICATE FOR THE MICHIGAN WATER ACADEMY®

The Michigan Water Academy® has had some glitches in fully launching. But you can start taking classes to work toward a certificate in one of four learning levels. The idea is to offer a clear training path to help water professionals manage their professional development and their career path. Each level will also help operators prepare for their next state exam.

One of the great aspects of the Michigan Water Academy® is that the classes are designed to be highly participatory, including hands-on activities. And members were very clear with their feedback in the Training Needs Assessment – hands-on or a combination of two learning approaches works best. Academy classes will include the traditional lecture but will also have discussions, activities, hands-on activities, and practice tests to get you prepared for writing your next exam.

Classes available this year are listed on this page. Visit the website for a complete list of planned classes. Also, keep your eyes out for the next phase in the Academy's development. MI-AWWA is building an online asynchronous learning library as part of the Academy to help those pressed for time, working the 2nd or 3rd shift, and who just like to go at their own pace. We're also exploring micro-lessons – an opportunity to do short online lessons on only the topics you want to learn.

For now, check out what is available this year. Take any Michigan Water Academy® class, and we'll track your progress toward the certificate in that level.

We're always looking for water professionals interested in developing class content and teaching. If you think you're ready to share your expertise, contact Bonnifer Ballard at [bonnifer@mi-water.org](mailto:bonnifer@mi-water.org) 💧



Here's a list of the classes available or in development for the Academy®:

### INTRODUCTORY LEVEL

Customer Service I

### WATER APPRENTICE LEVEL

Customer Service II  
Lab School  
Principles of Cross Connections  
Principles of Water Distribution  
Principles of Water Treatment  
Pumps and Valves

### WATER PROFESSIONAL LEVEL

Advanced Cross Connections  
Advanced Water Distribution  
Advanced Water Treatment  
Customer Service III  
Management and Supervision  
Water Bacteriology

### MASTER WATER PROFESSIONAL LEVEL

Public Speaking Like a Pro

For more information and updates, please visit [www.mi-water.org/academy](http://www.mi-water.org/academy)



## SUCCESSFUL GATHERING AT THE 2023 UP FALL WATER CONFERENCE

In September 2023, over 115 water professionals and 20 exhibitors convened at the 2023 UP Fall Water Conference, creating a vibrant atmosphere for networking, learning, and collaboration. The event, held in Harris, showcased the dedication of individuals and organizations working towards a sustainable future for Michigan and Northeast Wisconsin's water sectors.

One conference highlight was Hillary Caron's engaging presentation, "Navigating Waves of Opportunity: Bridging Education and Workforce Recruitment in the Water Sector." Caron, from the City of Grand Rapids, captured the audience's attention, fostering active participation and applause during the session.

Responding to the demand expressed at the 2023 UP Spring Conference, the event featured valuable presentations on funding. Kelly Heidbrier from C2AE and Craig Richardson from Wickwire addressed the audience, providing crucial insights into securing financial support for water-related projects.

Thank you to all the speakers for their informative sessions, and an extended appreciation to the sponsors who contributed to the social hour. Planning has begun for the upcoming 2024 UP Spring Water Conference; we want to know: What do you want to hear? Share with us your ideas because this is your conference! 💧



## WATER SOLUTIONS WEBINAR SERIES FOR 2024

Webinars are an easy way to get information on topics important to what you do every day. This year's series is chock full of great topics with great speakers.

### 2024 Schedule

Water Solutions	Primary Speaker	Webinar Topic
<b>January 18</b>	Paul Patterson	The Ins and Outs of Cross Connections
<b>February 15</b>	Rick Alvarez	Control Valve Basics
<b>March 14</b>	Mala Hettiarachchi	Tackling the Invisible Threat: Microplastic Pollution and Prevention Strategies
<b>April 11</b>	Larry Levine and Roger Colton	The Business Case for Water Affordability Programs
<b>May 9</b>	Dawn Lund	Finance (TBD)
<b>June 13</b>	TBD	
<b>July 11</b>	Wil Fleming	Introduction to Plant Instrumentation
<b>August 8</b>	Matt Charles	Optimizing filters with a Filter Surveillance Program
<b>October 10</b>	TBD	
<b>November 14</b>	Amanda Carl	Levels of Cryptosporidium in the Huron River Result in a Bin 2 Classification and UV Treatment Technique

Group watch is permitted, but only those with a paid registration may receive continuing education credit.

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## 2024 UP SPRING WATER CONFERENCE

The UP has held conferences semi-annually for several decades. The UPCC has done a marvelous job of crafting programs that keep water operators coming back for more.

With a day-and-a-half of sessions and exhibit tables, this conference offers water operators an opportunity to network with colleagues across the region, have dedicated time with exhibitors to explore possible solutions to current challenges, and get updates on today's most pressing issues.

This spring's topics include pump maintenance, valve exercising, hydrant flushing, ice management and more.

### Register today!

#### Upper Peninsula Coordinating Committee Members

As of December 2023

Greg J. Alimenti, *City of St. Joseph*

Jason Amsler, *Hawkins Inc.*

Corey J. Barr, *City of Manistique*

Jon W. Bloemker

Mike Bolf, *EGLE – DWEHD*

Donald L. DeTemple, *Infrastructure Alternatives*

Amy Douville, *EGLE – DWEHD*

Troy Gallagher, *Bay College*

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Brian E. Thurston, *EGLE – DWEHD*

Eric VanLaanen, *Core & Main*

Camille Williams, *Great Lakes Water Authority*

Russell L. Williams

Jonelle Young-Specker



# TRAINING CALENDAR

## JANUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Water Solutions – Zoom	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 The Deep End – Lansing	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

## FEBRUARY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6 Joint Expo & Operator Days – Lansing	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Water Solutions – Zoom	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 The Deep End – Wyoming	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	1	2

## MARCH 2024

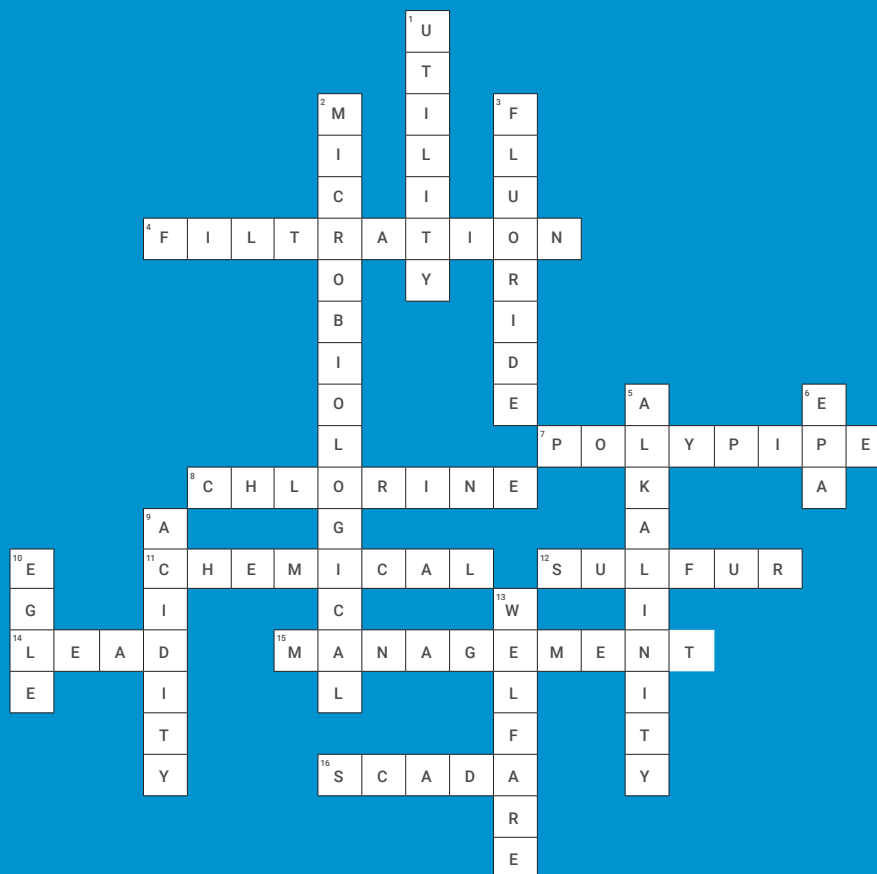
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
3	4 Principles of Water Treatment – Lansing Principles of Water Distribution – Lansing Overview of Math and Hydraulics – Lansing Principles of Cross Connections – Lansing	5	6 Prep for the Drinking Water Exam – Lansing	7	8	9
10	11	12 Cyber Security – Bloomfield Hills	13	14 Water Solutions – Zoom	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 The Deep End – Ann Arbor	29	30

## APRIL 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Water Solutions – Zoom Customer Service I – Grand Rapids	12	13
14	15	16 Spring Regional Water Seminar – Livonia	17 Spring Regional Water Seminar – Gaylord	18 Spring Regional Water Seminar – Grand Rapids Asset and Infrastructure Management Seminar w/ MWBA – Lansing	19	20
21	22	23 Spring UP Water Conference – Harris	24	25 The Deep End – Wixom	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

Visit [www.mi-water.org/events](http://www.mi-water.org/events) to view all upcoming trainings.

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The advertisement for Tetra Tech has a blue background. On the left, a vertical column of five circular images shows various water treatment and infrastructure projects: a hand holding a water droplet, a water treatment facility, a worker in a trench, a lush green landscape, and a bridge over water. On the right, the Tetra Tech logo is at the top, followed by the headline 'Clean, Safe Water for a Complex World'. Below this, a paragraph states: 'Tetra Tech provides innovative, sustainable solutions for every phase of the water cycle, from source water protection to wastewater reuse.' At the bottom right, contact information for Ann Arbor (734.665.6000), Brighton (410.220.2112), Detroit (313.466.6000), and Lansing (517.466.6000) is listed. The website 'tetratech.com' is at the very bottom right.

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The advertisement for WaterTap Inc. features a blue and orange color scheme. The company name 'WATERTAP' is in large, bold, orange letters with a blue outline, with a stylized 'W' logo below it. Underneath, 'INC.' is written in a smaller font. A horizontal line separates this from the text 'Pipeline Specialists' in a script font. Below that, a list of services is provided: '24 Hour Emergency Service', 'Live Taps • Valve Insertions', 'Line Stops • Bypass Capability', 'PCCP Tapping Saddle & Transition Adapters', and 'Complete Inventory'. At the bottom, the phone number '248.437.7023' and website 'watertapinc.com' are listed, followed by the address '48595 West Road • Wixom, MI 48393'. Two circular images on the sides show pipeline tapping equipment in use.

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